



Wednesday, February 16, 2022

## First responder identification badges discussed at County Commission

By Milda M. Mullins  
Moorefield Examiner

During public comments at the last County Commission meeting held on Tuesday, Feb. 1, Ambulance Authority and County Emergency Response Team member Fran Welton asked Commissioners about issuing identification badges for emergency crews.

"There seems to be a problem with identification badges or shirts or jackets being worn by people responding to emergencies, our EMTs and our paramedics" said Welton.

"I notice Derek (Alt) has his identification badge there. That's not happening in all situations and that's not happening as part of their groups' policies."

She continued, "I don't know what your opinion is. You might think about what your expectations are of the care that is being provided to Hardy County citizens."

Also in attendance at the meeting, Hardy County Emergency Ambulance Authority Executive Director Derek Alt reiterated previous points regarding why badges could be challenging for crews outside of HCEAA.

"The only thing I can say on it is we are a paid system. These are career individuals for the actual agency, HCEAA, so that being said, we are at the building ready to respond. It's a little difficult with your volunteers," said Alt.

"It was brought up at the Ambulance Authority meeting. You know, people have a couple different vehicles. You may be at the store when a call comes in and you respond. It's going to be a little bit difficult to wear badges or shirts and stuff like that."

Alt continued, "with the other agencies in the county, it's kind of at their discretion. You have to consider too, Wardsville is not a very large community. Most people know the individuals who are in the unit and if they do manage to respond in that agency's vehicle, that should suffice. I see it from both sides, I don't disagree with Fran, but as far as that, they're a volunteer agency - they're responding from home."

Commissioner David "Jay" Fansler asked if the badge issue could hurt volunteer crews in the county. "Let's say for instance, the Ambulance Authority would wear badges, but if Wardsville volunteers don't, would that, so to speak, belittle them when they go on a

call?" said Fansler, questioning whether volunteers would be "judged" for not wearing company badges.

Alt reiterated that the crew is made up of volunteers and explained that due to the differing situations between HCEAA's Company 3 and Wardsville's company 1, the badge-wearing system would work differently amongst crews as well.

"The thing is, Company 21 (West Hardy Emergency Ambulance Service) all got badges. The only company that hasn't gotten badges as far as I know is Wardsville, but my thought is: why am I making badges for them if they're not going to use them," said 911 Center and Office of Emergency Management director Paul Lewis.

Alt followed, "well I mean, you can make badges, but again to what end?"

Lewis added, "what's the use in me wasting my money to make those badges if they're just not going to use them? Then what's the purpose?"

Alt replied, "I don't disagree."

"To me I've looked at it from a legal issue. Let's talk about the volunteers - they answer all emergencies. You're talking about tourism

so you have people on the Corridor, they're being picked up by someone who had no identification, they just showed up on an ambulance and maybe people don't particularly like their service," Welton explained as an example.

"The only thing they have seen is an ambulance. They have no way of knowing who their provider of the service is. My past experience has been as a volunteer and I've run for different ambulances when I was young enough to hold up my end of the cot. It was required of me to have identification on me."

She continued, "it was required by the groups I ran with that we have to have identification. This is not just a Hardy County issue. This is a rural America issue of improper identification when emergency services show up. A word of encouragement may be helpful."

Commissioners heard the back and forth, but ultimately did not make a decision regarding identification badges. They agreed the issue could be solved within the Ambulance Authority.

The next Ambulance Authority meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 16, at the HCEAA building at 17940 State Road 55 in Baker.

## Three more die of COVID-19 bringing total to 49 confirmed deaths

By Milda M. Mullins  
Moorefield Examiner

Three more residents, an 86-year old male, a 60-year old female, and a 60-year old male, have died from COVID-19 bringing the county death toll to 49 confirmed deaths.

As of Sunday, Feb. 13, there are 9 new cases, 17 active cases, 1 hospitalization, 49 confirmed deaths, 4,273 positive confirmed cases, and

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## A sanctuary on Main Street

## Natural Sovereignty offering restorative sound bath services



Photos by Milda M. Mullins

Samantha Howell (left), who works at Natural Sovereignty, sits with owner Jameson Paul Freeman (right) in the shop.



The front room of Natural Sovereignty, which serves as a sitting room for guests who want to come and relax.



Gemstones, antiques, and more, which according to Freeman are free to touch and enjoy, are featured throughout the shop.

By Milda M. Mullins  
Moorefield Examiner

Tucked away at 166 North Main Street in Moorefield is Natural Sovereignty, a shop that focuses on providing sound baths for the community.

Natural Sovereignty's sound baths utilize Tibetan singing bowls as part of a sound healing process that occurs in a peaceful dimly lit room complete with crystals, salt lamps, and more.

Owner and operator Jameson Freeman said he wants the space to be "a sanctuary on Main Street."

"You know, this place - Hardy County, Grant County, Pendleton County, Hampshire

County - this area is very energetic. There's a strong resonance here and it's the mountains and the rivers and the people and all of that, but it's also the combination of histories and the natural landscape with I think a kind of an underlying human emotional sense of frustration," said Freeman.

"It's interesting to feel the beauty - which is unmatched - and the variety of human emotions that don't necessarily match the beauty. I believe any form of pain can be alleviated and I think often the first step to alleviating pain is to let go of needing it anymore."

Freeman continued, "I've experienced this thing where I'm like 'oh, I have to get to the bottom of this, I have to really get the lesson from this. I need to understand this pain.'

Then I started to realize, there is no bottom. Your misery, you can just keep digging. On the other side of that, there's also no top to joy. When I discovered sound healing a couple years ago, it was sort of the first method of releasing pent up energies that didn't require any work."

Freeman explained that he has done a variety of yoga practices as well as other self-realization and restorative practices, but noted the sound baths require little to no effort on the recipients' part and participants need no expertise to benefit from it.

Additionally, the calming effects of sound baths reportedly provide health benefits such as lowering blood pressure, suppressing headaches, and more stemming from stress

relief.

"Sound baths are a way to reset without having to put in more work into your healing or into your focusing or into your alignment. You can just receive and let go of whatever is needed. Oftentimes it helps to have an intention," said Freeman.

"I think for a moment you come into alignment with who you really are because there's nothing else but a moment of self connection. Anything that's not helping you, at least for a moment, is not in your awareness. You can let go of it and that makes room for what you want."

Freeman said he's hoping to cultivate a space for peace, somewhere people can just be and process without expectations or out-

side stressors.

Samantha Howell, who works at the shop, said her first time experiencing the sound bath was a combination of exciting as well as calming.

"Just the visualization - the colors, the pictures I could visualize - it was crazy. I tried meditation on my own before, but could never follow through with it. I came here and it's just out of this world," she said.

Freeman started Natural Sovereignty in the county a few months ago. The beginning of his journey into it, however, started years ago.

"My father passed away suddenly on Thanksgiving eve in 2018. It was unexpected

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## LET THERE BE LIGHTS



Photos by Carl Holcomb

New LED field lights are being erected at East Hardy High School (left) and Moorefield High School (right). Moorefield's lights went up by Feb. 7; East Hardy's lights are expected to rise soon.

### WEATHER

Source: AccuWeather

Wednesday  
**SUNNY**  
High 57°



Thursday  
**RAIN**  
High 64°



Friday  
**SUNNY**  
High 38°



GET IT IN DIGITAL  
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\$30 PER YEAR





## NEWS

# Moorefield code dictates snow and ice removal

The Town of Moorefield would like to use the recent occurrences of snow and ice to better educate residents on a vital public safety matter: Section 17-7 of the Town of Moorefield Municipal Code of Ordinances states it is the responsibility of each property owner, whether the property is a residence, business, church, public building, empty lot, etc., to promptly remove snow and ice from all sidewalks or public walkways abutting their property.

Code Enforcement Officer Vic Shockey said the code has a dual benefit: "Obviously, it provides safe, secure public walking access for all pedestrians, postal workers, pub-

lic works employees, police, fire, and emergency rescue responders, etc. However, what property owners may not realize is they can be held liable for any slip-and-fall incidents on their sidewalks. So adhering to this code is actually a win-win situation that protects both the pedestrian and the property owner."

Shockey said preventative preparation is the key to being ready for quick and efficient snow and ice removal.

"Acquiring the correct tools, supplies, and chemicals well in advance of any predicted winter storm is a must," he said. "Waiting until the night before to purchase these items will only cause shortages that leave many

without the necessary supplies."

Shockey said items such as sand and cat litter, although good for traction, only leave an unnecessary mess requiring clean-up afterwards and does little to rid the walkways of ice and snow. "Most salt and ice melt products react in temperatures as low as 15 degrees (Fahrenheit). Sometimes multiple coatings will be required but, more times than not, chemical treatment of sidewalks is going to be the key to quick and efficient ice removal."

For those physically unable to do the removal themselves, Shockey recommends scheduling assistance in advance. "Waiting

until it starts snowing and then trying to locate help is not going to work. You must take the necessary steps to schedule or contract the assistance you will need well ahead of time."

When removing snow and ice from property, it is also a violation to shovel or push it into a public street or right-of-way.

Moorefield Mayor Carol Zuber is adamant that property owners comply with the code.

"I can think of absolutely nothing more important to a municipality than assuring for the public safety and security of its residents," Zuber said. "As a long-time (paramedic) I have witnessed firsthand tragic

results from slip-and-fall accidents. In an effort to assure public safety, I have directed the Town of Moorefield Code Enforcement Officer to strictly enforce this code moving forward. Failure to adhere will result in citations. My administration will not cut corners when it comes to the health and public safety of the residents of the Town of Moorefield."

Further information on this or any code can be found within the official Town of Moorefield Municipal Code of Ordinances, viewable at [www.townofmoorefield.com](http://www.townofmoorefield.com).

## Avian flu found in birds at Indiana turkey farm

A strain of avian flu that can cause high mortality rates among birds has been confirmed at a commercial turkey farm in southern Indiana, federal and state agencies said Wednesday.

The United States Department of Agriculture said its Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service confirmed a strain of highly pathogenic avian influenza at the farm in Dubois County.

State officials have quarantined the farm and its 29,000 turkeys are being euthanized to prevent the spread of the disease, said Denise Derrer Spears, a spokeswoman for the Indiana State Board of Animal Health.

The USDA said turkeys from the affected farm will not enter the food supply and issued a reminder that poultry and eggs should be cooked to an internal temperature of 165 degrees (73.9 Celsius) to kill bacteria and viruses.

The agency said avian influenza does not present an immediate public health concern and no human

cases of avian influenza viruses have been detected in the U.S.

The USDA said turkey infections are the first confirmation of highly pathogenic bird flu in commercial poultry in the U.S. since 2020.

The Indiana State Board of Animal Health said samples from the farm were analyzed at the Indiana Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory at Purdue University after about 100 turkeys died.

The state agency said the farm is under quarantine and that state officials are working with the poultry producers statewide to increase monitoring of flocks.

A January 2016 outbreak of bird flu in Dubois County affected 11 poultry farms, resulting in the loss of more than 400,000 birds, the State Board of Animal Health said.

Indiana ranks third nationally in turkey production, first in duck production, second in production of table eggs and egg-laying chickens, and is a significant producer of broiler chickens, the state agency said. Indiana's poultry industry em-

ploys more than 14,000 Hoosiers and is valued at \$2.5 billion annually.

### Avian flu strain at Indiana farm hasn't spread

A strain of avian flu that can cause high mortality rates among birds hasn't spread to neighboring farms since it was confirmed at a commercial turkey farm in southern Indiana, state officials said Thursday.

Poultry farms with a 10-kilometer (6.2-mile) control area around the infected Dubois County farm have completed an initial round of surveillance testing for highly pathogenic avian influenza, and all of the tests were negative, the Indiana State Board of Animal Health said.

Testing of the control-area farms will continue on a weekly basis, the agency said.

The 18 commercial poultry flocks within the control area are under quarantine until further notice, it said.

Animal Health Board staff have

reached out to known hobby/backyard poultry owners in the control area to schedule testing of birds there, it said.

State officials have euthanized 29,000 turkeys at the infected farm to prevent the spread of the disease, said Denise Derrer Spears, a spokeswoman for the Animal Health Board.

The agency said avian influenza does not present an immediate public health concern and no human cases of avian influenza viruses have been detected in the U.S.

The turkey infections are the first confirmation of highly pathogenic bird flu in commercial poultry in the U.S. since 2020, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has said.

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## Highlands Bankshares, Inc. reports year end earnings and declares quarterly dividend

Highlands Bankshares, Inc. (OTC: HBSI) announced unaudited earnings of \$4,935,000 for the year ended December 31, 2021. This represents an increase of 47.7% from the \$3,341,000 earned during 2020. On a per share basis, net income was \$3.69 for 2021, compared to earnings of \$2.50 per share for the year ended December 31, 2020.

On February 8, 2022, the Board of Directors declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.45 per share to be paid on March 4, 2022 to all shareholders of record as of February 25, 2022. Based upon the current market price and annualizing the dividends paid to shareholders this quarter, Highlands' current dividend yield is 4.09%.

Jack H. Walters, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the holding company, stated "We are pleased to report earnings for the full year of 2021. 2021 was an excellent year for the Company on many levels. We remain committed to our clients, communities and shareholders and work hard every day to provide excellent banking services to clients, support to our communities and a fair return to our shareholders."

Highlands Bankshares, Inc. operates 12 banking locations in West Virginia and Virginia through its two wholly-owned subsidiary banks, The Grant County Bank and Capon Valley Bank, and offers insurance services through its wholly-owned subsidiary HBI Life Insurance Company.

## Bill would let unvaccinated W.Va. workers get unemployment

By Leah Willingham  
*Associated Press*

West Virginia lawmakers have advanced a proposal that would allow people who leave their jobs because they are denied a religious or medical exemption to the COVID-19 vaccination to receive unemployment benefits.

Republican Sen. Mark Maynard, a sponsor of Senate Bill 576, said Thursday that the legislation was designed with health care workers in mind.

"Our frontline health care workers were required to be in the midst of this battle with COVID in the years 2020 and 2021 without even

an option," he said, speaking on the Senate floor. "When the mandates started rolling in, they had to make a decision."

As more employers have mandated that their workers become vaccinated against COVID-19, at least five Republican-led states — Arkansas, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, and Tennessee — have passed bills extending unemployment benefits to those who have lost work because of COVID-19 vaccine requirements, with more than a dozen more proposals under consideration in other state legislatures.

A number of West Virginia hospitals have mandated that employees be vaccinated against COVID-19, including two of the largest health

care networks: the West Virginia University Health System and Charleston Area Medical Center.

"This piece of legislation merely defends some of those that want to opt out on the vaccination," Maynard said. "This gives them a little bit of a cushion to figure out what they're going to do with their life."

The bill passed the Senate 29-5 and will now be considered by the full House.

Usually, people who quit their jobs aren't eligible for unemployment, unless they had "good cause" to leave. Maynard said people who are opposed to getting the COVID-19 vaccine for medical or religious reasons should be protected.

Democratic Sen. Stephen Bald-

win spoke in support of the bill. He said that when he initially read the legislation, he assumed he would vote against it.

"It seemed just like another politicized COVID bill," he said.

But as he sat down to read it more thoroughly, Baldwin said he started thinking about it differently.

"I don't think this bill is about COVID. This bill is about workers' rights," he said. "What this bill does is it protects workers to ensure that they have transitional employment support."

Just over 53% of West Virginia residents are fully vaccinated, according to data from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources.

## NEWS BRIEFS

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be in Moorefield on Friday, March 4. Donors will be taken at the Moorefield Church of the Brethren at 115 Clay Street from 12:30 until 6:00 p.m. Both Power Red and whole blood donations will be taken. Power Red donors must meet specific eligibility requirements and have type A Neg, B Neg or O blood. The Red Cross is reminding donors of the great need for blood, so please consider the gift of life.

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The West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History (WV-DACH) is seeking nominations for the 2022 Governor's Arts Awards. This biennial awards program celebrates the best of the Mountain State by recognizing artists, art educators, and arts organizations. Nomination forms and complete descriptions of

award categories are available online at <https://bit.ly/GovArtsAwards2022>. All nominations must be submitted to the State Arts Office by Feb. 18, 2022. Mail nominations to Governor's Arts Awards Nomination, The Culture Center, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, WV, 25305 or email to [Paul.R.Neil@wv.gov](mailto:Paul.R.Neil@wv.gov) with the subject line Governor's Arts Awards Nomination. For more information contact the State Arts Office at (304) 558-0240.

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According to AAA last week, the average price for regular gas in West Virginia was at \$3.307. The national gas price average was \$3.477. Blustery winter weather and geopolitical tensions are helping to drive the price of oil higher, which is in the low-\$90s per barrel, nearly \$30 more than in August. The recent cold weather

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in the U.S increased the demand for heating oil. Meanwhile, the concern that Russia will react to potential western sanctions by withholding crude oil from the already tight global market puts heavy upward pressure on prices. "This shows how events on the other side of the globe can have a noticeable impact right here in the U.S.," said Andrew Gross, AAA spokesperson. "And unfortunately for drivers, they are reminded of this by higher prices at the pump." Across the state Huntington was high at \$3.335 and Parkersburg was low at \$3.189. Hardy County's gas average was \$3.381. Area prices were Hampshire \$3.340, Mineral \$3.327, Grant \$3.408, and Pendleton \$3.359. In Moorefield, Sheetz was \$3.37 as was Liberty. BP was \$3.38 as was Exxon. Kerr's Shell in Wardensville and BP in Baker were also at \$3.38.

## Pilgrim's Pride Releases Q4 Earnings Snapshot

Pilgrim's Pride Corp. (PPC) on Wednesday reported earnings of \$36.8 million in its fourth quarter.

The Greeley, Colorado-based company said it had net income of 15 cents per share. Earnings, adjusted for non-recurring costs, were 56 cents per share.

The poultry producer posted revenue of \$4.04 billion in the period.

For the year, the company reported profit of \$31 million, or 13 cents per share. Revenue was reported as \$14.78 billion.

## COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

### HCEAA Rescheduled

The Hardy County Emergency Ambulance Authority meeting originally scheduled for Feb. 9 is rescheduled until Feb. 16.

### Tri-County Fair Meeting

The annual Tri-County Fair meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 16, 2022 at 7 p.m. in the fairgrounds meeting room. The meeting will include electing a director for a 3-year term from Grant, Hardy and Pendleton counties, and reviewing the 2021 financial report. The wearing of masks is strongly recommended and there will be limited seating.

### Youth Rally

All teens and youth are invited to attend a youth rally at Moorefield High School on Feb. 19 at 4 p.m.

Free admission and free food, with a musical guest. Contact DJ Taylor for more information.

### E911 Advisory Board

The Hardy County E9-1-1 Advisory Board will meet Monday, Feb. 21, 2022 at 7 p.m. at the 9-1-1 Center in Moorefield.

### Hardy County RDA

The Rural Development Authority Board Meeting will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 23, in the RDA Conference room.

### Food Give-Away

The Moorefield Church of God, along with Mountaineer Food Bank, will host a drive-through food give-away at East Hardy High School on March 5, 2022, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. All Hardy County residents are welcome if you are in need of food, or bring a neighbor.

### Flu and COVID Shots

Hardy County Health Department will give flu and/or COVID

shots at the following times:

Flu shots will be given on Monday and Wednesday only, from 8 – 11:30 and 1 – 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 are scheduled on Thursday or Friday, depending which shot you need. Call the health department at 304-530-6355 to schedule an appointment.

### 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

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 Weekend 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 [kmalcolm@hardynet.com](mailto:kmalcolm@hardynet.com).

### Project Hello There

Lost River Projects invites people of all ages to send greetings to residents of EA Hawse Nursing Center who have been without visitors due to the Covid-19 pandemic. 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 or by email to [lostriverprojects@hardynet.com](mailto:lostriverprojects@hardynet.com). Lost River Projects will deliver your notes and letters to EA Hawse Nursing Center in Baker. Thank you!

### 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.

# W.Va. Senate rescinds 1972 Equal Rights Amendment ratification

By John Raby  
Associated Press

The Republican-led West Virginia Senate moved quickly Friday to rescind the state's ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, declaring that it expired in 1979.

All 23 Senate Republicans were sponsors of the measure, including three women. It passed on a voice vote without debate or discussion and now goes to the House of Delegates.

In a statement later, Senate Minority Leader Stephen Baldwin of Greenbrier County said "it's a sad commentary that in America in 2022 equal rights are still being debated.

We should be moving forward, not backward. Women deserve to be treated equally under the law; that should not be controversial."

The American Civil Liberties Union's West Virginia chapter issued a statement that it will fight the resolution as it heads to the House.

"It is outrageous that the Senate would go back on its commitment that woman should have equal rights to men," the ACLU said.

West Virginia ratified the amendment in April 1972, the same year that Congress sent it to the states. States were given seven years to ratify, then the deadline was extended to 1982. The amendment wasn't approved by the required three-quarters of states before the deadline.

In January 2020, Virginia lawmakers approved the amendment, becoming the 38th and final state needed. But the Justice Department said in an opinion that month that the vote was too late. In March 2021 a federal judge agreed, dismissing a lawsuit filed by three Democratic state attorneys general that had sought to force the federal government to recognize Virginia's vote.

The West Virginia Senate resolution, which was introduced Thursday, declared that the state's approval expired in 1979. In giving a description of the measure, Jefferson County Republican Patricia Rucker said it "just clarifies that the resolution that was passed by the Legislature is no longer valid."

When Rucker urged adoption of the measure and asked if anyone had questions, no one else spoke. The vote voice was then taken, and some in the chamber gave a no vote.

"Clarifying that WV wants to rescind their ERA ratification when there is a procedural chance it could actually become ratified is perhaps the most @WVGOP thing I could dream up," Kayla Young, a Democrat in the GOP-led House of Delegates, said on Twitter.

It took about 75 seconds from the time the resolution was introduced to its adoption. Baldwin said it was moved to a vote immediately after Rucker described it, leaving no time for discussion.

"The process is for the chair to call

for discussion after she introduces it," Baldwin said. "She treated it like a bill offering to answer questions which is not resolution procedure. But the chair then called for a vote."

Baldwin questioned the purpose of the supermajority GOP's resolution. "What needs to be clarified? What's really going on here?" he said. "I think West Virginians are clear. Women deserve equal and fair treatment under the law."

In 2020 the Democratic-led U.S. House voted to remove the 1982 deadline for the amendment's ratification. The measure has not advanced in the evenly divided U.S. Senate.

Debate has swirled over what the amendment, which guarantees men

and women equal rights under the law, would do.

According to supporters, the amendment would offer stronger protections in sex discrimination cases and give Congress firmer ground to pass anti-discrimination laws and other protections. Opponents say the measure could be used to erase protections such as workplace accommodations during pregnancy.

Anti-abortion activists have warned that abortions rights supporters could use the amendment to eliminate abortion restrictions on the grounds that they discriminate against women.

The resolution is supported by West Virginians for Life and the National Right to Life Committee.

## Natural Sovereignty

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ed, in a way, though it was expected, but when that happened, I was kind of primed already for sort of a spiritual something. Often people call it an awakening or a deep dive into myself," he said.

"It was my father's transition at Thanksgiving of 2018 and I didn't want to be around anyone I knew." Freeman, who was residing in Washington, D.C., said that he found himself not wanting to be around anyone from family to friends.

"There was no comfort to be found in my current perspective of my surroundings. The way I was perceiving my life, I wasn't feeling comfort anywhere. So, I fled."

He continued, "I fled to an ashram in the countryside outside of Mysuru,

India out in the flatlands. It was remote, very remote. The ashram was still being built. There was no plumbing. Everything was dirt floors."

Freeman went through what he said was "a very rigorous experience" a few months through Christmas and into the New Year going to the ashram a few weeks after his father's passing in 2018 and staying into January of 2019. From that experience, Freeman said he realized he wanted land.

"I wanted to get land. I wanted to create a place without the dharm of the ashram. I loved being somewhere. I loved being in silence for long periods of the day. I loved just connecting with the elements."

He explained that while the experience was an overall one he was

glad he did. He explained he struggled with some of the teachings at the ashram, which had a guru element to it.

Freeman said he wanted to create a space for healing away from expectations and the idea that there was a "right and wrong way of understanding."

"I sort of met myself at the ashram. This word sovereignty came to me. I had been saying the word sovereign since high school. The notion of sovereignty and self realization had been something I'm really attached to," he said.

"But, I truly didn't know what I was talking about. I would say the words, but it wasn't here in my heart. It was floating around my head."

Freeman said being in India following his father's death and going through the experiences he did at the ashram helped bring him to a host of realizations.

I wanted to get some land to create a space for healing, but self directed healing," he said. "I've been a legal West Virginia resident since 2020. I started coming out here during the great quieting."

It was after coming back from India that he said a friend introduced him to sound baths, his first being at a church in Northern Virginia.

"I was then gifted my first Tibetan singing bowl. It was shipped from the mountains of Tibet and had been welded and I thought 'this is an omen,'" he said.

"I incorporated the bowl into the

beginning and end of my yoga practice and found that people just want the bowl. Maybe some light stretching and opening exercises, but they wanted to lay down and get the vibrations and receive the frequencies."

Freeman said he started sound baths when he was still residing in D.C., but eventually Natural Sovereignty found its way into Hardy County and is currently open to the public.

"I came back wanting to be myself more fully. I found myself much more connected and simultaneously I found I wanted to be useful to people by allowing them to enjoy being in their physical bodies more," said Freeman.

"The only thing that's eternal

is your soul. Body is temporary, thoughts are temporary – so enjoy it as much as you can. That's why I reject the idea that we have to punish ourselves more in order to feel good or feel enlightened or to be fully ourselves."

Freeman is offering sound baths by appointments with 27 minute and 45 minute sessions including a discount for local residents.

Along with sound baths, the shop includes some wellness items and gifts as well. Freeman said he also occasionally offers restorative yoga sessions.

For more information, visit [www.naturalsovereignty.com](http://www.naturalsovereignty.com) and contact Freeman and other staff at 304-314-2719 and at [naturalsovereignty@gmail.com](mailto:naturalsovereignty@gmail.com).

## West Virginia House passes 10% personal income tax cut

By John Raby  
Associated Press

Legislation that would reduce personal income taxes by 10% in West Virginia cleared the House of Delegates on Friday.

Democrats in the Republican-controlled House complained that the bill will hardly help lower-income residents. The bill was adopted 76-20 and now goes to the state Senate.

Gov. Jim Justice tried to reduce income taxes by 60% last year as a way to spur population growth in a state that saw the highest percentage of residents leave over the past decade. The proposal was unanimously rejected in the House.

"The goal has always been to do an incremental approach, a more slower, more moderate approach," said House Finance chairman Eric

Householder, a Republican.

But the current bill drew complaints from Democrats because it doesn't give a greater percentage of money back to lower wage earners. Amendments to do just that were rejected.

For instance, someone making \$20,000 would receive \$7 back under the proposal, while someone making \$92,000 would get \$232 back.

"We need to step back and look at these numbers and say who is it that really needs to benefit from tax relief?" said Kanawha County Democrat Larry Rowe. "This is not significant to the people who need the help."

Braxton County Democrat Brent Boggs said 70% of the tax cut will go to 20% of the taxpayers.

"That's troubling to me," he said. The initial tax cut, if approved,

would be effective next January and cost the state \$96 million in surplus revenue in the next fiscal year and \$265 million in subsequent fiscal years if no further changes are made.

Some delegates were concerned about the state's fiscal health moving forward. Although the state currently has a solid surplus, there are plans to give state employees a 5% pay raise and the Department of Health and Human Resources' anticipates a potential shortfall from Medicaid.

The bill would divert half of the state's general surplus normally placed into a "rainy day" fund and instead put it into a new savings fund set up to help pay for future tax cuts.

"There is a train coming straight at us of financial responsibility," Rowe said. "And it can either run over us, or we can dodge it, but we're going to have to deal with it."

## COVID

Continued from page 1

4,207 patients who have recovered.

Vaccines for COVID-19 as well as booster shots are being given by appointment on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at the Health Department 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.

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## AT THE LIBRARY

### CLOSED

The library will be closed Monday, February 21st in observance of Presidents' Day. We will reopen on Tuesday, February 22nd at our regular hours.

### New Fiction

**Diablo Mesa** (Nora Kelly; 3) by Douglas Preston – An eccentric billionaire's outlandish proposal to finance a scientific excavation of the Roswell Incident site tasks a skeptical Nora Kelly and Special Agent Corrie Swanson to solve the murders of two victims found buried at the site. Soon, their investigation will reveal a powerful force that will stop at nothing to protect its secrets.

**Sierra Six** (Gray Man; 11) by Mark Greaney – The Gray Man is on a simple mission when he sees a ghost: the long-dead terrorist, though he's remarkably energetic for a dead man. A decade of time hasn't changed the Gray Man. Whatever the cost, he isn't one to leave a job unfinished or a blood debt unpaid.

**Death of a Green-Eyed Monster** (Hamish Macbeth; 34) by M. C. Beaton – Just as the town of Lochdubh gets ready to celebrate his impending nuptials, Hamish Macbeth finds himself with a new murder on his hands. If he doesn't find the killer fast, Hamish's dream wedding could become a nightmare.

**"Black Cake"** by Charmaine Wilkerson – Two estranged siblings must set aside their differences to deal with their mother's death and her hidden past — a journey of discovery that takes them from the Caribbean to London to California and ends with her famous black cake.

**Mickey7** (Mickey7; 1) by Edward Ashton – An expendable cloned human used for dangerous space exploration missions refuses to let his replacement clone take his place...and the survival of both hangs in the balance.

**The Boy with a Bird in His Chest** by Emme Lund – Though Owen Tanner has never met anyone else who has a chatty bird in their chest, medical forums would call him a Terror. After a decade spent in hiding, Owen takes a brazen trip outdoors in the middle of a forest fire, and his life is upended forever.

**The Christie Affair** by Nina de Gramont – In 1925, Miss Nan O'Dea infiltrated the wealthy, rarefied world of author Agatha Christie and her husband, Archie. In every way, she became a part of their life — first, both Christies. Then, just Archie. Soon, Nan became Archie's mistress, luring him away from his devoted wife, desperate to marry him at any cost.

**A River Enchanted** (Elements of Cadence; 1) by Rebecca Ross – On the magical

isle of Cadence, two childhood enemies must team up to discover why girls are going missing from their clan.

**Wish You Were Gone** by Kieran Scott – What happens when the death of a husband and father isn't the tragedy everyone believes as the mysterious details of his last day of life begin to come to light?

**Free Love** by Tessa Hadley – In 1967 London, a pretty, dutiful homemaker and wife drinks too much at a party and ends up kissing the son of an old friend who comes for dinner causing her to question her life.

**With Love from London** by Sarah Jio – When a woman inherits her estranged mother's bookstore in London's Primrose Hill, she finds herself thrust into the pages of a new story — hers — filled with long-held family secrets, the possibility of new love, and perhaps, the single greatest challenge of her life.

### New Non-Fiction and Bios

**South to America: A Journey Below the Mason-Dixon to Understand the Soul of a Nation** by Imani Perry – A journey through the history, rituals, and landscapes of the American South — and a revelatory argument for why you must understand the South in order to understand America.

**The Power of Thank You: Discover the**

**Joy of Gratitude** by Joyce Meyer – Meyer encourages readers to take a look at themselves and the importance of being thankful.

**The Last Enforcer: Outrageous Stories from the Life and Times of One of the NBA's Fiercest Competitors** by Charles Oakley – Oakley tells unfiltered stories about his basketball journey and his personal relationships.

**The Power of Regret: How Looking Backward Moves Us Forward** by Daniel H. Pink – Pink presents the idea of regret being a transforming power rather than a drag on our self-esteem and outlook.

**Heartbreak: A Personal and Scientific Journey** by Florence Williams – Williams explores the science of heartbreak while seeking creative ways to mend her own.

**Sickening: How Big Pharma Broke American Health Care and How We Can Repair It** by John Abramson – Abramson gives readers the inside story of how Big Pharma's relentless pursuit of ever-higher profits corrupts medical knowledge: misleading doctors, misdirecting American health care, and harming our health.

**Born of Lakes and Plains: Mixed-Descent Peoples and the Making of the American West** by Anne F. Hyde – A history of the West grounded in the lives of mixed-

descent Native families who first bridged and then collided with racial boundaries.

**The Treeline: The Last Forest and the Future of Life on Earth** by Ben Rawlence – Rawlence gives readers the story of what might soon be the last forest left and what that means for the future of all life on Earth.

**Healing: Our Path from Mental Illness to Mental Health** by Thomas Insel – Insel presents a map for the re-invention of America's broken mental health care system.

**The One Thing: The Surprisingly Simple Truth Behind Extraordinary Results** by Gary Keller – Keller explains the success habit to overcome the six lies that block our success, beat the seven thieves that steal time, and leverage the laws of purpose, priority, and productivity.

**The Urge: Our History of Addiction** by Carl Erik Fisher – A history of addiction: a phenomenon that remains baffling and deeply misunderstood despite having touched countless lives.

**Watergate: A New History** by Garrett M. Graff – Graff presents a narrative history of Watergate that explores the full scope of the scandal through the politicians, investigators, journalists, and informants who made it the most influential political event of our modern era.

# Former Pendleton Navy base poised to become autism center

By Rick Steelhammer

Charleston Gazette-Mail

Plans are underway to transform the former Navy Information Operations Command base at Sugar Grove in Pendleton County into a residential community and therapeutic training center for children and young adults on the autism spectrum.

Legacy by Gersh, which operates 13 boarding schools, camps and training centers in New York, New Hampshire, Washington and Puerto Rico serving those on the autism spectrum, has leased the 123-acre site. It had been vacant since 2015.

"We're going through the licensing process now," company founder and CEO Kevin Gersh said recently in a phone interview. "We've met with the governor, the economic development office, the Education Department and other cabinet members and everyone has been very cooperative."

Gersh said Dr. Jeffrey Shrewsbury, former director of the Southern Highlands Community Mental Health Center in Princeton, has been hired to administer the Sugar Grove campus. Legacy by Gersh is advertising to hire a pair of maintenance workers and an office manager to begin readying the site for its first residents, with the hiring of initial medical, therapeutic and educational personnel to follow.

"We hope to have the first children on site by September, COVID willing," Gersh said. "We're very excited about opening the campus at Sugar Grove."

The former U.S. Navy installation was decommissioned Sept. 30, 2015, and sold for \$4 million by the General Services Administration during an online auction in December 2016. Due to its remote location, the base included a nearly self-contained residential community with 90 single-family homes for married personnel and a three-story dormitory-style barracks that housed more than 100 single enlisted sailors.

The base also contains a commissary, restaurant-equipped community center, fire department, bowling alley, dining hall, swimming pool, lighted baseball field, office buildings, shops for art and craft hobbyists, tennis courts and direct fishing access to the South Fork of the Potomac.

Mellivora Capital Partners of Birmingham, Alabama, the successful bidder in the auction of the base, announced plans to develop a health care center for military personnel at the site soon after the sale was finalized. After those plans failed to materialize, Meridian Behavioral Health Systems, the parent company of Charleston's Highland Hospital, announced in March 2018 that it would open a residential substance abuse rehabilitation center at the site

in partnership with Highland and the Gersh organization.

By early 2019, that plan, too, had been scrapped, but Gersh remained interested in the site.

"I thought that creating an autism community there would be the best and highest use for the facility," he said.

Gersh parted ways with the Massachusetts recovery center he had been working with to fulfill his part of the arrangement with Meridian. He negotiated a lease for the property. Then he focused on developing the former military base into a place where young people with autism can learn life skills, go to school and get vocational training.

Since the base was designed for pedestrian access for those who lived and worked there, "there is no traffic to worry about, giving children the freedom to get to school, go to the store and get home by themselves," Gersh said. "People can come here

and learn to navigate our community, and then return home and do the same there."

In addition to operating a K-12 boarding school for those on the autism spectrum, Gersh said, the Sugar Grove campus will offer customized therapeutic programs, provide post-high school vocational training and give all students the opportunity to develop independent living skills.

"We will have our own bakery, raise our own eggs and so some farming" and offer therapy programs incorporating horses and dogs, Gersh said. "Families can come and visit and stay on the premises... We're building something the world has never seen."

When fully operational within about five years, the Sugar Grove campus will accommodate about 400 students, and maintain a staff of about 300, according to Gersh. "It's a big undertaking," he said, "but nothing that's great comes easy."

While Gersh said he is hopeful an initial group of students will start classes this fall at the former Navy base, he acknowledged it would be wise not to carve that opening date in stone.

"But sometimes you put a plan in place and COVID laughs," he said.

Legacy by Gersh's Sugar Grove campus makes use of the support base formerly used to house Navy personnel, dependents, administrative facilities and base amenities. A nearby operations area equipped with numerous parabolic receiver dishes and a 60,000-square-foot underground center was not included in the 2016 auction.

The Navy's presence at the Sugar Grove site began in the late 1950s, when it was selected by the Naval Research Laboratory as the site for a 600-foot-diameter radio telescope intended to intercept Russian radio and

radar signals reflected off the moon. The site's remote location and presence within the National Radio Quiet Zone were key factors in the decision to build the giant telescope there.

Construction of the telescope was halted in 1962, about two years after work began, due to design issues. The project was shelved. In 1969, the site became Naval Radio Station Sugar Grove, handling high-frequency communications traffic from Navy ships, aircraft and overseas installations.

In 1992, the base became a Naval Security Group Activity site, involved in communications research, according to the Navy at the time. But in 2013, the chief of Naval Operations ordered the base closed by the end of September 2015 based on a "determination by the resource sponsor, the National Security Agency," to relocate the base's mission.

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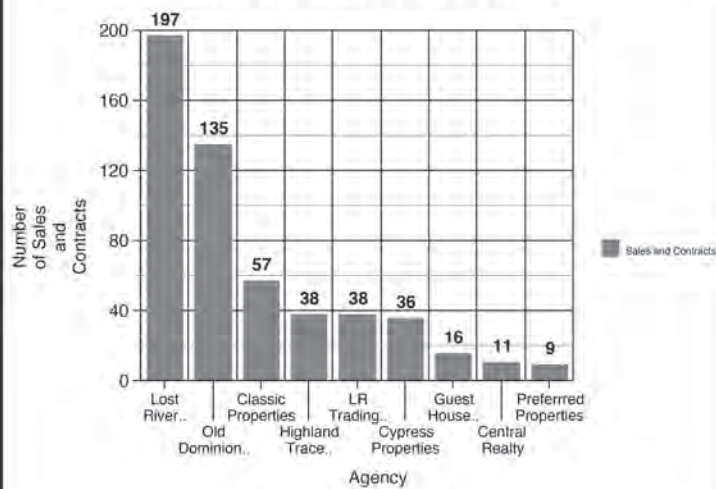
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## OBITUARIES

### FLORA VIRGINIA 'TOOTS' HOSE



Flora Virginia "Toots" Hose, age 81, of Dover Hollow in Moorefield,

passed away Saturday evening, Feb. 5, 2022, at the Grant Rehabilitation and Care Center in Petersburg.

Born on March 10, 1940, near Moorefield, she was a daughter of the late Lorenzo Caldwell Ketterman and Dora Frances Fitzwater Ketterman. Her husband, Jesse Eugene Hose Sr., preceded her in death in August 2012. Six brothers and five sisters also preceded her in death.

Toots retired from the Hardy County Schools after 40 years of service as a cook and aide. She has an interesting collection of pig figurines that she had collected over the years. She enjoyed planting flowers around her home and had a great

green thumb. She enjoyed camping and fishing, and true to her job, she enjoyed cookouts with the family. She will truly be missed by all that sat at her table.

Surviving is a daughter, Betty L. (Allen) Moreland of Scherr, W.Va.; a son, Jesse E. (Deb) Hose Jr. of Moorefield; three grandsons, Richie Moreland and Jamie Moreland of Scherr, W.Va. and Jesse E. Hose III of Moorefield; three great-grandsons; six great-granddaughters; a great-great-granddaughter that will be arriving soon; two sisters, Lilly Bowers of Toms Brook, Va. and Polly McDonald of Strasburg, Va.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral Services were held on Thursday, Feb. 10, 2022, at the Fraley Funeral Home Chapel at 107 Washington Street in Moorefield. Pastors Russell and Lucy Webster officiated. Interment followed at Walnut Grove Gardens on Route 55 near Moorefield.

Memorials may be directed to the Grant Rehab and Care Center's Activity Fund, 127 Early Avenue, Petersburg, WV, 26847. Condolences, shared memories and photos may be left on Sharon's Tribute Wall at [www.fraleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.fraleyfuneralhome.com).

Fraley Funeral Home in Moorefield handled arrangements.

### LORING ELWOOD BARR



Loring Elwood Barr, age 86 of Moorefield, passed away Thursday morning, Feb. 10, 2022, at the Grant Memorial Hospital in Petersburg. Born on Dec. 5, 1935, in Hardy County, he was a son of the late Hugh Clifton Barr and Stella Rebecca Hardy Barr. His loving wife of 59 years, Mary Catherine (Harman) Barr pre-

ceded him in death in July 2017. A grandson, Joseph Loring Ludwig, a sister, Clea Pratt, a brother, Johnnie Barr, an infant brother and an infant sister also preceded him in death.

Loring was a graduate of Moorefield High School, Class of 1954, and was a retired poultry producer and livestock farmer. He was a life-long member and past trustee of the Oak Dale Christian Church in Rig, a past president of the Oak Dale Civic Center in Rig, and past president of the Rig Water Association prior to its dissolution.

He was a former member of the Hardy Telephone Company, Inc. Board of Directors since 1978, holding the office of Vice President for many years; past member of the Hardy County Board of Education for 19.5 years, holding the offices of President and Vice President; and a past member of the South Branch Vocational Centers Administrative

Council for 16 years, holding the office of President from 1984-1998.

He was a former member of the West Virginia Poultry Association, serving as Vice President and President from 1992-1994, consecutively; a former member of the Association's executive committee and a Lifetime Membership Honoree. He also was a former member and past President of the Hardy County Farm Bureau; he served as President of the Grant County Farm Services in Petersburg prior to its dissolution, and was also a 60+ year member of the W.Va. Farm Bureau.

Surviving are his children: Lori Kathryn (Dennis) Evans of Moorefield, Joseph Harman (Teresa) Barr of Petersburg, and Suzanne Rebecca (John) Davis of Moorefield; grandchildren, Amber and William Barr, Meredith and Taylor Evans, Leah Jo and Levi Davis; three great-grandsons, Jaxon Kile, Quentin Barr and

Hudson Stickley; a sister, Priscilla Evans of Rig; a sister-in-law, Anna Carol Barr of Mineral, Va.; Steven Pratt, whom he considered a son; and Loring's faithful companion, Snowball.

Funeral Services were conducted Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2022, at the Fraley Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Lynn Rohrbaugh officiant. Interment followed in the Newhouse Cemetery. The family received friends before services on Tuesday.

Memorials may be directed to the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews, "The Fellowship", P.O. Box 96105 Washington, DC 20090-6105 or to the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758516, Topeka, Kansas 66675-8516. Condolences, shared memories and photos may be left on Loring's Tribute Wall at [www.fraleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.fraleyfuneralhome.com).

### ROGER LEE EVERETT



Roger Lee Everett, 62, passed away on Feb. 8, 2022, in Dale City, Va. Roger was born on Aug. 26, 1959, in Keyser to the late Frank William Everett and Juanita Pearl Fike. Roger retired from the United States Army after serving in Desert Storm and in the Army Reserves. He married the love of his life, Brenda, on January 7, 1984, in Purgitsville. Roger spent 22 years working as a small and large equipment mechanic at Valley Supply and Equipment.

Roger enjoyed spending time outdoors and with his family. He loved sports, and was an avid Pittsburgh Penguins fan. He loved to build models and was a talented wood worker in his free time.

Roger is preceded in death by his parents Frank William Everett and Juanita Pearl Everett, and his brother, Glen William Everett.

Roger leaves behind to cherish his memory his beloved wife of 38 years Brenda Lee Everett; his children Tra-

vis Wayne Everett (Kara) and Melissa Marie Everett; his siblings Debra Hose (Andy), Rita Everett, Jane (Janie) Everett, Patsy Barnes, Diana Crites (Rick), and Judy Paul; and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A memorial service is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 19 at Elijah High Cemetery, Purgitsville at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers donations can be made in Roger's name to The Wounded Warrior Project or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Funeral Services were held on Thursday, Feb. 10, 2022, at the Fraley Funeral Home Chapel at 107 Washington Street in Moorefield. Pastors Russell and Lucy Webster officiated. Interment followed at Walnut Grove Gardens on Route 55 near Moorefield.

Memorials may be directed to the Grant Rehab and Care Center's Activity Fund, 127 Early Avenue, Petersburg, WV, 26847. Condolences, shared memories and photos may be left on Sharon's Tribute Wall at [www.fraleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.fraleyfuneralhome.com).

### DAVID ALLEN COBY



David Allen Coby, age 60 of Dover Hollow, Moorefield, passed away Wednesday morning, Feb. 9, 2022 at the J.W. Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown. Born on Sept. 6, 1961 in Winchester, he was a son of Alma Lee (Shockey) Coby of Moorefield, and the late Glenn Allen Coby. Anyone who knew David, knew he was a tinkerer. He enjoyed working on anything that had a motor and he was all

about his cars.

Surviving is a sister, Lisa Coby of Moorefield; a brother, Rodney Coby of Moorefield; a nephew, Corey Coby, a member of the U.S. Air Force currently in the United Arab Emirates; and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral Services were conducted Monday, Feb. 14, 2022 at the Fraley Funeral Home Chapel, 107 Washing-

ton Street with Pastor Jonathan Le-

ininger officiant. Interment followed at the Olivet Cemetery. The family received friends Sunday at the funeral home.

Condolences, shared memories and photos may be left on David's Tribute Wall at [www.fraleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.fraleyfuneralhome.com).

ton Street with Pastor Jonathan Le-

ininger officiant. Interment followed at the Olivet Cemetery. The family received friends Sunday at the funeral home.

Condolences, shared memories and photos may be left on David's Tribute Wall at [www.fraleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.fraleyfuneralhome.com).

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Tues. Feb. 22: Sausage gravy over biscuit, hash brown, stewed tomatoes, apple slices

Wed. Feb. 23: Spaghetti w/meat sauce, peas, side salad, garlic bread, pudding

Thur. Feb. 24: Baked pork chop, scalloped potatoes, succotash, apple sauce

Fri. Feb. 25: Hamburger on bun w/lettuce, tomato, onion, mayo, tater tots, pears

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 through all of the changes.

Meals are to be eaten here at the

center or at EA Hawse Community room in Baker (Thursdays only). Person 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 WV Bureau of Senior Services and Upper Potomac AAA, local government, donations and memorial contributions.

**DONATIONS NEEDED**

Hardy County Committee on Aging is participating in the AmazonSmile program. AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices and convenient shopping features as on amazon.com. The difference is when

customers shop at AmazonSmile ([smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.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 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, call us at 304-530-2256 Option 5 or stop by the Senior Center at 409 Spring Ave. Moorefield, WV. Thank you for your support!

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Aides provide services in the home of eligible participants. Please call us at 304-530-2256 Option 1 or 3 for more information.

**GRAB AND GO MEALS**

For Seniors 60 and older; donations accepted. Anyone under 60 can get a meal also at \$5.25 per meal. We'll need your name, address, and birthday. Must call by 9 a.m., 304-530-2256, Option 2 or 6. Pick up your lunch between 12-12:30.

# WVDEP now accepting applications for 2022 state Make It Shine Spring Cleanup

By Terry Fletcher  
WVa. DEP

Applications are now available for the 2022 West Virginia Make It Shine Spring Statewide Cleanup. The annual event is sponsored by the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection's (WVDEP) Rehabilitation Environmental Action Plan (REAP).

This year's event will be held during the first two weeks of April (April 2 through April 16) and applications are due March 11.

The Make It Shine program will provide resources such as cleanup materials, waste hauling, and landfill fees to community groups volunteering to conduct litter cleanups in state streams or on public lands.

The WVDEP encourages all volunteers to wear a mask and stay socially distant during their cleanups in order to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

More than 4,800 volunteers from nearly 170 groups participated in the 2021 statewide spring cleanup, removing just over 754,000 pounds

of litter, and collecting 1,850 tires from 737 acres of public lands and 46 miles of streams, while remediating 144 dumps.

The online application is available here: [https://apps.dep.wv.gov/ppod/make\\_it\\_shine.a5w](https://apps.dep.wv.gov/ppod/make_it_shine.a5w). Once your project is approved, REAP staff will coordinate delivery of cleanup supplies and waste hauling and disposal. For more information, contact Chris Cartwright at [DEPwmis@wv.gov](mailto:DEPwmis@wv.gov) or by phone at 1-800-322-5530.

This event is completely dependent on volunteers, so sign up today and help make West Virginia shine!

REAP, whose motto is 'Keeping WV Clean and Green,' was created in 2005 and strives to clean up West Virginia and rid the state of litter. The program empowers citizens to take ownership of their communities by providing technical, financial, and resource assistance in cleanup and recycling efforts. More information is available on the REAP webpage: <https://dep.wv.gov/environmental-advocate/reap/Pages/default.aspx>

*With Sincere Thanks*

*Thank you for your kindness and support shown following the loss of our Husband, Father, and Grandfather. During this difficult time, we have found comfort in the many cards, calls, visits, prayers, food, flowers, and memorial donations to the HCEAA and other charities. Special thanks to Pastor Jonathan Hedrick, pallbearers, and Grandale Funeral Home for their service. We are deeply grateful to the HCEAA for their quick response and the compassion shown to our family.*

*The Family of Bernard Fansler*

**With Great Thanks**

**The family of Lena Mae Hinkle would like to express their deepest thanks for the support shown during this difficult time. Special thanks to the Baldwin Family and to the pallbearers at the Church of the Brethren.**

**Sincerely,**  
**The Family of Lena Hinkle**

**Church Services**

**Epiphany of the Lord Catholic Church**  
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304-434-2547  
Saturday Mass 5:00 PM  
Sunday Mass 8:00 AM

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*Assembly of God Church*  
Rev. Brad Taylor

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**Church of the Brethren**

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just before Corridor H exit

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**Church Service - 11 a.m.**  
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Worship - 11 a.m.  
Pastor James Yao

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COMMUNITY

In-person 'Discover Potomac State Day' event set for Feb. 21

By Deborah Swick-Cruise

Let's face it, the last couple of years for college-bound students have been somewhat challenging.

Faculty and staff at West Virginia University Potomac State College are eager to once again welcome prospective students to their beautiful campus in Keyser, W.Va., during the College's Discover Potomac State Day event on Monday, Feb. 21.

"The most exciting thing about this event is bringing prospective students back on campus and witnessing their excitement as they immerse themselves into their college exploration while touring the campus, meeting current students and asking faculty and staff questions about financial aid, classes and other topics of interest," said Program Manager

Lesley Stark.

An assortment of engaging activities and events have been scheduled to make the college experience everything it should be, including information stations, an academic fair, application reviews, and other available resources like diversity, library resources and mental and physical health.

But college isn't just about academics, it's about self-discovery and enjoying the journey. So, with that in mind, a pop-up hot chocolate bar will be offered along with creating memories by taking selfies with family and friends alongside the College's oversized HOME letters.

"No matter where you are in your college exploration process, we will help you discover the opportunities available by starting or continuing your college experience at Potomac State College. We offer a unique opportunity to experience the benefits of the WVU system on a small campus," said Beth Little, dean of Enrollment Management and University Relations.

Students who have already applied for admission to the College, along with students who apply during the Discover PSC event, will be entered in a drawing for a \$500 tuition scholarship and will also have the opportunity to win a \$500 book scholarship.

Although prior registration is not required, registering in advance is encouraged by visiting http://go.wvu.edu/discoverPSC. For information regarding the event, contact the Office of Enrollment Services at 304.788.6820 or at go2psc@mail.wvu.edu.

For those unable to attend the in-person Discover PSC Day event but who still want to see the campus, sign up for one of our Tour Guide Live virtual sessions. These sessions cover all things PSC and you can ask questions in real time.

WVDOH sponsors free STEAM bridge design contest for middle and high school students

The 2022 West Virginia Bridge Design and Build Contest is now underway! All West Virginia students in grades 6 through 12 are encouraged to submit bridge designs for a chance to win cash prizes, including a Grand Prize of \$500.

Participation in the contest is entirely free and open to students in public school, private school, or who are home-schooled. Everything a student needs to compete, including a free download of bridge design software and a tutorial by Secretary of Transportation Jimmy Wriston, P.E., is available at the Bridge Design & Build Contest website.

Students have until Sunday, Feb. 27, 2022 to register and submit their bridge designs.

The contest, sponsored by the West Virginia Division of Highways, BridgeWalk, and West Virginia Department of Education, pits middle school and high school students against one another to see who can design the best bridge using standardized design software.

The goal is the build a safe, well-engineered bridge for the least cost, just like engineers at the DOH do every day.

"Anyone who is interested in science, engineering or anything like that should take the opportunity to learn about bridge design and engineering," said Garrett Ferguson, a Frankfort High School Student who is a past winner of the contest.

In its 21st year, the contest is designed to encourage STEAM education and inspire tomorrow's engineers today. The WVDOH sponsors the annual contest to support education, and hopes that participation will inspire middle school

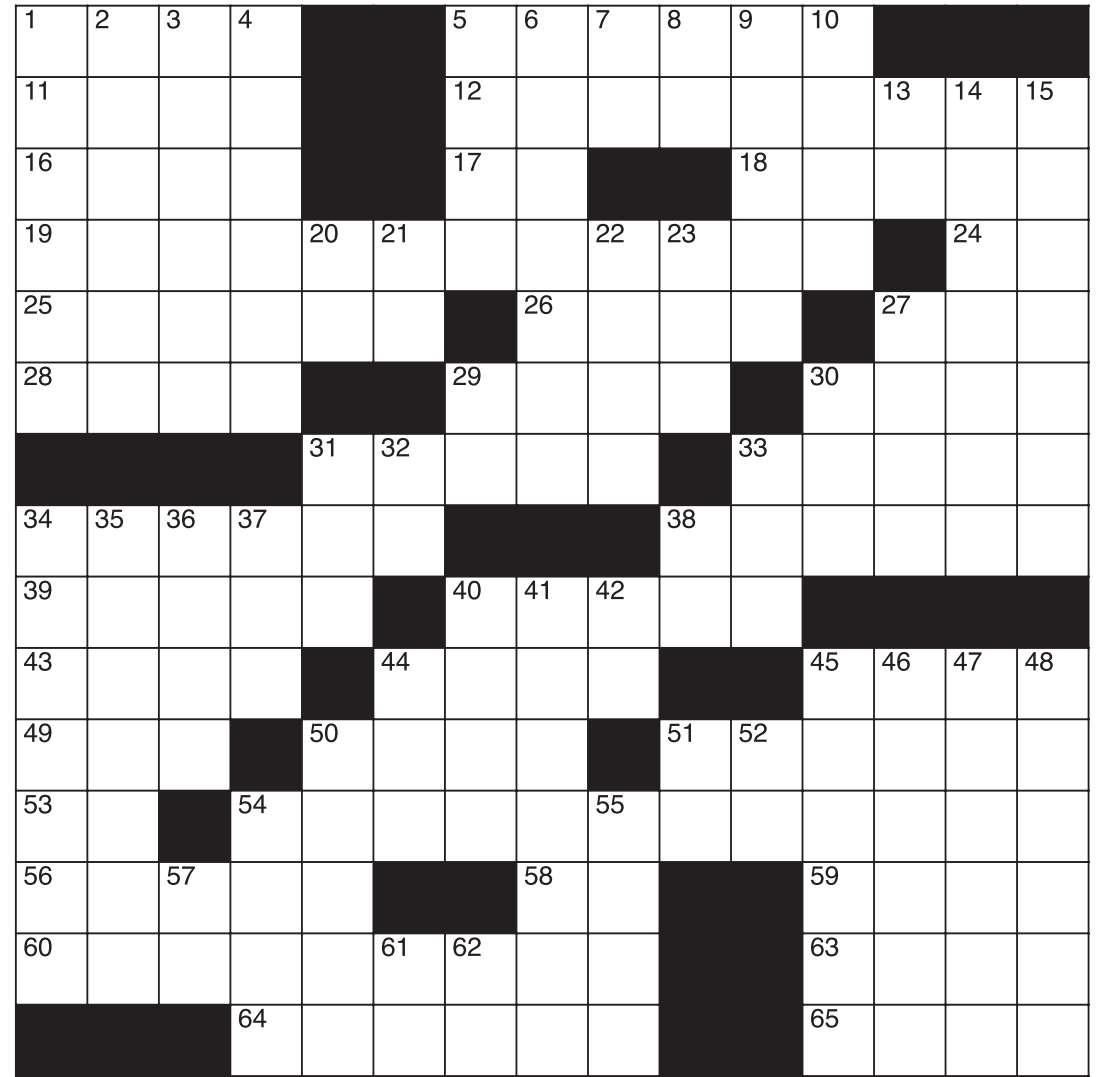
and high school students to pursue a career in engineering.

Every student who makes it to the finals receives \$100. First place high school and middle school winners take home \$500, second place winners receive \$400, and third place winners get \$300.

Contest finals will be held Saturday, March 26, 2022. Finalists will be notified no later than March 4, 2022.

With work continuing in all 55 counties across the state, the West Virginia Division of Highways and the West Virginia Department of Transportation remind the public of the importance of keeping everyone safe in work zones by keeping "Heads up; phones down!"

CROSSWORD



AmeriCorps Seeking Partner Sites, Applications

By Danielle Parker

Preservation Alliance of WVA

The Preservation Alliance of West Virginia announces organizational partnership opportunities through its Preserve WV AmeriCorps program. The Preserve WV AmeriCorps program is the Preservation Alliance's statewide national service initiative where AmeriCorps members help main streets thrive, help communities capture their local history, and help preserve beloved West Virginia landmarks.

"We are actively seeking history and place-based organizations that are working on historic preservation projects and are wanting to work more within their community but need extra help to really achieve these goals. AmeriCorps members provide vital service to their communities and we want to expand into more West Virginia counties to pre-

serve more of the Mountain State's unique cultural resources," explained Danielle Parker, the executive director for the alliance.

AmeriCorps members are catalysts for change within partner organizations. They take on projects to promote cultural heritage tourism, place-based education, and community development. Site sponsors usually have history-related missions such as, historical sites, museums, historic landmarks commissions, main street organizations, and historical societies, but other organizations are also eligible.

In addition to site sponsorship opportunities, the Alliance is also accepting applications for paid AmeriCorps site placements.

Current openings are with organizations including the City of Ronceverte's Museum, the Cockayne Farmstead in Marshall County, the Harrison County WV Historical Society in Clarksburg, the Kanawha Salines Foundation in Kanawha County, the Sutton Community Development Corporation, and the WVU BAD Buildings program at the Northern WV Brownfields Assistance Center. To learn more about these site sponsorship and AmeriCorps placement opportunities, visit https://www.pawv.org.

Advertisement for Farmers Mutual Insurance Group, featuring a man in an apron and text: 'Custom coverage for Small Businesses', 'Office • Beauty Parlors • Retail Stores & More', 'Mid-Atlantic Group', '210 N Elm Street, Moorefield, WV 26836', '(304) 538-7276, www.midatlanticgroup.com'

Advertisement for Judy's Mobile Homes, Inc., featuring a house illustration and text: 'NEW & USED Homes', 'NEW Modular Homes', 'Affordable Housing for Everyone', 'Large Parts Inventory', 'Transporters', 'PO. Box 377, U.S. Rt. 50 E, Shanks, WV 26761', '304-496-7777', 'U.S. Rt. 220, Moorefield, WV 26836', '304-538-7066'

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Remain as is
5. Functional
11. News magazine
12. Popular treat
16. Area units
17. Artificial intelligence
18. Marten valued for its fur
19. Forms of matter
24. Home of the Dodgers
25. Bordering
26. Part of the eye
27. It might be nervous
28. Visualizes
29. Crest of a hill
30. Measures engine speed (abbr.)
31. Tears in a garment (Br. Eng.)
33. Not easily explained
34 Song in short stanzas
38. Detonations
39. Intestinal
40. EU cofounder Paul-Henri \_\_\_
43. Balmy
44. New Mexico mountain town
45. Gobblers
49. Insecticide
50. Golf scores
51. Has its own altar
53. "Pollock" actor Harris
54. Being livable
56. NHL play-by-play man
58. "The Great Lakes State" (abbr.)
59. Unpainted
60. Swam underwater
63. Native American people
64. Containing salt
65. Exam

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Small bone in middle ear
2. Long, angry speech
3. Move out of
4. Male organ
5. Two-toed sloth
6. Making dirty
7. Article
8. Oil company
9. Emits coherent radiation
10. Amounts of time
13. Unit equal to one quintillion bytes (abbr.)
14. Forbidden by law
15. Drains away
20. Not out
21. Sea patrol (abbr.)
22. Bird genus
23. Gratuity
27. \_\_\_ and feathers
29. Spiritual part of an individual (ancient Egypt)
30. Hot beverage
31. Pouch
32. It followed the cassette
33. Large northern deer
34. Ones who offer formally
35. Famed genie
36. Bequeathed
37. Skeletal muscle
38. Atomic #56
40. Silk garment
41. They deliver the mail
42. Equally
44. Check
45. Light-colored breed of hound
46. Drug that soothes
47. Railroads
48. Most slick
50. Jacket
51. A radio band
52. Hello
54. His and \_\_\_
55. Supporter
57. Popular software suite (abbr.)
61. Railway
62. NY coastal region (abbr.)

Answers key is on the back page

## THIS WEEK IN WEST VIRGINIA HISTORY



**The Clay County Wild Man**

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](http://www.wvencyclopedia.org).

Feb. 16, 1821: Morris Harvey was born near Prosperity in Raleigh County. Harvey's gifts to the Barboursville Seminary led to its name being changed to Morris Harvey College in 1901. The institution is now known as the University of Charleston.

Feb. 16, 1951: Second Lieutenant Darwin Keith Kyle died during an intense exchange against Chinese forces in Korea. He was awarded the Medal of Honor.

Feb. 17, 1735: Morgan Morgan was commissioned a captain of militia in the 201st Field Artillery, which



**Gov. Gaston Caperton**

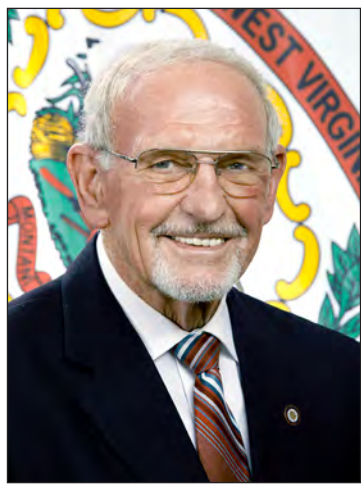
is considered the oldest military unit in the United States.

Feb. 18, 1890: Ellison Mounts, a cousin to the Hatfield family, was hanged for murder, ending the Hatfield-McCoy Feud.

Feb. 18, 1969: Hundreds of miners in Raleigh County went on strike over the issue of black lung. Within days, the walkout spread throughout southern West Virginia.

Feb. 19, 1872: The Glenville Branch of the State Normal School was established by an act of the legislature. The first session of the college opened on January 14, 1873, in the old Gilmer County courthouse.

Feb. 19, 1908: Orval Elijah Brown was born near Lizemores in Clay County. Brown, a free-spirited individual, gained notoriety as the "Clay County Wild Man" during the Great Depression for his untamed physical appearance that included a flowing beard and the wearing of little more



**Gus R. Douglass**

than a self-made loincloth.

Feb. 19, 1943: Author Homer Hickam was born in Coalwood, McDowell County. Hickam's second book, *Rocket Boys: A Memoir*, was published in 1998 and became a runaway bestseller.

Feb. 20, 1875: The West Virginia Legislature approved a bill to move the state capital back to Wheeling.

Feb. 20, 1995: The West Virginia Legislature voted to make the Golden Delicious apple the official state fruit.

Feb. 21, 1895: Bluefield Colored Institute was established by the legislature to prepare black West Virginians for the teaching profession. After several name changes, the school became Bluefield State College in 1943.

Feb. 21, 1940: Former Governor Gaston Caperton was born in Charleston. Caperton defeated Arch Moore to become the state's 31st



**Homer Hickam**

governor.

Feb. 22, 1927: Longtime Agriculture Commissioner Gus R. Douglass was born in Mason County. Douglass, a Democrat, was first elected commissioner of agriculture in 1964. Reelected nine times, Douglass was the longest serving agricultural commissioner in the country.

Feb. 22, 2018: 33,000 schoolteachers and service personnel walked off the job over wages and health benefits. The strike drew national attention, and teachers in five other states organized work stoppages.

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](http://www.wvencyclopedia.org).

## End to nuclear plant ban signed by West Virginia governor

By John Raby  
Associated Press

West Virginia Gov. Jim Justice on Tuesday signed a bill eliminating the state's ban on nuclear power plants but cautioned against jumping in to diversify the coal-dependent state's energy offerings.

Justice said in a letter that any development or placement of nuclear technologies in West Virginia "must be done thoughtfully and, above all, safely."

The Republican governor said lawmakers must continue to research and monitor nuclear initiatives "to ensure appropriate regulatory or safety measures are in place as new technologies are developed and implemented."

Justice called the bill "a positive step" in modernizing the state's regulatory environment, but said "we must work to ensure only positive outcomes from this legislation by continually evaluating any concerns and implementing best practices in any regulation that may be required."

The state's ban on nuclear plants was enacted in 1996, but nuclear power has in recent years gained support as a tool to keep climate change under control, with proponents noting that it emits few planet-damaging emissions and is safer

on average than nearly any other energy source.

West Virginia is the nation's second-largest coal producer, behind Wyoming, and accounted for 5 percent of the nation's total energy production in 2019, ranking fifth among the states, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

But West Virginia has lost thousands of coal jobs in the past decade as companies and utilities explore using other energy sources such as natural gas, solar and wind.

According to the Nuclear Energy Institute, coal provides 88 percent of West Virginia's energy needs, followed by 5 percent from natural gas, 3.3 percent from wind, 3.1 percent from hydroelectric and 0.2 percent from other energy sources.

There are nuclear power plants in 28 states, although Georgia is the only state with a nuclear project currently under construction. Among surrounding states, there are a combined 8,500 nuclear energy jobs in Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Virginia, according to the NEL.

Some states are transitioning away from carbon dioxide-emitting fossil fuels to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and stave off the worst effects of a warming planet.

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MARCH 12, 2022

START TIME 9:00 AM

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January 27, 2022 9:00am – 5:00pm  
February 17, 2022 9:00am – 5:00pm

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Registration is also available online. Complete the enrollment form on the [hardycountyschools.com](http://hardycountyschools.com) website by February 25, 2022 or obtain a paper copy at the Hardy County Board of Education Office.

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(Head Start Building 112 Bean's Lane)  
Moorefield Area Schools  
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# HARDY COUNTY SPORTS



Photo by Carl Holcomb

East Hardy's Brandon Parker and Union's Daniel Savage chase after a loose ball in Baker.

## East Hardy grabs Tigers by the tail

By Carl Holcomb  
Moorefield Examiner

The Cougars pounced to a 16-nil lead and thrashed to a 34-11 halftime advantage over Union, then kept the attack in full throttle during the second half for a 66-42 victory making the Tigers whimper in Baker on Thursday.

East Hardy's Andrew Hahn started the game and sparked the 16-0 run with a jumper off an assist from Noah Lang.

"We did a good job rebounding

and running. Our game is run and gun. Tonight we didn't have a lot of set offense and got a lot of transition points. We like running that secondary break and it led to a lot of good looks. We were able to get into our groove pretty early," East Hardy coach Chris Hahn noted.

Union hit the rim thrice with rebounds by Daniel Savage and the last ricochet was tipped over to East Hardy's J.W. Teets.

Teets located Lang to drive inside for a layup at 6:40.

Teets and Lang made steals, but

drew iron on the shot attempts with Lang missing on a layup and collecting the ricochet to feed Teets for a 3-pointer at 5:25.

J.W. Teets swiped the ball again and fed brother Justin Teets for a perimeter basket giving the Cougars a 10-0 lead at 4:50.

J.W. Teets hauled in a defensive rebound and was fouled, then Lang garnered a layup.

An errant Tigers inbound pass rolled off the back of Lang and corralled by Brandon Parker.

Continued on page 10

## East Hardy swings Hardy Hammer on Moorefield Wrestling Senior Night

By Carl Holcomb  
Moorefield Examiner

East Hardy Wrestling waved the Hardy Hammer trophy after the Cougars disrupted Moorefield's senior night with a 51-24 victory on Wednesday in retaining county bragging rights.

"It's a great thing. We wrestled well. The kids are moving and getting ready for the postseason. It was a good event and a good experience for everybody. They are progressively getting better and learning and willing to learn. They are putting in the hard work in practice and it is paying off dividends," East Hardy Wrestling coach Steven Miller remarked.

"It is bragging rights for the county and it is good for the county. We are progressively moving in the right direction. I am personally 14 years into coaching wrestling, so watching the youth and all of us come together to make this work is great. Hardy County Youth Wrestling is growing as a whole and that is the whole purpose to become a feeder program for the high school."

Prior to the Hardy County Hammer Throwdown, members of the Hardy County Youth Wrestling team showcased their talent with exhibition matches.

Moorefield Wrestling honored its three seniors, twin siblings Madalynn and Tyberious Clayton along with Matthew Delawder.

All three were members of last



Photo by Carl Holcomb

Hardy Hammer: Moorefield's Riley Pillus and East Hardy's Brandon Jones battle together looking for an opportunity to make a move for a takedown.

year's Class A state wrestling team championship.

Tyberious Clayton and Delawder earned their 100th career victories this season and Madalynn Clayton recorded the milestones as the team statistician.

Madalynn Clayton plans to attend West Virginia University in the honors program and study civil en-

gineering.

Tyberious Clayton is considering several options after high school including joining the United States Marine Corps, collegiate wrestling or going to an auto body shop school.

Delawder plans to attend WVU and major in criminology.

Madalynn Clayton and Delawder were both on the tennis teams and

were selected as the Homecoming royalty as queen and king, respectively.

Tyberious Clayton and Delawder were both members of the football team.

"It's always fun to see the little guys wrestle, especially those seven or eight year olds running actual

Continued on page 10



Photo by Carl Holcomb

East Hardy senior Damian Iman signs with the Shenandoah University Football program alongside EHS coach Devon Orndorff, mother Sheril Plum and brothers Braxton and Slade Plum.

## Iman signs to play football at Shenandoah University

By Carl Holcomb  
Moorefield Examiner

East Hardy senior Damian Iman signed his national letter of intent to play football for Shenandoah University this past Thursday.

The Shenandoah Hornets compete in the NCAA Division III within the Old Dominion Athletic Conference and finished 7-3 last season with a conference record of 3-3.

"It's awesome, just to be able to play the game for four more years is amazing. It's the next step and I have been playing football for ten plus years. To be able to play for four more years is great. Their coaching staff was straight up forward with me. They told me if they didn't think I could play, they would never reach back to me. They thought I could play and reached out to me, so I knew there was something there for me," East Hardy Football senior Damian Iman remarked.

The Cougars have been known for years as a spread offense and Iman

Continued on page 12

## Wheels fall off Moorefield as Warriors Roll to victory

By Carl Holcomb  
Moorefield Examiner

The Yellow Jackets had a solid game plan in the first half going at their own pace holding a narrow halftime lead, then the wheels fell off with disastrous dividends as Trinity Christian preyed on the mistakes leading to a 75-52 victory in Moorefield on Monday.

"We played great in the first half, then we fell apart in the second half. We made too many mistakes, just throwing the ball away and they scored in transition on us. We were too sloppy," Moorefield coach Paul Keplinger stated.

Moorefield's Amber Williams commenced the game with a defensive rebound.

Sterling Kump dished to McKenna Crites for a layup as the Yellow Jackets scored the initial basket at 7:37.

Kump collected a defensive rebound and Crites hit a jumper on the ensuing possession to make 4-nil at 7:11.

Trinity Christian got on the board with a jumper by Olivia Austin at 6:55.

The Yellow Jackets responded with a jumper by Teia Ray off an assist from Williams.

The Warriors hit the rim and the ball ricocheted out of play, then Crites made a spinning layup for an

8-2 edge with six minutes left in the first period.

Ella Lynch drilled a 3-pointer for Trinity Christian on the next series.

Austin swiped the ball, but was whistled for a walk moments later.

Moorefield broke the press and Williams finished off the drive with a layup.

Kyndel Kisner hauled in an offensive rebound and hit the jumper for a 10-7 score at 4:40.

Trinity Christian's Avonna Brown forced a turnover during a trap, but the ball was intercepted by Moorefield's Kaleigh Hunt and snatched back by Maggie Mercure leading to one free throw at 3:07.

Kump dished to Hunt for a mid-range jumper as the Yellow Jackets went up 12-8 at 2:40.

Trinity Christian tied the game within 40 seconds as Jenna Barnett made a layup, then Avonna Brown grabbed a defensive rebound before Barnett took a trip to the free throw line making both shots, 12-all at 2:02.

Kump notched two field goals in a 20 second span thanks to a defensive rebound by Hunt as Moorefield went up 16-12.

Trinity Christian's Abigail Fisher made a steal and dished to Barnett for a basket with 20 seconds left in the frame, trailing the Yellow Jackets 16-14.

Continued on page 10

## Yellow Jackets charge past Keyser



Photo by Carl Holcomb

Moorefield's Silas Inskeep crashes into Keyser's Braydon Keller during a jumper in the Hive.

By Carl Holcomb  
Moorefield Examiner

Forget the cash in the wallet, Moorefield took the cards dealt and charged from an early deficit to rally and secure a 55-47 victory over the Golden Tornado on Tuesday in the Hive.

The Yellow Jackets found themselves in a predicament from the beginning as Keyser spun to a 12-nil lead and maintained the advantage going up by as many as 14 points in the third period.

Moorefield was without senior guard Dean Keplinger in the first period due to a team punishment and managed to fight back to garner its first lead with only four minutes remaining in the contest.

"Early, we were making bad passes, bad decisions. It took us a little while to adjust and settle down. After we did, we brought ourselves back in the first half within five, then they made a run in the third quarter," Moorefield coach Scott Stutler remarked.

"We just stuck with it and our kids played hard and battled back and that's what you want to see this time of year. It was good to see we could take a lead and stay ahead after coming from behind. We did a good

job down the stretch making foul shots and holding the ball. Our defensive is getting better and did a good job holding them to 47 points."

Moorefield's Blake Funk hauled in a defensive rebound to commence the game, but the Yellow Jackets fumbled the ball out of bounds.

Keyser started its run with a jumper by Hunter Van Pelt at the 7:15 mark.

The Golden Tornado began full-court press and kept up the defense forcing Moorefield to make some mental mistakes during the run.

Van Pelt made a steal during a trap and missed the ensuing shot, but Braydon Keller grabbed the rebound and was fouled before Sammy Bradford knocked down a shot during the possession.

Noah Broadwater created a steal for the Golden Tornado and fed Alec Stanislawczyk for a layup and a 6-0 lead at 5:54.

Keller fought for a rebound with Funk crashing to the hardwood, then Moorefield's Coleman Mongold blocked a shot.

Keyser recovered the ricochet and Bradford notched a field goal.

Mongold and Broadwater traded steals

Continued on page 10

## Applemen prevent Cougars bite in defending girls state title

By Carl Holcomb  
Moorefield Examiner

Musselman won the West Virginia Girls State Wrestling Championship for the third consecutive season in Parkersburg by staving off East Hardy for the second year in a row as the Cougars claimed the runner-up spot trailing by just 15 points.

Musselman Girls Wrestling team claimed the state championship with 104 points with eight wrestlers, compared to East Hardy with the largest contingent of nine grapplers collecting 89 points with one individual state title garnered by Nahkita Bauserman and Victoria Ames

took the silver medal.

"Nahkita won the state title. She has been wrestling for me for eight years or more. Victoria, on the other hand, placed second and has wrestled for three years. I'm extremely proud of all of these girls. They've worked hard all season in the weight room and on the mat. Nahkita was absolutely ecstatic about winning the state title," East Hardy Girls Wrestling coach Steven Miller commented.

There were 38 total teams competing in the high school division with Madison weights and third place went to Cabell Midland with 64.5 points.

A couple other eastern panhandle teams making the Top-10 were No. 7 Spring Mills and No. 10 Hampshire.

East Hardy sophomore Nahkita Bauserman made a huge improvement from last season's fourth place finish to claiming the state championship this year in the 185-lb. weight class.

"I felt ecstatic and extremely happy, because it was the first time I've ever won first place in anything and it even made me cry a little bit I was so happy," East Hardy Girls Wrestling state champion Nahkita Bauserman remarked.

East Hardy senior Victoria Ames was in third place at the girls wrestling state tournament last year and took a step up earning a state runner-up spot in the 150-lb. division.

East Hardy senior Courtney Shank garnered a fourth place finish in the 160-lb. weight class, followed by fel-

low senior Caitlyn Ward in sixth place.

East Hardy junior Gabreanna Miller took fourth place overall in the 150-lb. weight class.

East Hardy senior Madison Heishman placed fifth overall in the 123-lb. weight class.

East Hardy freshmen rounded out the scoring: Jessica Dove in sixth place (140), Chelsea Mills in seventh place (160) and Samara Pyles did not finish due to injury and was eighth overall.

East Hardy Girls Wrestling showcased its talent and how much it has grown and will continue to strive to gain another state title opportunity next season.



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older, have a driver's license, and a minimum of a High School Diploma or GED equivalent. West Virginia Class II Water Certification, college degree and basic computer skills including Microsoft Word and Excel is considered a plus. The Town of Franklin offers an outstanding benefits package. Deadline to apply is February 25, 2022. Applications can be picked up at the Town Office in Franklin. Call 304-358-7525 for more information. 3/2

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The Hardy County Parks and Recreation Commission is accepting applications for a part-time maintenance groundskeeper at Brighton Park. Applications can be picked up at the Park Office at 644 Fisher Road. Completed applications need to be delivered back or placed in the drop box at the Park Office no later than Tuesday, February 22, 2022. This is a seasonal employment opportunity (April - October) with no health or medical benefits. The work will require two 8 hour days a week and a few hours one weekend a month. Hourly pay will be based on experience. If you have any questions please call the office at 304-530-0244.

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