

# The Hurricane Breeze

SINCE 1900 THE BEST FAMILY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER FOR ALL OF PUTNAM COUNTY AND THE WHOLE WORLD

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## Hurricane Skate Park Vandalized

By Ron Allen  
On the night of Friday, December 13, three vandals were caught in the act of damaging the skate park at City Park in Hurricane by surveillance cameras.

Hurricane Mayor Scott Edwards posted videos of the act and photos of the three young men on his Facebook page on Monday morning (December 16). In his post Edwards stated that the City would be pressing charges and asked the public to identify the individuals involved. Within two or three hours, the three turned themselves into the Hurricane Police Department.

The extent of the damage has yet to be determined. Assistant City Manager Amanda Ramey said the City has reached out to the contractor which built the skate park to assess the damage and submit recommendations. Ramey reported that at least two of the individuals were from the local

community. As of Tuesday morning (December 17), more than eighty individuals had responded to Edwards' postings. The flavor of the response is captured in the following quotations.

"It's great to hear that everyone involved has turned themselves in; accountability is important."

"Need six months to a year in jail 10 times what the damage was in fines, each and six months community service. Make the punishment suit the crime."

"Each should pay for the repairs. Plus maybe community service every weekend for a year."

"Everyone giving them their sentences before they've gotten their finger prints taken."

"I hope they aren't from Hurricane!!! Be a good time to be on the jury!!! I hope they get the strongest sentences they can give them."

"It's disgraceful that grown men would stoop

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## Grinch Captured



The Grinch was an unwilling participant in Hurricane's annual Christmas Parade. (Turn to Page 15 for more photos.)

The start of the Hurricane Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 14, was delayed by the pursuit of the Grinch by the Hurricane Police Department and Mayor Scott Edwards.

The Grinch escaped from jail on December

9 and had not been seen until just prior to the 12 noon parade.

Edwards and Police Chief Mike Mullins spotted the infamous fellow near the First Baptist Church on Main Street and attempted to arrest him. The Grinch fled in a stolen Side-By-

Side.

Despite several attempts to capture the rascal along the parade route, Edwards and Mullins were not able to corral him until his escape path was blocked by Hurricane Wrecker's massive tow truck at entrance to Bridge Park

on Midland Trail.

Just by chance, Hurricane Wrecker had an escape proof cage in tow. Edwards and Mullins used the cage to incarcerate the Grinch.

Edwards stated that the jailed Grinch will not be able to steal Christmas this year.

## NORAD ready to track Santa's flight for 69th year

PETERSON SPACE FORCE BASE, Colo. — NORAD monitors and defends North American airspace 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. On Dec. 24, NORAD has one additional mission: tracking Santa Claus as he makes his way across the globe delivering presents to children.

The NORAD Tracks Santa website (www.noradsanta.org) will launch on Dec. 1. It features Santa's North Pole Village, which includes a holiday countdown, games, a movie theater, holiday music, web store and more. The website is available in nine languages:

English, French, Spanish, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Chinese and Korean.

Count down the days until Santa's journey on mobile devices with the official NORAD Tracks Santa app, which is available in the Apple App and Google Play stores. NORAD Tracks Santa will also be available on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and X, and on contributor platforms Amazon Alexa, SiriusXM, and OnStar.

On Dec. 24, trackers worldwide can call 1-877-HI-NORAD to ask

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## A Movie Review: War of the Rohirrim

By Betsy Allen

Twenty-three years ago, the first installment of the *Lord of the Rings* film trilogy debuted in theatres, setting off a cultural phenomenon that still resonates to this day. In a country still reeling from the September 11 attacks, Americans fell in love with J. R. R. Tolkien's fantasy realm of Middle-earth with its noble human heroes, ethereal elves, stalwart dwarves, and

down-to-earth hobbits. People related to the epic struggle of good versus evil and found comfort in the story's message of enduring hope and strength against adversity.

The vast lands of Middle-earth have returned to the big screen this December, with the debut of *The Lord of the Rings: The War of the Rohirrim* (PG-13). Set over 260 years before the events of *Lord of the Rings*, this animated feature focuses upon a dark and turbulent

time during the history of the kingdom of Rohan. Helm, the King of Rohan, is approached by Lord Freca, a powerful lord who desires a marriage between his son, Wulf, and Helm's daughter, Hera. Both Helm and Hera refuse this proposal, and Helm gets into a fistfight with Freca, whom he accidentally kills with a single blow of his mighty fist. Desiring vengeance for his father's death, Wulf travels to the neighboring country of Dunland, where he musters his forces and launches an assault upon Rohan. The war that ensues is long and brutal, taking place during one of the worst winters in the history of Middle-earth.

I found *War of the Rohirrim* to be an engaging film which explores the lore of one of my favorite Middle-earth kingdoms – the land of Rohan. Unlike the more ancient and mystical realm of Gondor, the Rohirrim feel more like an early medieval kingdom from our universe. They have a horse culture, possess no magic, and relate their history through tales and songs. They also have a

tradition of shieldmaidens – women who wield sword and shield to defend their homes during times of great need.

Hera is a shieldmaiden with a love of adventure and an affinity towards animals. In the beginning of the movie, she is shown attempting to befriend one of the Great Eagles – an effort which will pay off later in the film. In flashbacks, it is revealed that she and Wulf had been childhood friends, and there possibly could have been a romance between them had not time and tensions between their families caused them to drift apart over the years. What remained of their relationship is irreparably broken after Helm kills Wulf's father, and Wulf declares war upon Hera's people in his quest for vengeance.

*War of the Rohirrim* was directed by Kenji Kamiyama, a Japanese anime director, and produced and co-written by Phillipa Boyens, who also co-wrote the *Lord*

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## Macholah Ballet Presents 'The Nativity'



Angels dance to celebrate the birth of Jesus. (Photo by Betsy Allen)

By Betsy Allen

The Macholah Ballet shared their rendition of the Christmas story with the community this past weekend, bringing to life the biblical account of the birth of Jesus.

The Teays Valley-based studio put on the twelfth annual production of "The Nativity" at Bridge Church in Scott Depot on Friday, December 13, and Saturday, December 14. This is a new location for "The Nativity," which has been held at various

churches throughout the local area.

Macholah Ballet's Christmas production features the talents of high school aged, pre-professional level dancers who have trained and practiced for months to

perform the feats of agility and athleticism required for such a performance. The "Nativity" depicts the journeys of Mary and Joseph, the birth of Jesus, angels appearing to the

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## No Breeze Next Week

The Hurricane Breeze is taking off for Christmas. There will be no issue of Thursday, December 26, 2024.

Breeze elves, Ron and Betsy, have put out an extra effort for this, our Christmas issue, and are looking to enjoy the time off.

We hope that all enjoy a delightful Christmas and a wonderful New Year. The next issue will be January 2, 2025.

### WEATHER SUMMARY

December 10 - 16	
Low	High
December 10*	
Hurricane	40° 60°
December 11**	
Hurricane	26° 43°
December 12	
Hurricane	17° 34°
December 13	
Hurricane	16° 35°
December 14	
Hurricane	20° 48°
December 15*	
Hurricane	31° 42°
December 16*	
Hurricane	39° 53°

\*RAIN/\*\*SNOW  
0.6 inch recorded Dec. 10  
2 inches recorded Dec. 11  
0.6 inch recorded Dec. 15  
0.3 inch recorded Dec. 16

## Community Calendar

If you want your event listed in the Community Calendar, write to the Hurricane Breeze at PO Box 310, Hurricane, West Virginia 25526, or phone 304-562-9881. If you have email, send it to breezenews@citynet.net and mark your subject line "Community Calendar." There is no charge for posting an event in the calendar.

### SATURDAYS THROUGH FEBRUARY

- There will be a free open gym for 1st - 5th graders every Saturday from 9 to 11 a.m. at Zone Out Sports, located on Morris Court, just off Main Street in Hurricane.

### NOW - DECEMBER 23

- The 36th Annual St. Albans Festival of Lights is open nightly from 6 to 9 p.m. at St. Albans City Park.

### DECEMBER 19

- Celebrate Recovery will be holding a community night Christmas dinner at 6:30 p.m. at Buffalo Church of the Nazarene, 25053 Buffalo Road.

- Cookies in Whoville - a free event for military kids - will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Eleanor Army, 111 Army Navy Drive, Red House. To RSVP, call 304-541-6740 or 304-543-3120.

- The Teays Valley Church of God Women's Missionary Group will be holding their annual Christmas dinner at 6 p.m. at the church. Meet other women from the community. The cost is \$25; bring a \$15 white elephant gift. For more information, call (304) 757-9222.

- The Comeback Club, an initiative to help women reintegrate back into the workforce after career breaks, will be holding a job seeker open house at 10 a.m. and an open house for employers at 5 p.m. at Area 34, 971 WV Route 34, Teays Valley.

### DECEMBER 20

- Historical Square Community Church, 20058 Buffalo Road, Buffalo, will be holding a free movie night at 7 p.m. "I Heard The Bells" will be showing.

- The Putnam County Main Library presents Bright Star Theatre: A Dickens Tale at 2 p.m. See "A Christmas Carol" brought to life.

- Hurricane VFW

### THE HURRICANE BREEZE

Entered in the Post Office at Hurricane, W.Va., 25526, as Periodical Class Mail Matter, on October 16, 1900.

### PUTNAM COUNTY'S MOST READ NEWSPAPER

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9097, 3836 Teays Valley Road, Hurricane, will be hosting a white elephant gift exchange and karaoke starting at 8 p.m. Bring a gift worth \$10 or less.

### DECEMBER 21

- Buffalo High School will be hosting TubaChristmas, a concert show featuring local tuba and euphonium players, at 5 p.m.

- Kelly's Dance Studio will be hosting a Christmas celebration at Ridenour Lake in Nitro from noon to 1:30 p.m. Princesses, hot chocolate, free pictures and gifts.

- Harvest Chapel, 402 Main Avenue, Nitro, will be holding a Pancakes with Santa fundraiser at 10 a.m. Tickets are \$10.

- There will be a beginner crochet class from 1 to 3 p.m. at Bake My Day, 14 Bank Street, Nitro. The cost is \$20 per person.

- Santa and Mrs. Claus will be coming to Jungle Club Resort Party & Play, 11624 Winfield Road Unit 4, Winfield, from 1 to 5 p.m. Purchase tickets at <https://www.jungleclubresortwv.com/category/all-products>

- The Putnam County Democratic Women's Club will be holding their December luncheon at noon at Sleepy Hollow Golf Club in Hurricane. The cost is \$20 per person. RSVP by calling 304-543-2115.

- St Timothy's in the Valley Episcopal Church, 3434 Teays Valley Road, Hurricane, will be holding a Blue Christmas service at 7 p.m.

- The Merry Market will be coming to the Valley Park Convention Center in Hurricane from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Photos with Mrs. Claus, over 50 vendors, coffee truck, and rolled ice cream.

- Free Christmas Dinner Food Boxes will be given out at 8 a.m. in front of the First Baptist Church of Hurricane, 2635 Main Street. No ID is necessary and boxes will be placed in your car as long as quantities last.

- There will be free horse and carriage rides on Main Street, Hurricane, from 5 to 7 p.m.

- Friends of CharCon will be hosting a game day at the Board Room in Hurricane (behind Walmart) from noon to 4 p.m.

### DECEMBER 22

- Bancroft Mission, 5936 Charleston Road, will be holding their Christmas service at 9:45 a.m.

- Fraziers Bottom Church of God, 19064 Winfield Road, will be holding their annual children's Christmas play at 11 a.m.

- First Baptist Church of Nitro, 2200 2nd Avenue, Nitro, will be holding their Christmas play, "Just A Little Christmas," at 11 a.m.

- First Baptist Church of Hurricane, 2635 Main Street, will be holding their Christmas cantata, "Merry Christmas to You," at 8:50 a.m. and 3 p.m.

### DECEMBER 23

- Santa's Cozy Critter Pajama Party will be held from 7:30 to 8 a.m. at Putnam County Animal Shelter, 12908 Charleston Road, Red House. Help clean the shelter, and then enjoy some hot chocolate.

### DECEMBER 24

- Buffalo United Methodist, 27 High Street, will be holding a Christmas eve service at 10 p.m.

- Fraziers Bottom United Methodist Church, 1 Church Drive, will be holding Christmas eve services starting at 5:30 p.m.

## WV Symphony Chorus To Host Lessons and Carols Free Concert

The WV Symphony Chorus will host a free concert of Lessons and Carols on Saturday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m. at Christ Church United Methodist in Charleston.

This special holiday performance from the WV Symphony chorus will feature members of the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra's brass and percussion sections, led by WV Symphony Chorus Director David Castleberry.

The evening's program is set to feature John Rutter's thrilling Gloria and choruses by J.S. Bach, Vaughan Williams, Richard Huntley, and others on Saturday, Dec. 21 at 7:00 p.m. at Christ Church United Methodist.

Admission is free, but donations to the WV Symphony chorus are welcomed.

"We are excited to share the wonderful music of Bach, Vaughan Williams, Rutter, and

## WVDA Drought Recovery Program Accepting Enrollment

To combat the severe drought affecting West Virginia in 2024, the state legislature has allocated \$10 million in surplus funds to create the West Virginia Department of Agriculture's (WVDA) Drought Recovery Program. Those eligible are livestock farmers, who are already enrolled in the USDA-Farm Service Agency (FSA) Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP). These farmers can now sign up for the drought recovery program at their local conservation districts. The enrollment period runs from Dec. 9, 2024-Jan. 30, 2025.

The funding will support farmers by covering critical needs, such as restoring drought-damaged pastures, assisting with water resources, and addressing other pressing drought-related expenses. The program aims to fill gaps not covered by federal disaster relief programs.

"West Virginia's farmers are facing a

- Cross of Grace Lutheran Church, 3434 Teays Valley Road, Hurricane, will be holding a Christmas Eve worship service starting at 7 p.m.

- St. Timothy's in the Valley Episcopal Church, 3434 Teays Valley Road, Hurricane, will be holding Christmas Eve worship services at 5, 10:30 and 11 p.m.

- First Baptist Church of Hurricane, 2635 Main Street, will be holding a Christmas Eve candlelight service at 6 p.m.

- Forrest Burdette United Methodist Church, Putnam Avenue, Hurricane, will be holding a traditional candlelight service at 7 p.m., and a candlelight service with handbells, special music, and communion at 11 p.m.

### DECEMBER 25

- St. Timothy's in the Valley Episcopal Church, 3434 Teays Valley Road, Hurricane, will be holding a Christmas Day worship service at 11 a.m.

### DECEMBER 29

- GloryWay will be performing at 10:45 a.m. at the Winfield Nazarene Church, 10822 Winfield Road.

### DECEMBER 31

- Red House Bible Church, 51 Warner Lane, Red House, will be holding a game night from 6 to 9 p.m.

- Fraziers Bottom Church of God, 19064

others in what promises to be a memorable evening," said WV Symphony Chorus Director David Castleberry. "The performance will include some of the traditional Lessons and Carols readings, but will also include poetry, special selections for chorus and audience, and brass from the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra. It will be a wonderful way to celebrate the season!"

The West Virginia Symphony Orchestra is West Virginia's premier performing arts organization, presenting classical and pops concerts annually throughout the Mountain State. Currently in its 86th season, the WWSO is a proud member of the community and enriches the region by providing affordable, high-quality concerts, collaborations with West Virginia arts organizations.

crisis unlike any we've seen in decades," said Commissioner of Agriculture Kent Leonhardt. "As drought conditions continue to impact our farmers, this support is crucial to help them weather the storm, so they can continue their operations. While this will not solve all the challenges, it will provide immediate relief and help farmers on the road to recovery."

Program Overview: WVDA Drought Recovery Program

- Total Funding: \$10 million from the West Virginia Legislature to assist farmers impacted by drought conditions.

- Eligibility: To qualify for assistance, farmers must be enrolled in the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP). Enhancement payments under the WVDA Drought Recovery Program will be contingent upon LFP enrollment.

- Enrollment Process: Farmers must sign up in-person at their local Conservation District by Jan. 30, 2025. All information the applicant provides MUST match the information on the USDA-FSA 2024 LFP Estimated Calculated Payment Report.

- Applicants must have key documents at the time they apply:

- A physical copy of

Winfield Road, will be holding a New Year's Eve party starting at 7 p.m.

- The Putnam County Main Library will be holding Countdown to "Noon" Year's Eve at noon for children who are too little to stay up to midnight.

- Hard Reign will be performing at 9 p.m. at the Putnam County Moose, located at Putnam Village Shopping Center in Teays Valley.

- Krampus and Fear on the Farm will be at Plant Parenthood and Valley Vintage, 404B Midland Trail, Hurricane, from 3 to 5 p.m.

### JANUARY 1

- Bancroft Mission, 5936 Charleston Road, will be hosting a New Years Day Parade through the town starting at 12:30 p.m.

## The Way We Were, The Way We Are

By Brenda Burke

The real reason... the why of Christmas... thank you, Lord, for coming... thank you for giving us Christmas, the most beautiful time of the year.

"God sent the little Christ Child so man might understand

That a little child shall lead them to that unknown Promised Land...

For God in His great wisdom knew that men would rise to power

And forget His Holy Precepts in their great triumphal hour...

He knew that they would question and doubt the Holy Birth

And turn their time and talents to the pleasures of this earth...

But every new discovery is an open avenue

To more and greater mysteries, and man's search is never through...

For man can never fathom the mysteries of the Lord

Or understand His promise of a heavenly reward...

For no one but a Little Child with simple Faith and Love

Can lead man's straying footsteps

To Higher Realms Above."

— Helen Steiner Rice

Yes, the reason for this season is obvious... we must learn to love others as we are loved. We must realize that many of us are different, and accept those differences. We must be careful with our words and our actions... we must be kind and good... we must... we must... because

## Youth Congressional Art Competition Submissions Accepted

The West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History (WVDACH) will begin accepting submissions for the 2025 Youth Congressional Art competition through the deadline on Jan. 31, 2025.

The competition is open to high school students only. Exceptions will be made for schools that have 7th through 12th grades on one campus. Artwork submissions can be mailed, or hand delivered to the Culture Center.

The WVDACH is scheduled to open the

the applicant's USDA-FSA 2024 LFP Estimated Calculated Payment Report must include an application number and a total gross LFP payment.

- A completed W-9 form. If you do not have one, a blank form may be provided at the conservation district office.

- A completed "Sign Up, Release and Disclaimer Application" form on site. These forms will be made available at the district offices.

- P a y m e n t Distribution: After the enrollment period closes, the WVDA will review applications and determine funding for farmers.

Farmers can contact their local conservation district for assistance: Western (Jackson, Mason, Putnam): 304-675-3054.

For additional information, farmers are encouraged to contact the WVDA at 304-558-3200 or visit <http://www.wvagriculture.org>

God sent His Son to us... and in turn, we must show that love to others.

We do not need to beat others over their heads with our Bibles... with our showy words... we need to act as He taught us... that love will shine through our actions and our words...no one will doubt that we are what we say we are even when we are far from perfect.

I will never forget that student, on Sept. 11, who said, "I am staying with Mrs. Burke; I know where she is going if something happens." I tried to always be the kind of teacher that I wanted to have (and I did). I wanted my students to know and see my love, my faith...the fact that there was no doubt what I believed. I hope I accomplished that.

As we go through the holiday season, as we have Christmas in our homes; we must have Christmas in our hearts. As we miss those loved ones who have gone ahead of us, we have the knowledge and the faith that, one day, we will see them again... and all will be well again... oh my... how difficult it is to realize that we don't have our loved ones with us... as we sing our Christmas songs and remember, "Away in a Manger" and "Mary, Did You Know?", we KNOW that our loved ones are free from pain...

A card... a call... a thought... a prayer... some of the greatest gifts... and as we listen to the carols, we remember... we remember... because the way we were is the way we are... loving Christmas.

exhibition on Friday, Feb. 21, 2025, at the Culture Center, State Capitol Complex, in Charleston.

Submitted artwork can be in any one of the following categories: paintings, drawings, collages, prints, mixed media, computer generated and photography. Each entry must be original in concept, design and execution and may not violate U.S. copyright laws. Each student can submit up to two entries.

Artwork must be two-dimensional. Each piece of artwork can be no larger than 26 inches high, 26 inches wide and 4 inches deep. Even when framed, it must still measure no larger than the above maximum dimensions. No framed piece should weigh more than 15 pounds.

The winner from each congressional district will have their artwork displayed at the United States Capitol for an entire year in the Congressional Art Competition, as well as receive a \$100 Blick Art Materials gift card. The first-place winners will have their artwork framed by the WVDACH. A \$50 Blick Art Materials gift card is also awarded to five second place winners.

Each entrant must submit the student information and release form with a teacher's signature. Students can get entry forms with a complete list of rules and guidelines from their school's art teacher(s), online at <https://bit.ly/2025YouthCongressionalArt>, or call (304) 558-0220.

# Macholah Ballet Presents 'The Nativity'



Macholah Ballet dancers depict Mary and Joseph with Baby Jesus. (Photo by Betsy Allen)



Much of the Nativity ballet focuses upon the struggles of Mary, who faces scorn and little support during her pregnancy. (Photo by Betsy Allen)

Continued from Page 1

shepherds, and the gifts of the Wise Men, with each dance being set to popular Christmas songs and hymns.

A Christian dance studio, the Macholah Ballet shares the Gospel through dance. Their annual production of "The Nativity" is free to the public, the studio's gift to the community.

The Macholah Ballet is located beside Save-A-Lot in Scott Depot. The studio offers classes in jazz, ballet,

tap, and lyrical. It is also in the area which offers one of the few studios classes for adults.



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).

Dec. 19, 1794: A 40-acre tract of George Clendenin's land was selected as the site of Charlestown, later renamed Charleston. Clendenin, born in Augusta County, Virginia, in 1746, was one of the first settlers in the Kanawha Valley. Through Clendenin's influence the Virginia Assembly authorized the formation

of Kanawha County from parts of Greenbrier and Montgomery counties in 1789.

Dec. 19, 1832: The town of Ripley received its charter. It was probably named for Harry Ripley, a popular circuit-riding Methodist minister who drowned in Mill Creek in 1830.

Dec. 20, 1943: During World War II, German fighter pilot Franz Stigler protected the heavily damaged B-17 bomber flown by Charlie Brown, originally from Weston, as it made its way from enemy territory back to England. The two war

## Skate Park Vandalized

Continued from Page 1

so low as to destroy a skate park meant for kids, showing a complete lack of respect for their community. Instead of building something meaningful with their lives, they've chosen to tear down what others worked hard to create."

"He who is without sin cast the first stone."

"Like DEP .BARNEY FIFE says nip it in the bud."

veterans met in 1990 and remained friends until their deaths.

Dec. 21, 1967: West Virginia Governor-Elect Patrick Morrissey was born in Brooklyn and then grew up in Edison, New Jersey. Beginning in 2012, he was elected to three consecutive terms as West Virginia attorney general before winning the gubernatorial general election in 2024.

Dec. 22, 1953: An empty gasoline barge tied to the Marietta

"Good for them for showing some responsibility by turning themselves in. It doesn't make up for the irresponsibility of doing what they did, but it's a start."

### Analysis

The action of the three young adults (damaging the skate park), while seemingly thoughtless, was not without intent. What was done was done

Manufacturing dry dock in Point Pleasant exploded, killing six men. During World War II, Marietta Manufacturing had received the prestigious Army-Navy "E" Award for wartime production.

Dec. 23, 1987: Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme escaped from the Federal Prison Camp in Alderson. Fromme, who was serving a life sentence for trying to kill President Gerald Ford, was captured two days later near the prison.

for a reason. Why does vandalism occur?

This is the question which the Breeze asked Google AI. Google said: "Young adults might perform random acts of vandalism due to a complex mix of factors including: a desire for recognition, expressing frustration or rebellion, peer pressure, boredom, a thrill-seeking mentality, lack of supervision, a sense of powerlessness, trying to fit in with a group, or simply not understanding the consequences of their actions; often stemming from underlying issues like anger management problems or mental health concerns."

The three individuals did not know that their act was recorded. They did not expect to be caught. They made a mistake.

All mistakes have consequences. While the three cannot undo their wrong, they can address the personal issues which prompted them to act in an unwise manner.

# Never miss a *moment*

## BREATHE *easy* WEST VIRGINIA

Find a vaccine today!  
Flu, RSV or COVID-19





## Fillers Page

Edited by Betsy Allen

### Where The Spirit Lies

From Jeff Burkhardt's "Rhyme and Reason"  
Submitted by Myra Simmons

It's not about the presents, or the  
baubles or the bangles  
Or multi-colored lights, after they're  
hung and un-entangled

The egg-nog's nice, but that's not it,  
nor beef cut with a cleaver  
It's not the Yorkshire pudding, and  
it's not the chestnuts either

I think it's an idea, that's wrapped up  
inside a feeling  
That tickles you and teases you, and  
sets your spirit reeling

A spirit that compels you, to get out  
and do some giving  
And lend a special purpose, to the  
life that you are living

And maybe it's the twinkle, in a little  
child's eyes  
That tells the real truth, of where the  
spirit really lies

Long ago three wise men, brought  
their gifts and gave them out  
The little child they gave them to;  
That's what it's all about !!

### Fruitcake

From Jeff Burkhardt's "Rhyme and Reason"  
Submitted by Myra Simmons

I know it's close to Christmas  
because just the other day  
I received a fruitcake, it was much  
to my dismay

No way to tell how old it is, a  
couple years I guess  
The due date on a fruitcake, is a  
century more or less

The fruit's had something done to  
it, the cake's extremely dense  
Gastroenterologists, can offer  
no defense

Don't try to eat a piece of it, no  
matter what you do  
That stuff that makes it last so  
long, cannot be good for you

If someone gifts you fruitcake,  
please accept it without rancor  
When fishing season starts again  
just use it as an anchor

### Single-Serve Seasonal Sweets

(Culinary.net) Instead of assigning cake cutting duty at your holiday party, let dessert serve itself with these Mini Pecan Cheesecakes from "Cookin' Savvy." Individually wrapped for ease and convenience – or for giving as parting gifts – they're a rich and delicious holiday treat. Find more festive desserts at Culinary.net.

Mini Pecan Cheesecakes  
Recipe courtesy of "Cookin' Savvy"  
Yield: 20 mini cheesecakes

- 1 package plain round shortbread cookies
- 1 tablespoon flour
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 2 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese, softened
- 2 large eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/4 cup sour cream
- 1 stick butter, melted
- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 3/4 cup crushed pecans

Heat oven to 325 F.

In muffin pan, fill each hole with paper cupcake liners. Place one cookie in bottom of each cup.

Whisk flour and sugar. Mix in cream cheese. Using hand mixer, blend in eggs one at a time then add vanilla and sour cream. Mix until smooth then spoon on top of cookies.

Mix butter, brown sugar and crushed pecans. Spoon on top of cheesecake mixture.

Bake 25 minutes. Let cool before serving.

### A Poem

By Lora Romero of  
Tuscon, Arizona

To shepherds not  
dressed  
For such an event  
The last of these  
Will be the first to see  
A heavenly host  
Lighting up the sky  
And so the promise  
Shall debut tonight



### Jokes From Linda

Submitted by Linda  
Lavender Armstead



Ken was walking into town and took a shortcut through a farmers field. As he approached the fenced field, he noticed a sign that read "To those who cross my property, I will let you cross for free, but my bull charges."

What part of the room is the warmest in the winter?

The corner - it's always 90 degrees.



## Fillers from Linda

Submitted by Linda~Lavender Armstead  
Washington Hill Road, Hurricane

Christmas isn't a season; it's a feeling.

Christmas is doing a little something extra for someone.

Christmas is about opening presents and our hearts.

May your presents be many, and your trouble be few this Christmas.

Sugar and spice makes Christmas nice.

Merry Christmas to my husband and best friend, George Armstead.

Not everyone is going to be holly and jolly for Christmas. Some are grieving, financially stressed out, burnt out and doing the best they can. The holidays are a tough time for many.

Four stages of a man's life: 1. You believe in Santa. 2. You don't believe in Santa. 3. You are Santa. 4. You look like Santa.

It's not what's under the Christmas tree that matters, but who's around it.

This generation will never understand what Sears Roebuck catalog meant to us at Christmas.

Merry Christmas to Ron and Betsy at the Hurricane Breeze and to my faithful fillers readers.

I like my candy canes in mint condition.

Dear Santa, all I want is a fat bank account and a skinny body. Please don't mix it up again like last year.

May you never be too grown-up to search the skies on Christmas Eve.

Afraid of Santa? You may be Claustrophobic.

The Christmas spirit is one of giving and forgiving.

Love is a true spirit of Christmas.

Home is where Christmas is.

While the Magi's gifts may represent the best in personal giving, their value cannot compare to the gifts God has given us in Christ.

Giving is at the heart of the Christmas story.

God ordained that His son, the Messiah, would come as the Prince of Peace.

Let peace be the dominant emotion in our relationships with others.

May God give new rest through his strength and joy this season.

Merry Christmas to my one and only son, Brad Armstead.

Jesus came to give us



the salvation and the protection that subdues our fears and gives us rest in our souls.

What this world needs is the rest that comes from the Lord - the salvation of God.

Jesus is a radiant column of light who streams from heaven to earth to give glorious and guaranteed hope.

Jesus is a high fortress, a refuge, a very present help in the time of need.

We should be ready to explain the reason for the hope we have this Christmas season.

Jesus came not to save some, but all of humanity.

The baby born in a manger is the reason we are alive today.

May the miracle of Christmas fill your heart with joy.

Christmas is a spirit of giving without a thought of getting.

As long as we know in our hearts what Christmas ought to be, Christmas is.

Christmas is a baby shower that went totally overboard.

Merry Christmas to my two precious grandchildren: Kelci and Braeden Armstead.

The way you spend Christmas is far more important than how much. - Henry David Thoreau

Nothing is as mean as giving a little child something useful for Christmas.

Christmas is a blessed season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love.

Christmas lights should be festive, while at the same time, not encouraging aircraft to land.

True faithfulness is courage to give thanks for a gift before unwrapping it.

Be sure to spend time with your parents this Christmas while you can, because one day when you look up from your busy life, they won't be there anymore.

Christmas Symbols: The Tree points to heaven and reminds us that God is eternal. The Wreath is a circle reminding us that

God's love for us never ends. The Candle shines brightly, showing us that Jesus is the light of the world.

Christmas

is a box of tree ornaments that have become part of the family. - Charles M. Schultz

At Christmas, all roads lead home.

Christmas wave with a magic wand over the world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful. - Norman Vincent Peale

Christmas is a season not only over rejoicing, but reflection.

The Christmas season is a season of singing, caring, and sharing, where everyone's heart is filled with joy.

Christmas is a time when you get homesick - even when you're home.

Christmas is a day that holds all time together.

Peace on Earth will come to stay when we live Christmas every day. - Helen Steiner Rice

Blessing is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love.

Christmas is a time for family, friends, and reflections on the joys of the past year.

Christmas begins with Christ.

May we never forget "Who" Christmas is about.

As we grow older, we realize our Christmas list gets smaller and we find out the things we really want can't be bought.

One of the greatest gifts you can give this Christmas and everyday is a gift of kindness - and it's very affordable.

Christmas is canceled. Apparently, you told Santa that you had been good this year. He died laughing.

Dance like Frosty. Shine like Rudolph. Give like Santa. Love like Jesus.

I think the best gift would be that all doggies get a good home for Christmas.

Follow the star of Bethlehem in your heart every day.

Making New Year's resolutions is one thing. Remaining resolute and seeing them through is quite another.

Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365-page book. Write a good one.

New Year's Day is every man's birthday.

Happy New Year 2025!

### Bible Verse



For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

— John 3:16:



# A Movie Review: War of the Rohirrim

Continued from Page 1

of the Rings film trilogy. Fans of Lord of the Rings will recognize the same architecture and landscapes from the film trilogy, with the city of Edoras and the Golden Hall being rendered beautifully upon the screen. Miranda Otto reprised her role of Eowyn for the film, acting as the narrator of the story.

This is not the first time Middle-earth has been presented in an animated medium. Many children who grew up in the late 1970's and early 1980's were first exposed to Tolkien's world through the Rankin/Bass version of *The Hobbit*, Ralph Bakshi's *Lord of the Rings*, and the Rankin/Bass *Return of the King*. In fact, some of the animation in *War of the Rohirrim* appears to be inspired by the rotoscoping effects utilized in 1978's animated *Lord of the Rings*. While I do enjoy anime, I will say that I do have some qualms with the art in *War of the Rohirrim*. Some of the characters, such as Helm and his son Haleth, are drawn quite well, while other characters, such as Lord Throne, look like they were a tracing of a real person. I also thought Hera's facial features were somewhat plain and generic looking - which would be acceptable for a background character, but not the heroine of the story. Hera's other brother, Hama, also suffers from the same generic appearance.

While *War of the Rohirrim* is an animated feature, I feel that it is more geared towards teens and adults than children. At two hours and 14 minutes, this film might not hold the interest of younger children. Since the story is about a war, there is also a good degree of violence to be expected, although the battle scenes are not overly graphic.

Those who consider Middle-earth as the realm of escapist fantasy and happy endings might also be disappointed with *War of the Rohirrim*. Many people's first introduction to Tolkien's writing is through *Lord of the Rings*, a story which, upon first appearance, is about noble heroes going on a noble quest to save the world. However, there is also a dark side to Tolkien, which often surprises fans who prefer lighter fare. *War of the Rohirrim* is about a particularly brutal conflict, in which the leaders of both factions (Helm and Wulf) are driven to madness and desperation.

How does *War of the Rohirrim* stack up to the books? The story is inspired by a two-page account from Appendix A, the history section found at the back of *Return of the King*, the final book in the Lord of the Rings trilogy. However, the accounts in the Appendixes are summaries of events which took place in Middle-earth's past, and are written like brief entries which might be found in a history book. Without artistic license and a lot of filler material, the story of King Helm, the war with Wulf, and the Long Winter would make for a very short film indeed!

Helm's daughter is never named in the Appendixes, and she has no part in the story other than being the recipient of an unwanted marriage proposal. Helm is also more of a jerk than he was in the film; in the books, he instigates the quarrel with Freca by calling him fat. There are also other deviations from the source

material, such as the addition of giant elephants being used against the forces of Rohan during this particular conflict. (When considering the geography of Middle-earth, the presence of the giant elephants is rather silly, as the region where they come from is several hundred miles away. It's also separated from Rohan by the friendly kingdom of Gondor; for there to be giant elephants in Rohan, Gondor would have to be completely overrun by enemies.) Wulf's ultimate fate in the books is also quite different than in the film, though to say more would reveal major spoilers.

I do wish that *War of the Rohirrim* had provided an explanation for the enmity between Rohan and Dunland. In Tolkien's writings, these were not merely two neighboring countries that had a history of strained relations. The ancestors of the Dunlendings were indigenous tribesmen who migrated into the region which would later become the western part of the kingdom of Rohan. This territory, which was called Calenardhon, was claimed by the kingdom of Gondor as part of an enormous realm that encompassed most of western Middle-earth. As the centuries passed, Gondor began to decline, slowly losing control of many of the territories it once held. The land of Calenardhon was ceded to the Northmen of Rhovanion - allies of Gondor who hailed from the northern regions of Middle-earth. The Northmen migrated south to Calenardhon, founding the kingdom of Rohan. However, the Dunlendings also claimed the western part of this territory, leading to years of strife between the Rohirrim and the Dunlendings. Perhaps if Gondor had worked out some agreement with the Dunlendings before ceding all of Calenardhon to the Rohirrim, conflict could have been avoided. Or perhaps not...

Middle-earth has been enjoying a revival in recent years. In 2022, Amazon Prime released the first season of *Rings of Power* - a series set almost 5,000 years before the events of *Lord of the Rings* (the series plays fast and loose with Tolkien's chronology, greatly compressing the timeline and consolidating various important events in the story). Reviews for the series are mixed, although the second season, which debuted this August, was received more positively by fans.

*Lord of the Rings: The*

# Each Time A New Baby Cries, We Know That God Is Not Quite Ready To Give Up On Man

The following article was first published in 1992, but its message is forever current and places a special accent upon The Breeze Baby's First Christmas feature.

By Irene Ambler  
Hurricane Breeze Editor and Publisher 1984-1995

This is the eighth year that we have featured "Baby's First Christmas." We wanted to have something memorable for loving parents and grandparents to put in Baby's Books to be treasured for many years; and we are proud of all the beautiful, loved little ones whose pictures and stories we are publishing.

It has been a very difficult job in that (although I do not wish to emphasize handicaps) it has been necessary for me to read and set into type on the phototypesetter each and every word appearing in First Christmas. Cookie, my daughter, usually reads to me, as I am legally blind; but she developed a severe case of laryngitis and cannot speak above a whisper. We have really enjoyed reading about and publishing the pictures and stories about the many babies. We want to thank all the parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles and cousins who have cooperated so wholeheartedly with us. We hope to have even more next year.

I cannot help but wonder at what kind of world in which these innocent little babes will grow up. What will this planet be like in twenty years? Will humanity be able to solve its problems? Will there be wars and rumors of wars? Will mankind still be struggling and competing for more deadly and devastating means by which to destroy and to mutilate? Will the hungry and the homeless millions still be walking the streets in big cities in tattered clothing, seeking wherever they can a bit of warmth and a meager meal?

*War of the Rohirrim* was released on December 13. I would recommend this film for fans of fantasy, action, and animation. Of course, it goes without saying that *War of the Rohirrim* was made for fans of Tolkien, though I think that even those unfamiliar with Middle-earth could appreciate this film, as the story is pretty self-explanatory and easy to follow. I have always felt that anime would be a wonderful medium to tell

Will drugs and alcohol still be stealing the minds and the bodies of promising young people? And will promiscuity and homosexuality still be in style? Will heartless lawmakers realize the inhumanity they evidence with their laws allowing the slaughter of unborn innocents of the world - two million of which are preformed in our own country each year? Will the piranha-minded females continue to submit their babies to the instruments of the butcher-doctors, not accepting the fact that their babies are gifts from God and that they are sacrificing life's greatest treasures?

Will cures be found for dread diseases which wrack bodies and break hearts? Will medical science find cures for cancer, high blood pressure, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, rheumatoid arthritis, cirrhosis, nephritis, blindness, or even the common cold? Will ministers of the gospel in twenty years or so, come back to preaching the Word of God instead of being so immersed in their social events, their building funds, their super-now accounts and their little cliques? Will preachers return to preaching about hell and fire and brimstone instead of speaking in muted tones the soothing words that the pious wish to hear? Will preachers talk about love and kindness and mercy, one to another, instead of making money? Will people cease the everlasting parroting about peace where none exists? Will they preach about salvation of souls or will spiritual bankruptcy still be a most prevalent malaise?

Man has shown throughout the ages that he cannot control himself. He cannot handle his own affairs. He cannot give to himself peace of mind and purity of purpose. Only God can do that. Only from God do we find the strength to overcome, or at least live with, our handicaps, our losses, our

Tolkien's tales of Middle-earth, perhaps even better than live action films, as art can convey so much more than actors. While many people associate *Lord of the Rings* with the live action trilogy directed by Peter Jackson, *War of the Rohirrim* is a return to the animated roots of the very first productions set in Middle-earth. I hope that more animated Tolkien films will follow in the wake of *War of the Rohirrim*.

## Submissions

Submissions may be emailed to: [hurricanebreeze@citynet.net](mailto:hurricanebreeze@citynet.net) or mailed to: Hurricane Breeze, PO Box 310, Hurricane, WV 25526

sorrows and our tragedies.

Each day of my life I know that God is with me. For how else could I exist in a world which sometimes seems hopeless. But there is hope and there is love and there is mercy and there is kindness. There are untold thousands of people who are fighting abortion. Many doctors and scientists work day and night in their oft times hopeless fights against the pains of mankind. Untold numbers are living selfless lives in order to help the orphan, the unwanted, the hungry, the runaway, the narcotic addicts, the alcoholics, and the unwanted, uncared for elderly and sick. And many are working for the outlawing of abortion, although they are maligned and made fun of and laughed at.

Every time I get depressed about world conditions, I still know that God is with us and He loves us. Why else did He send His Only Son into a world which could not believe by faith but only through physical vision? Why does He send the soothing rain, the comforting sun, and the beautiful snow to cover the ugliness? Why does He instill in men's hearts the burning desire to help others? The solving of the world's problems is one big job; and I firmly believe that some people are specially endowed to help the unfortunate, the

sad and the downtrodden.

God has not given up on man. Every time a baby cries or smiles or chuckles or bubbles or gurgles there is evidence that God loves us and will never forsake us. In His Magnificent Love for us He sends His Greatest Creation - life and love in the same form in which He appeared as a Tiny Baby two thousand years ago.

I want again to express our appreciation for the wonderful Baby's First Christmas pictures and stories. You have already given your little ones Life's Greatest Gift - your love and your desire that they be born into loving homes to loving parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, and all the other proud relatives.

God Bless all of you and your wonderful babies!

## LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

### TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE

The undersigned Substitute Trustee, by virtue of the authority vested in it by that certain Deed of Trust dated April 23, 2021, and duly recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Putnam County, West Virginia, in Deed of Trust Book 1285, at Page 31, Clinton Lee Simmons did convey unto Robert H. Skeen, Jr., Trustee, certain real property described in said Deed of Trust; and the beneficiary has elected to appoint Pill & Pill, PLLC as Substitute Trustee by a Substitution of Trustee recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office; and default having been made under the aforementioned Deed of Trust, and the undersigned Substitute Trustee having been instructed by the secured party to foreclose thereunder, will offer for sale at public auction at the front door of the Putnam County Courthouse, in West Virginia, on

January 8, 2025, at 6:00 PM The following described real estate, with its improvements, easements and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate in the District, Putnam County, West Virginia, and more particularly described as follows:

All that certain piece or parcel of land, together with the appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate in Hurricane Town District, Putnam County, West Virginia, being a part of Lynnhurst Subdivision of the L.T. McCann Place, and being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at an iron pin in the northeasterly line of Hurricane Creek Road (formerly called Sleepy Creek Road) which lies S. 43° 00' E. 65 feet from the northeasterly intersection of Hurricane Creek Road and Putnam Avenue; thence N. 51° 37' E. 147.6 feet to an iron pin in the southwesterly line of the Daisy L. Baker property (as of 1966); thence S. 30° 27' E. 85 feet to an iron pin; thence S. 57° 30' W. 120 feet to an iron pin in the northeasterly line of said Road; thence with said northeasterly line, N. 43° 00' W. 85 feet to the iron pin making the point of beginning, together with the right to connect to and use a certain 8 inch sewer line located upon the adjoining property now owned by R.K. Holstein and wife, located between the parcel hereby conveyed and Putnam Avenue;

This conveyance is expressly made subject to the covenants, restrictions, easements and rights of ways contained in prior deed of conveyance, including but not limited to the easement and right of way for a sanitary sewer, which easement or right of way is four (4) feet in width as set forth in a Deed dated June 1, 1966, from Joseph H. Ridler, et al., to Clifford C. Call, recorded in Deed Book 162, at Page 16.

Being the same real estate conveyed to Larry A. McCormick and Sandra K. McCormick from Keith Murdock and Melinda Murdock, by Deed dated June 8, 2002, and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission, Putnam County, West Virginia in Deed Book 432, Page 35.

At the time of the execution of the Deed of Trust, this property was reported to have a mailing address of 18 Hurricane Creek Road, Hurricane, WV 25526.

AND BEING the same real estate which was conveyed to Clinton Lee Simmons, by Deed dated April 21, 2021, from Larry A. McCormick and Sandra K. McCormick, and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Putnam County, West Virginia, in Deed Book 596, at Page 233.

The above-described property will be sold subject to any covenants, restrictions, easements, leases and conditions of record, and subject to any unpaid real estate taxes.

The subject property will be sold in "AS IS" condition. The Substitute Trustee shall be under no duty to cause any existing tenant or person occupying the subject property to vacate said property.

TERMS: Ten percent (10%) of the purchase price as a deposit with the balance due and payable within 30 days of the day of sale.

Pill & Pill, PLLC, Substitute Trustee  
Richard A. Pill, Member  
P. O. Box 440, 85 Aikens Center, Martinsburg, WV 25404  
Phone (304) 263-4971,  
Fax (304) 267-5840,  
e-mail: [foreclosures@pillwv.com](mailto:foreclosures@pillwv.com)  
12-12, 12-19, 2024

## LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

### Notice of Public Hearings Putnam County Board of Education 2025-2026 School Calendar

The Board of Education of the County of Putnam will be holding two (2) public hearings regarding the 2025-2026 school calendar. The hearings will be held on Monday, December 16th, 2024, and Monday January 6th, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the central office located at 77 Courthouse Drive, Winfield, WV 25213.

12-12-24

## LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

To the Creditors and Beneficiaries of the following deceased persons estates:

I have before me the estates of the deceased persons and the accounts of the fiduciaries of their respective estates as listed below:

Estate No.: 5875  
Estate Of: William Carroll Adkins, Jr

Administratrix: Monica L Adkins 916 Honeycut Road Fraziers Bottom, WV 25082

Estate No.: 5829  
Estate Of: Joseph Wayne Corder, Jr.  
Executrix: Carolyn M Wright 6 Blossom Way Hurricane, WV 25526

Estate No.: 5858  
Estate Of: Frances Marie Harris Deborah K Slack PO Box 494 Poca, WV 25159

Estate No.: 5907  
Estate Of: Nancy Louise Phalen McGraw  
Executrix: Kay Phalen (Workman) Davis 1685 Arlington Drive N. Columbus, OH 43220

Estate No.: 5914  
Estate Of: Sybil W Moore Linda K Weikle 214 Majestic Drive Cross Lanes, WV 25313

Estate No.: 5902  
Estate Of: Thomas Clark White  
Administratrix: Yan X White 260 Blue Lick Road Winfield, WV 25213

All persons having claims against the estate(s) of any of the above-named deceased persons whether due or not, are notified to exhibit their claims with vouchers thereof, legally verified, to the fiduciary of such deceased person as shown above within 60 days of December 12, 2024, or, if not, to exhibit the same at the office of the undersigned Fiduciary Supervisor at the address shown below by said date; otherwise any or all such claims may by law be excluded from all benefits of said estate(s). No claims against the estate shall be accepted by the fiduciary supervisor after said date. All beneficiaries of said estate(s) may appear either before the above-named fiduciary by the date first shown above, or thereafter before the undersigned fiduciary supervisor by the date last shown above to examine said claims and otherwise protect their respective interests.

All persons seeking to impeach or establish a will must file a complaint pursuant to W. Va. Code. Any person objecting to the representative's qualifications, venue or jurisdiction must file a complaint within 60 days of December 12, 2024.

Subscribed and sworn to before me on the 5th day of December 2024.

Fiduciary Supervisor Putnam County Commission 10293 Winfield Road, Winfield, WV 25213  
12-12-24



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It's no wonder that parties abound at Christmas when our homes are transformed with glittering decorations. It is as if we have been transported to a land of enchantment. We feel transformed...our spirits lifted with feelings of love and generosity toward all mankind. This transformation does not have to end when Christmas is over! In 2 Corinthians 5:17-18 Paul promises... "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God...." Come to know God as you worship this Christmas and throughout the year. Let God, through His Son, Jesus Christ, transform your life.

### Daily Bible Readings

Rev. 7:1-17	Rev. 19:1-21	Isaiah 60:1-22	Isaiah 7:1-25	Isaiah 8:1-15	Isaiah 8:16 - 9:7	Luke 1:1-25
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Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society X Daily Devotional at [www.AmericanBible.org](http://www.AmericanBible.org)

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## BASIC BIBLE

By Ron Allen  
304-562-9881

### God's Messiah Is Born (Christmas)

Matthew 1:18-25

Believers of today are drawn to Christ because He gave Himself upon the cross. He that was without sin reconciled us to God the Father, saving us from the wrath to come. We are not saved by the birth of Christ, but, by His death and resurrection. While His birth does not save us, it identifies Jesus as the promised Messiah who would save us from our sins.

"Now the birth of Jesus was on this wise . . ." (v. 18). Matthew provides details concerning the birth of Christ which are absent from other gospels. The Holy Spirit moved the human authors of the four gospels in different ways such that every audience might hear and believe.

Matthew was moved to reach out to an audience which was steeped in knowledge of Old Testament scripture. Throughout his gospel, Matthew points out occasions in which the Lord fulfilled that which He declared to His holy prophets no fewer than 13 times. The first prophecy which Matthew cites is in the text before us — Christ is born of a virgin.

Mary was found to be with child. Verse 18 states that the child was of the Holy Ghost. Joseph, Mary's espoused husband, did not know this. He learned that Mary was with child and he knew that he was not the father. Joseph believed that Mary had been unfaithful and he planned to take appropriate action. He most certainly was not reflecting upon the prophecy of Isaiah 7:14.

Joseph had no reason to believe that Mary was the virgin of whom the prophet Isaiah had spoken seven hundred years earlier. He was about to have the marriage contract ended when the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream saying, "Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins." Joseph did as the angel directed.

Joseph did as the angel directed because he believed the words of the angelic messenger. Verse 19 states: "Then Joseph her husband, being a just man . . ." What is a just man? A dictionary definition states that just is that which is morally right and fair. Joseph was a just man. Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11, and Hebrews 10:38, all state: "the just shall live by faith." In God's eyes, Joseph was more than morally right and fair. The Lord saw him as one who lived by faith. God saw one who would believe. God reveals the virgin birth to all who live by faith. The just believe God.

The angel addressed Joseph as "thou son of David." In so doing, the angel gave context to the words that he was about to deliver. God had promised David that his son would establish a kingdom that would endure forever. Joseph was about to receive a message which would be linked to that promise.

He who would be born of Mary would establish the kingdom which would endure forever. The one born of a virgin would be Immanuel (God with us) [Isa. 7:14].

The angel told Joseph to fear not to take Mary as his wife because that which was in her was of the Holy Ghost. This assurance was given because it was necessary. Joseph, being a just man, would not take Mary as his wife if she were with the child of man. Mary was the chosen vessel to deliver a son which was of God. John the Apostle describes the one who was born of Mary as the Word — "the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (Jn. 1:1).

Joseph was instructed to name the child Jesus. Expressed in Hebrew, the name Jesus is Jehoshua meaning Jehovah saves. The Lord's name shouts out the purpose for which He came into the world. Jesus is the one of whom Isaiah prophesied with the words: ". . . by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities" (Isa. 53:11). The one born of a virgin would save many from their sins.

The angel explained to Joseph why that he should name the baby Jesus: ". . . for he shall save his people from their sins." Acts 4:12 declares: "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Joseph was given understanding. God gives understanding to them who live by faith, to them who believe and walk according to His word.

"Now all this was done . . ." (v. 22). All which was done was done because the Lord had promised that it would be done. Matthew quotes the very scripture in which God said that this should be. God keeps His promises, and, He wants us to know that He will not fail to keep His word.

Joseph did as the angel had bidden. All who live by faith, shall be moved by faith to do God's will. Knowing that God wants all men to come to repentance, let us declare Christ on every day.

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# Obituaries

**BARBARA J. ANDERSON**

Barbara J. Anderson, 91, of Hurricane, went home to be with the Lord on December 9, 2024 with her family by her side.

She was born October 19, 1933 in Gallipolis, OH, the daughter of John and Chestina Ferguson Evans. In addition to her parents she was preceded by her husband Gene.

Barbara attended Faith Missionary Baptist Church and worked for AVI Food Systems. A loving mother, grandmother, great grandmother, sister and friend that will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

She is survived by her daughters, Susan Anderson, and Carolyn Young (Donnie), 3 grandchildren, great grandchildren, Dalton, Sydney, and Braxton, brother, William David Evans (Norma Jean), several nieces, nephews, her caregiver and friend Robin Mitchell and her favorite kitty "Mittens".

Celebration of Barbara's life was Saturday, December 14, 2024 at Tyler Mt. Funeral Home with Celebrant HR Whittington presiding.

**JOYCE ANN CATLIN**

Joyce Ann Woods Catlin, 76, of Hurricane, passed away on Dec. 7, 2024 at her home.

She was the daughter of the late Melvin T. and Kathleen Naylor Woods. In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by her husband, James Richard Catlin; and her brother, Jerry Woods.

Joyce was the former Owner and Designer of Rose Garden Florist Shop and Co-Owned JJ's Wallpaper Outlet. She was loving mother and grandmother, who also loved animals, especially her cats.

She is survived by her children: Kenneth, Kevin, and Melissa Catlin, as well as several grandchildren.

There will be no formal services at this time.

**MAMIE CROUCH**

Mamie Elizabeth Johnson Crouch died December 11, 2024, at home. She was born on August 2, 1940. She attended Fairview Primitive Baptist Church. She was loyal to her faith and firm believer of God's mercy and her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Ronald K. Crouch, Sr.; her parents, Moses and Lizzie (Bird) Johnson; brothers, Eldon, William, Lewis, Colbert and Layton Johnson; sister, Amie Arbutis Johnson Carpenter; son, Lewis Preston Crouch, daughter, Malinda Teresa Crouch Stanley and one grandson, Alan Dwayne Stanley and one great, great grandson, Ivan.

She is survived by her brothers, Willard Johnson of Sistersville, Harold R. Johnson of Hurricane; sister, Mae Johnson McCoy of Garrett's Bend; sons, Ronald K. Crouch, Jr., Donald K. Crouch and daughter, Bonnie (Dennis) McCord, all of Hurricane; eight grandsons and two granddaughters; several great grandchildren

and many great -great grandchildren; lots of nieces and nephews.

She loved her family, especially all the babies. She will truly be remembered and missed. She drove a school bus for Putnam County Schools for 35 years. She leaves many friends she has made over the years.

Funeral service was Saturday, December 14, 2024, at Allen Funeral Home, Hurricane, with Elders Harold Johnson and Tony Edwards officiating.

**HENRY 'DANNY' DANNER, JR.**

Henry L. "Danny" Danner, Jr., 80, of Hurricane, passed away Friday, December 13, 2024, after a long illness. Henry was a member of Risen King Church of Hurricane.

When he wasn't gardening or tinkering with his HAM radios, Henry worked at Columbia Gas, Augusta Engineering, and Teays Valley Engineering.

Henry was preceded in death by his mother Mary Katherine Patteson Danner and father Henry L. Danner of Mt. Hope, WV. He is survived by his loving wife of 58 years Iva Kurzyna Danner. He is also survived by his dedicated son David (Jennifer) of Columbus, OH, and his cherished granddaughters Olivia and Ella.

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**Obituaries**

Continued from Page 6

**DEBORAH HATFIELD**

Deborah Jaqueline Petroff Hatfield, age 74, born September 09, 1950, of Scott Depot, passed away on December 05, 2024 in Huntington, West Virginia.

Born in Rossmore, West Virginia, and formerly of Logan, Deborah was a retired Certified Professional Coder and was an active member of the Winfield Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses. Always prepared and enthusiastic, Deborah never hesitated to share her unwavering faith in God and His promise of everlasting life in Paradise. Her presence left a lasting impact on the lives of all whom she encountered.

She was a gifted and passionate seamstress who loved to inspire others by sharing her extensive knowledge of knitting and sewing. She also loved gardening, spending hours sitting in her yard planting various flowers, hand-pulling weeds, and chatting with the animals and neighbors that passed by.

Deborah was preceded in death by her father, Jack Petroff; her mother, Dolly E. Petroff; three brothers, Jack Petroff Jr., Patrick G. Petroff, and Michael J. Petroff; and one grandson, Gabriel P. Hatfield.

She is survived by her brother, Ralph Petroff of Chapmanville; three sons, Geoffrey E. Hatfield of Scott Depot, Philip R. Hatfield of Scott Depot, and Kevin A. Hatfield of Charleston; and 5 grandchildren, Kai, Nollie, Jin, Saya and Nico.

A memorial service will be conducted at 3:00 PM, Sunday, December 29th, at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, Winfield. Family and friends are warmly invited to attend. Please contact Joe Bentley at [jbentley135@suddenlink.net](mailto:jbentley135@suddenlink.net) or Ed Hicks at [millcreekhicks@gmail.com](mailto:millcreekhicks@gmail.com) for attending virtually or to listen to the service.

Karen loved Jesus and was a faithful member of Set Free Ministries and Heizer Creek Community Church.

She is also preceded in death by her husband, Shirley Karnes and son Daniel Karnes.

She is survived by her children, Kenneth and wife Cathy Karnes, Michael and wife Elizabeth Karnes, and Jenny and husband Bill Davis; daughter-in-law Gwenn Karnes Webb and husband Jim; sisters Joan Schuman and Judy Thomas; brother James and wife Vicky Lambert; 13 grandchildren; 15 great grandchildren; 2 great-great grandchildren and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

A tribute to the life of Karen P. Karnes was held Friday, December 13, 2024 at Gatens-Harding Funeral Home Chapel with Pastors Randy Carter and Jim Lambert officiating. Entombment was in Haven of Rest Memory Gardens, Red House.

**DONNA JEAN PAGE**

Donna Jean Page, 80, of Winfield, left this world for her Heavenly Home on December 8, 2024.

She was born February 29, 1944 in Robinette, Logan County, to the late Redman and Gwendolyn Hall Adkins. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brothers: Elva, Merlin, Jennings, Hubert and Jack Adkins; and sisters: Jenny Sanders, Barbara Adkins, Patty Madden and Betty Adkins.

Donna graduated from Guyan Valley High School in 1962 where she won an award in German Language Studies. While some will remember her from The Patio Drive Inn and The Outside Inn days, most knew her from her dedicated hard work of 29 years at Tudors Biscuit World in St. Albans, where she lovingly touched so many lives. She taught her daughter and nephew how to grow up to be determined and independent through her own hard work as a single mother.

She was a member of Teays Valley Church of God and a faithful Christ follower who showed the love of God to everyone she met. Donna was well known for her delicious cooking, meek nature, humble heart, childlike faith, and loving hugs. Her favorite thing was spending time with her

grandchildren and family.

Surviving Donna is her daughter, Jacqueline (James) Lowry of Winfield; grandchildren: Gwenth Lowry and Vincent Lowry who were her world; sister, Ruth Adkins of WI; her nephew, who was like a son, John (Teresa) Adkins of WA; best friends: Clarence and Brenda Davis of Winfield; as well as many nieces, nephews, other family and friends.

A Celebration of Donna's beautiful Life will be 11:30 am Saturday, March 1, 2025, at Teays Valley Church of God, Scott Depot, with Rev. Dr. Melissa Pratt officiating.

**ROSE PERSINGER**

Rose Persinger, 96 years old of Hurricane, passed away peacefully on December 11, 2024.

Rose worked many years at A to Z Supermarket and enjoyed the friendships of her customers.

Rose is preceded in death by her husband, Charles Persinger, daughter, Margaret Smith, son, John Bowery, sisters, Goldie Grizzle and Patty Jefferies, brothers, Don and Henrey Patterson, mother, Margaret Givens Patterson, and father, Charles Givens.

She is survived by her sister, Elizabeth Huffman, son, Charles Goff, daughter, Elizabeth Goff, son-in-law, Ronald Smith, grandsons, C.J. (Crystal) Goff, Charles (Chelsea) Smith, Christopher Smith, great granddaughter Abby Smith.

She prayed and God answered.

Graveside funeral service was Saturday, December 14, 2024 in Sycamore Cemetery.

**CARL EDWARD SCHOOLCRAFT**

Carl Edward Schoolcraft, 64 of Poca passed away Friday, December 6, 2024.

Carl is a retired drywall and a lifelong Colts fan. He enjoyed spending time with his children and

grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his wife Kim Schoolcraft and his father Jim Schoolcraft.

Carl is survived by his mother Irene Schoolcraft Cobb and her husband Mayford; two children Johna Jordan and James Schoolcraft; brother Bruce Schoolcraft; sisters Sherry Caruthers and Debbie Settle and two grandchildren Megenne McCallister and Isaac Miller.

At his request there will be no services.

**DEBRA SEARLS**

Debra Sue Searls, 66, of St Albans, passed away Wednesday, December 11, 2024 in Thomas Memorial Hospital after a short illness. She was employed at Center Hardware in St. Albans. She was preceded in death by her parents James and Jean Caldwell. Brother Michael Caldwell.

She is survived by her daughters Becky White (Jonathan Jordan) of Hurricane and Sarah Searls of Hurricane and son Stephen (Ashley) Searls of Culloden, Grandchildren Austin, Caleb, Levi, Jaden, Lillian, Brothers Joseph Caldwell and James Caldwell and the father of their children Stephen C. Searls.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

**TIMOTHY ALLEN STEWART**

Tim Stewart, 60, formerly of Hurricane, passed away on December 6, 2024 at St. Mary's Medical Center in Huntington.

He was born on June 23, 1964 to the late Frank and Josephine Stewart. In addition to his parents, he was also preceded in death by his son, Branden Stewart and his father in-law, Gifford Webb.

He was formerly a certified tech with Verizon.

Tim is survived by his wife, Barbara J. Webb Stewart; his sons: Joseph Stewart of Diamond, WV and Chris (Alex)

Stewart of Scott Depot; 5 grandchildren: Kaitlyn, Emily, Brielle, Owen and Rosalyn Stewart; his mother in-law: Margie Webb of Point Pleasant; and a brother in-law: Gifford Webb Jr.; as well as several friends and family.

Funeral service for Tim was Sunday, December 15, 2024, at Chapman Funeral Home, Hurricane, with Pastor Chad Estep officiating.

**GARY MICHAEL YOWELL**

Gary Michael Yowell, 71, of Hurricane, passed away on December 2, 2024 at his home surrounded by his wife, daughter, and grandchildren.

He was born on March 14, 1953 to the late David L. and Lela M. Clark Yowell in Cincinnati, OH. In addition to his parents, he was also preceded in

death by the mother of his children: Deborah Yowell; sister, Terri Dunn.

Michael was an Owner and Operator of Wendy's of Southern WV, a member of Sleepy Hollow Golf Course and beloved by the Bogey's family.

He is survived by his wife, Katherine K. Burke Yowell; his children: Alyson S. Yowell of Winfield, and Adam M. Yowell of Hamilton, OH; stepchildren: Keri (Chris) Pauley of Hurricane, and Kevin (Amiee) Kouns of Ironton, OH; 10 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren, as well as brothers: Jimmy (Jill) Yowell and David (Diane) Yowell all of Cincinnati, OH.

A Celebration of Life for Michael was Sunday, December 8, 2024 at Chapman Funeral Home, Hurricane.



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|---|--|
| EVELYN HOPE ROMINE<br>Florida<br>Birthday December 20   | Huntington<br>20th Birthday<br>December 22   |
| KRISTA MEADOWS CUMMINGS<br>1769 Butcher Road<br>Pt. Pleasant<br>46th Birthday<br>December 20                            | SAVANNAH YOUNG<br>Hurricane<br>13th Birthday<br>December 22                                    |
| JO ANN BIRD<br>Hickory, North Carolina<br>Birthday December 20  | AMY CARROLL McCALLISTER<br>Culloden<br>47th Birthday<br>December 23                            |
| CLAYTON JOHN SIMMONS<br>2261 Willow Oak Circle,<br>Apt. 302<br>Virginia Beach, Virginia<br>23rd Birthday<br>December 20 | DOUG CANTERBURY<br>205 White Pine<br>Pliny<br>62nd Birthday<br>December 23                     |
| GREG BIRD<br>5307 Turkey Creek Road<br>Hurricane<br>75th Birthday<br>December 20  | MARY QUEEN CRADDOCK<br>Hurricane<br>85th Birthday<br>December 23                               |
| DANNY NEVILLE<br>Barker's Ridge<br>Milton<br>44th Birthday<br>December 20   | ANGEL QUALLS WILLIS<br>Ona<br>38th Birthday<br>December 24                                     |
| MARK CHAPMAN<br>P.O. Box 503<br>Milton<br>63rd Birthday<br>December 21  | LORETTA COVINGTON<br>5 Bate Drive<br>Huntington<br>70th Birthday<br>December 24                |
| LILL BLACK PORTER<br>Berry Lane<br>Barboursville<br>Birthday December 21  | BONNA TATUM<br>306 Sansom Avenue<br>Wayne<br>55th Birthday<br>December 24                      |
| RANDY WALKER<br>1205 Ann Street<br>Huntington<br>71st Birthday<br>December 21   | ROGER THEVENIN<br>1669 Washington Hill<br>Road<br>Hurricane<br>50th Birthday<br>December 24    |
| MONETTA CHAPMAN BLACK<br>2767 Whitten Ridge Road<br>Milton<br>51st Birthday<br>December 21                              | REV TROY NICELY<br>1833 Sunset View<br>Milton<br>61st Birthday<br>December 24                  |
| KANDICE McCORD<br>Culloden<br>18th Birthday<br>December 21  | J-E-S-U-S<br>December 25th   |
| SKYLAR JADE SOVINE<br>2115 Crooked Creek Road<br>23rd Birthday<br>December 21   | DAVID (BUTCH) JOHNSON<br>#53 Wingfoot Drive<br>Hurricane<br>77th Birthday<br>December 25       |
| ELI WITHERS<br>Harrisburg, Virginia<br>52nd Birthday<br>December 22   | MARK ARMBRESTER<br>Route 1, Box 64<br>Mud River Road<br>Milton<br>27th Birthday<br>December 25 |
| RILEY XAVIER IBANEZ   | ANGIE GRANT JONES  |

**Christmas Dinner Box Giveaway**

On Saturday, December 21st, at 8 a.m., FREE Christmas Dinner Food Boxes will be given out in front of the First Baptist Church of Hurricane, 2635 Main Street.

No ID is necessary and boxes will be placed in your car as long as quantities last. In each box are family size food items and other ingredients that can help you prepare a delicious Christmas dinner for your family. A boneless, fully cooked ham is included in each box.

**Democratic Women to Meet**

The Putnam County Democratic Women's Club will be holding their December luncheon at noon on Saturday, December 21, at Sleepy Hollow Golf Club in Hurricane. The luncheon is \$20 per person. Please bring a Christmas ornament valued at no more than \$10. The menu includes Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad, Roll, Dessert, and Beverages.

RSVP by emailing karensprouse7@outlook.com, or texting or calling (304) 543-2115.

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|--|---|
| Huntington<br>55th Birthday<br>December 25   | BRITANY CARPENTER<br>1902 Pine Grove Drive<br>Culloden<br>41st Birthday<br>December 27                |
| JAYVEN XAVIER HANCOCK<br>Tennessee<br>8th Birthday December 25                                 | HENRY THOMAS JONES<br>Mankato, Minnesota<br>9th Birthday December 27                                  |
| JARED COLLINS<br>Milton<br>Birthday December 25  | CLINTON WILLIAMSON<br>Milton<br>Birthday December 27  |
| JIM TAYLOR<br>Scott Depot<br>82nd Birthday<br>December 25                                      | AARON SPURLOCK<br>Lesage<br>Birthday December 28  |
| RUSTY AKERS<br>100 Hickory Heights<br>Scott Depot<br>57th Birthday<br>December 26              | STEPHANIE MORRISON<br>411 Brian Drive<br>Hurricane<br>Birthday December 28                            |
| RACHEL HOBBS MARCUM<br>21549 Winfield Road<br>Frazier's Bottom<br>43rd Birthday<br>December 27 | LEE PRICE<br>Former Volunteer<br>Hurricane Little League<br>Hurricane<br>64th Birthday<br>December 28 |
| AMBER HOBBS<br>1415 Route 35 North<br>Pliny<br>43rd Birthday<br>December 27                    | JOHN MARK ARMSTEAD<br>111 Hamon Drive, Apt. D<br>Scott Depot<br>62nd Birthday<br>December 29          |
| AMY THOMAS NORDEN<br>St. Albans<br>40th Birthday<br>December 27                                | JASON YOUNG<br>304 Merrywood Lane<br>Hurricane<br>44th Birthday<br>December 29                        |
| NICK DAVIES<br>61 Iroquois Trail<br>Ona<br>Birthday December 27                                | PEGGY SETLIFF<br>Box 4583 5&20 Mile Road<br>Frazier's Bottom<br>Birthday December 29                  |
| DOREnda MOSES LEE<br>8424 Hurricane Creek<br>Road<br>Winfield<br>68th Birthday<br>December 27  | SCOTT HENDERSON<br>2621 Montana Avenue<br>Hurricane<br>Birthday December 29                           |
| ABBY GRACE SHEPPARD<br>Route 1, Box 123<br>Milton<br>19th Birthday<br>December 27              | KAREN ELAINE HODGES<br>4208 Teays Valley Road<br>Scott Depot<br>76th Birthday<br>December 29          |
| AINSLEY JAIDE JACKSON<br>1217 Glenwood Street<br>Milton<br>17th Birthday<br>December 27        | BARBARA WYANT<br>Ohio<br>79th Birthday<br>December 29   |
| DAVID LEE RADCLIFF<br>6106 Baker Road<br>Huntington<br>Birthday December 27                    | BETHANY NOEL DRURY HENSON<br>904 Kanawha Terrace<br>St. Albans<br>31st Birthday<br>December 29        |
| JUDY HOLLEY HOUCK<br>Hurricane Creek Road<br>Hurricane<br>80th Birthday<br>December 27         | DORIS CHANEY<br>1014 Happy Drive<br>Culloden<br>80th Birthday<br>December 29                          |

**Buffalo and Fraziers Bottom Christmas Eve Services**

Buffalo United Methodist and Frazier's Bottom United Methodist Churches will have Christmas Eve Services this Year.

Frazier's Bottom offers a candlelight service beginning at 5:30 p.m. in one of the older structures in Putnam County built in 1854.

Buffalo UMC will have choir singing and offer Holy Communion, beginning at 10:00 p.m., at their church built in 1870.

Pastors Mark and Logan Harris invite you to join them for these special services.

The Buffalo Church is located at 27 High Street, Buffalo. Frazier's Bottom Church is located at 1 Church Drive, Frazier's Bottom. Both churches are handicapped accessible and everyone is welcome.

For more details check out both churches' Facebook Page.

**Free Movie Night**

Historical Square Community Church, 20058 Buffalo Road, Buffalo, will be holding a free movie night on Friday, December 20, at 7 p.m. "I Heard The Bells" will be showing.

**TubaChristmas Coming This Saturday**

Buffalo High School will be hosting TubaChristmas, a concert show featuring local tuba and euphonium players, on Saturday, December 21, at 5 p.m.

Come and enjoy a free and unique Christmas concert show casing our local tuba and euphonium players.

For concert goers, the concert will start at 5 p.m. in the auditorium. For those interested in performing, registration is at 1 p.m. at the main entrance. Rehearsal will be in the auditorium and starts at 2 p.m.

There will be a dinner break, and then the concert at 5 p.m.

**Tai Chi to Be Offered at Hometown Senior Center in January**

The Arthritis Foundation Tai Chi Program is an ancient practice proven to reduce pain and improve your mental and physical well being. The Arthritis Foundation Tai Chi Program, developed by Dr. Paul Lam, uses gentle Sun-style Tai Chi routines that are safe, easy to learn, and suitable for every fitness level.

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**"A Christmas Carol" at the Library**

Perfect for young and old alike, Bright Star Theatre's "A Dickens Tale" brings Charles Dickens classic "A Christmas Carol" to life in front of your very eyes at the Putnam County Main Library in Teays Valley on Friday, December 20. Join old Scrooge, bumbling Bob Cratchit, Tiny Tim, old Jacob Marley and the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future while discovering the true meaning of the season.

Approximately 45 minutes in length, this condensed version of the story is perfect for an afternoon matinee for the whole family. It is FREE and begins at 2:00 p.m.

reduce stress, increase balance and flexibility, feel relaxed, and improve your overall mind, body, and spirit. The Hometown Senior Center, 40 1st Avenue, Hometown, will be offering Tai Chi lessons at 10 a.m. on Thursdays from January 9 through February 13. Classes are one hour each. Call 304-586-2745 to register.

*Happy Anniversary*

Steve and Ruth Ann Ashley of Cottageville will celebrate their thirty-eighth wedding anniversary on December 20.

Howard and Claudia Sovine Leadman of Poindexter Road in Hurricane will celebrate their wedding anniversary on December 20.

Seth and Amanda Warner McElhaney of 412 Roan Lane in Red Oak, Texas, will celebrate their thirteenth wedding anniversary on December 21.

Tim and Tammy Nischan of Louisville, Kentucky, will celebrate their thirty-ninth wedding anniversary on December 21.

Rev. Sam and Nada Morris of Milton will celebrate their wedding anniversary on December 21.

David and Violet Smith of 200 Chickasaw Court in Ashland, Kentucky, will celebrate their sixty-eighth wedding anniversary on December 22.

Ronnie and Hazel Woodall Duncan of 400 Clayton Avenue in Hurricane will celebrate their forty-sixth wedding anniversary on December 22.

Justin and Brooke Williams Chapman of 219 Johnston Drive in Belmont, North Carolina, will celebrate their thirty-fifth wedding anniversary on December 23.

Christopher and Brenda Armstead Casto of Bancroft will celebrate their twenty-eighth wedding anniversary on December 24.

John and Karen McClung of 148 Woodland Forest in Winfield will celebrate their fifty-fourth wedding anniversary on December 26.

John "Jay" and Brenda Roberts Dlugos of 134 Leslie Drive in Scott Depot will celebrate their fifty-fourth wedding anniversary on December 26.

Bradley and Julie Armstead of 155 Walmart Drive in Huntington will celebrate their twenty-second wedding anniversary on December 27.

Love to our Parents - KELCI & BRAEDEN

Rev. Bob and Sue Ann Withers of 313 Main Street in Huntington will celebrate their fifty-fifth wedding anniversary on December 27.

Billy and Teresa Caudill of Culloden will celebrate their forty-fourth wedding anniversary on December 27.

Mike and Tina Rodgers Franklin of Little Rock, Arkansas, will celebrate their forty-eighth wedding anniversary on December 28.

Will and Bonnie May Edwards of 124 Apple Wood Way in Ona will celebrate their twenty-eighth wedding anniversary on December 28.

Harry Franklin and Janet Rose of Joe's Branch Road in Hurricane will celebrate their fifty-second wedding anniversary on December 29.

Dr. and Mrs. William Dan Hill of 232 Forest Road in Hurricane will celebrate their forty-sixth wedding anniversary on December 30.

Jeffrey Dustin and Andrea Marie Young Campbell of 70689 Hurricane Creek Road in Winfield will celebrate their third wedding anniversary on December 30.

Rex and Erica Brown Justis of Patriot, Ohio, will celebrate their third wedding anniversary on December 31.

**Articles Welcome**

We would love to publicize your event. Send press releases and announcements to the Hurricane Breeze, PO Box 310, Hurricane, W. Va.; by emailing hurricanebreeze@citynet.net; or calling/faxing (304) 562-9881.



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# Baby's First Christmas

## Tatum Brienne Black



Tatum Brienne Black was born on January 29, 2024, at 8:59 a.m. She weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces, and was 20.5 inches long. Her parents are Justin and Jamie Black of Branchland. Her siblings include Bailey Smith, Raegan Smith, and Riley Joe Smith of Branchland. Her grandparents are Darrell and Barbara (Hurricane), Ray Hazelett (Branchland), and Tracey Dalton (East Lynn), and her Great Grandparents are Patricia and Clinton Adkins (Branchland). Her favorite toy is her giraffe teether, and her favorite food is pears. She enjoys playing piano, watching Miss Rachel videos, Patty-Cake, bath time, and snuggling with Mommy and Daddy.



## Ivy Sage



Ivy Sage was born September 7th, 2024, to parents Maitlyn Hines and Brandon Stephens. She is as fierce as they come, small but mighty, and absolutely beautiful. Ivy resides with her parents and her big brother, Hudson, in Hurricane. Ivy enjoys kisses, rattles, and her paci. She is deeply loved by her grandparents Tamra and Richard Hines (Hurricane) and Christina and Scott Stephens (Nitro.) Merry first Christmas, Queenie! We love you!



## Lizzy Kate Bone



Elizabeth Kathryn Bone - goes by "Lizzy Kate" - was born on January 19, 2024, and is currently 10 months old. Her parents are Ben and Perri Bone of Hurricane. Her big brother is Shepherd (age 7), and her big sister is Kendalyn (age 3).

Lizzy Kate loves playing with her older siblings and friends at daycare and church, as well as peek-a-boo. Her favorite food is mac and cheese.



## Adelynn Rae Hamlin

This is Adelynn Rae Hamlin. Adelynn was born on November 18th, 2024. Her parents are Trevor Hamlin and Hannah Kersey. She has 1 older sister (Amelia). She resides with her parents and sister in Hurricane, WV. She drinks Similac Total Care 360 formula. Adelynn was born with double renal arteries to her left kidney, which isn't normal. She loves to go on car rides, watch Disney movies with her older sister, and sleep.



## Winnie Jean Maynard



Winnie was born on August 18, 2024. She has one sister, Hadley, who she adores. Winnie loves swimming, smiling at people, and rolling on her belly! Her favorite toy at the moment is a bear lovey named Bernabean! Winnie surpassed her birth weight in just one week as little girl loves to eat! This will be Winnie's first Christmas and she already loves it! She met Santa, has seen some lights, and enjoys listening to Christmas music. Winnie is truly just one happy baby with a loving family.



## Mitchy Ray Fisher



Hello! This is Mitchell (Mitchy) Ray Fisher! He was born May 2nd, 2024. He is the child of Michael and Kate Fisher of Cross Lanes. Currently, Mitchy loves eating carrots, sweet potatoes, and broccoli! His favorite toys include his Cookie Monster rattle and his musical tambourine at Mawmaw D's and Pawpaw Monte's house. Mitch loves when Daddy comes home from work; petting the family dog, Sierra; and being tickled! He has learned how to say Mama and has his two front teeth for Christmas! He's a generally happy baby whose family loves and adores him.



## Cyrus Davis



The Marshall Research Family is overjoyed to announce the arrival of Cyrus Davis, born on September 26th. Proud parents Casey and Gloria, along with big brother Lucas, are filled with love and excitement as they welcome their beautiful son into the world. Cyrus is already surrounded by so much love, and we couldn't be happier for this sweet family. Congratulations and all our love to the Davises!



## Harvey Roach



Harvey Roach is the son of Allen and MaKayla Roach. He was born on July 2, 2024. His grandparents are Tim and LaDonna Escue, and Randy and Hallie Roach.

## Avery Jordan

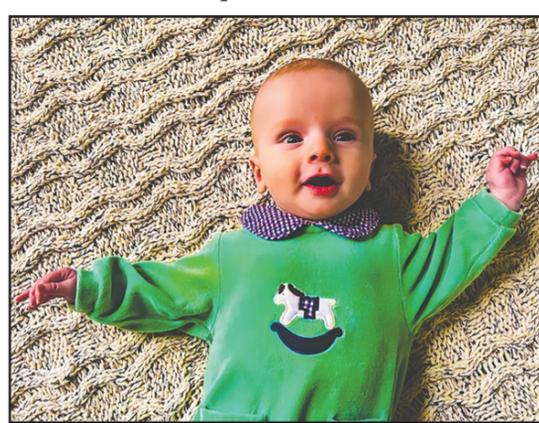


Avery Jordan, daughter of Chris and Hannah of Milton, sister of Adalyn, was born on Mothers Day, May 12, 2024.

Her favorite thing to do is play with her big sister and she loves to snack and eat different foods! Her family can't wait to celebrate her first Christmas!



## Wesley Asher Hill



Wesley Asher Hill was born on August 9, 2024, to Adam and Ashley Hill, of Fraziers Bottom. He joined big siblings Blair, Noah, and Ivy, who adore him and always want to make him smile. Wessie loves to hug Blue Pup, give kisses, and listen to music. He is the sweetest cherry on top for the little, not-so-little Hill family. Thank you, Jesus, for our precious Wesley.



## Campbell Grace Hoylman



Hello! I am Campbell Grace Hoylman. I was born on July 29, 2024. I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



## Lillian Grace Searls



Lillian Grace Searls was born on April 2, 2024 (she is eight months old). Her parents are Ashley and Stephen Searls of Hurricane. Her grandparents are Debbi Searls, Steve Searls, Dreama Fain, and MaryBeth Alexander.

She loves eating homemade purees, her kitty Felix, using her voice and playing with her toys. She also likes being outside when it's warm and just being with her family.

# Baby's First Christmas

## Rhaelynn Barker

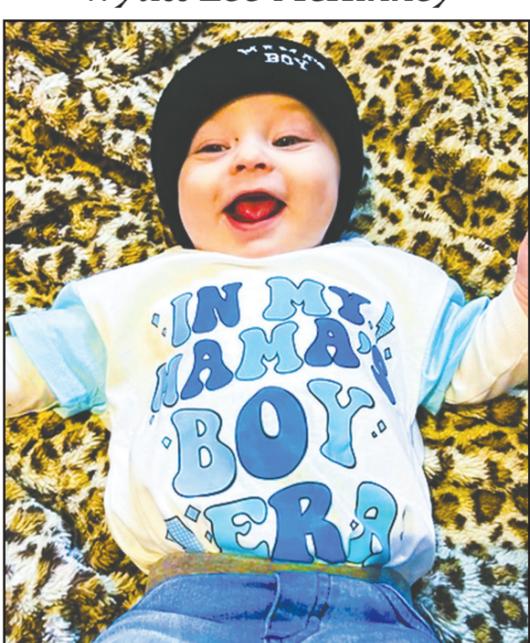


My name is Rhaelynn Barker of Nitro. I was born on February 18, 2024. I have two sisters, Skarlette and Baby A., coming February 2025. My daddy is Alex and my mommy is Sierra. My grandma is Sarah; my nana is Ejay; and my great grandmas are Ethel and Connie. My papas are Papaw Denzie, Papa Barker, and Papa Keith. And I have many cousins and aunts and uncles.

My big sister Skarlette is my favorite person right behind my daddy. I love all foods; my favorite is anything my sister has. My favorite toys are baby dolls and Blippi toys.



## Wyatt Lee McKinney



Wyatt Lee McKinney of Salt Rock was born on June 10th, 2024. Wyatt is the son of AJ McKinney and Destiny McKinney, and baby brother to Tommy, JD, Gracelynn and Praisely McKinney. He is the grandson of Karen and Adrian Davis; Tom and Patty Harvey; and Herbert Thacker and Katrina Matheny. Wyatt will be celebrating his first Christmas at six months old. He is the happiest baby. He loves to be cuddled, laughing, and loves to play with anything he can get his hands on, especially pulling any hair he can get in his hand. Wyatt is all around just a sweet little baby.



## Millie Jane Zimmerman



Millie Jane Zimmerman was born September 20, 2024, to proud parents Adam and Emma Zimmerman of Hurricane. Proud grandparents are Mark and Cynthia Sorsaia of Hurricane and Norman and Gloria Zimmerman of Queens, New York. Proud Great Grandparents are Morris and Clara Hauldren of Hurricane and Leon and Juanita Howard of Queens, New York.

She is very loved and adored by her big brother Hank and her big sister Destiny. Millie is a sweet and gentle baby that loves to smile and be entertained by her big brother Hank. Her family loves her so much and are so excited for her first Christmas.

## Ezra Renee Cavender



Ezra Renee Cavender was born on June 6th, 2024, to Hailey Ayers and Chance Cavender of Hurricane. Her favorite food is mangoes and she loves her bouncy chair.

Ezra is such a light to her entire family and we feel so blessed that she's ours.

Mommy and Daddy love you, Peach.



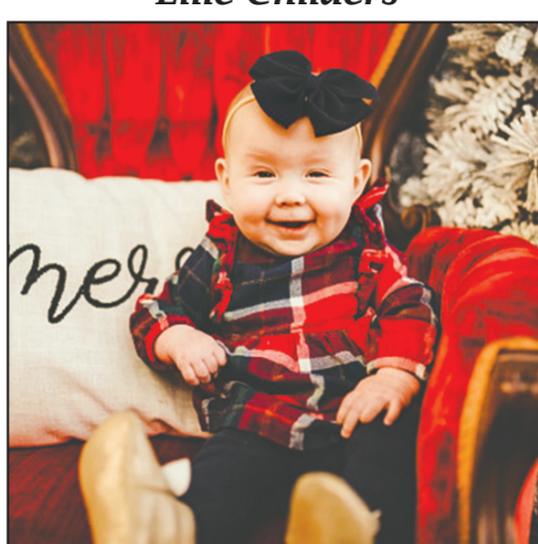
## Henry Kane Womack



Henry Kane Womack was born on April 19th, 2024, at 4:49 p.m. He weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces, and was 20.5 inches long. His parents are Peyton Gibson and Charlie Womack of Hurricane. His favorite toys are his teething straw and blue monster warmies, and his favorite food is pumpkin.



## Ellie Childers



Ellie Childers was born on May 20th, 2024. Her parents are Cody Childers and Amber Erwin. She has an older sister named Adalynn. She has recently found her voice and loves to let everyone hear her. She also is obsessed with watching whatever her big sister does and loves kicking her legs.



## Solomon Rowen Vickers



The Marshall Research Family is thrilled to announce the arrival of Solomon Rowen Vickers, born on December 3rd, weighing 7lbs, 3oz! Proud parents Amber and Seth Vickers, along with siblings Jackson Carter, Scout, and Stella, are overjoyed to welcome him into the world. Solomon is already surrounded by so much love, and we couldn't be happier for the Vickers family. Congratulations and all our love to you!

## Nora Kate Johnson



Nora Kate Johnson was born May 13, 2024, to proud parents Brandon and Denise Moses Johnson, of Walnut Cove, N.C. She is the granddaughter of the late Stephen Moses, and the great-granddaughter of Karen Jackson of Winston Salem, N.C. She also has a "special Pop-Pop and Lolly" Michael and Tonya Moses of Rural Hall, N.C.

Merry Christmas to all of our WV friends and loved ones.



## Liam George David Huff



Liam George David Huff was born on March 17, 2024 at Cabell Huntington Hospital. He is a St. Patrick's Day baby, but he is excited to have his first Christmas with his family! Liam's older siblings Grace, Noah, Emma, and Iyla are looking forward to showing him the magic of the Christmas season! Liam's parents are Caleb Huff and Andrea Lauffer of Hurricane. His grandparents are Barb and Dan Lauffer, Lisa Valentine, and David Huff. His great grandmother is Eileen Stehura. We love our Liam! Merry Christmas to our baby boy!



## Atlas Jones



This is Atlas Jones. He was born on April 5th, 2024 to Kayla and Zachary Jones. His proud grandparents are Kenny and Juna Woodall, Tara Jones, Daniel Jones, and a very special Kiki the Great. His favorite foods are bananas and spinach, and he loves his furry siblings, Marnie, Dewey, Tudy and TB. He is Elmo's biggest fan, and lights up when he hears Ms. Rachel say "hi!" He is currently learning simple signs, and is an expert at signing "more!"



## Hudson Charles Heaberlin



Hudson Charles Heaberlin is the son of Emme Newhouse and Jesse Heaberlin of Huntington. Hudson was born June 15, 2024. He is currently 5 months old (almost 6 months). He loves his two German Shepards, Nala and Winnie, and he loves to try and pet them when he can reach them. His favorite thing to do is sit up and look around, and he loves to hold anything you are willing to let him hold. He loves to dance and he loves being tickled. He can say mama, dada and bubba (his family calls him bubba a lot). And he loves to sing and laugh for anyone that's willing to listen. He's the sweetest boy ever!



Season's Greetings

# Holiday Pet Photos

**Diesel**



This is Diesel. He's a four year old who loves his toys and playing tug-o-war with anyone who will play. He loves snuggles and is very vocal when you get him "talking." His owner is Nicole Martin of Buffalo.

**Danny**



Danny is a Black Angus Bull who loves treats and head scratches. His best friend is Brules the horse. They usually hang out together and beg for attention and food! Danny's owner is Garry Goddard II of Buffalo.

**Martini Noelle**



Martini Noelle, a miniature yorkie, is the canine companion of Robin Crislip.

**Osha**



Meet Osha, an eight-month-old Boston terrier that is definitely a socialite. She thinks she's a diva and she loves to go on trips meeting as many new people as she can. She loves running and chasing cows and taking toys from her big brother, Diesel. She's also very attached to her papaw and mamaw Goddard. Her owners are Nicole Martin and Garry Goddard II of Buffalo.

**Brules**



This is Brules, a Chocolate Palomino. His rider is Kenzleigh, my niece. He loves to play hard to get and is your typical older gentleman who loves to be nosey and doing his own thing.  
— Nicole Martin of Buffalo

**Rein**



Rein is a beautiful Paint that loves to explore, press boundaries and eat! She loves pleasing her rider in rodeo events like Barrel racing and Poles. When it comes to trails she always has to lead the other horses! Her owner is Kenzleigh Martin of Bidwell, Ohio.

**Suzy**



This is Suzy, a six-year-old border collie who loves to herd her chickens, ducks and cows around the farm. She has her favorite toy that she loves catching and her favorite thing to do is follow her daddy around, helping with projects. Her owners are Garry and Mary Goddard of Buffalo.

**Augger**



Augger is a four-year-old Himalayan/Siamese cat! He likes to think that he is a dog and follow you around the farm, scaring all the cattle! His owners are Nicole Martin and Garry Goddard II.

**Betty White**



This BettyWhite in her Christmas sweater. She is the feline companion of Julie Howell.

## Merry Christmas from the Armstead Family



I have shared pictures of my grandkids at Christmas ever since they have been born and I don't want to miss another opportunity.

Kelci is 18 now. She graduated from Cabell Midland High School in May with very high honors. She is in her first year at Marshall University. She works at Honey Ham in Barboursville.

Braeden is 16 now and is a Sophomore at Cabell Midland High School. He has played 2 years on the football team and played basketball but his favorite sport is baseball. He is an honor student, too. He is looking for a job.

My grandkids love Christmas with all the gifts and giving. So, have a Merry Christmas 2024 and a happier New Year of 2025 from Kelci and Braeden Armstead.

Proud Grandparents,  
George and Linda Armstead

# Baby's First Christmas

**Scout Ledger Haynes**



Maddie Stanley and Aaron Hayes are the proud parents of Scout Ledger Haynes. This is his first Christmas, and he was born on June 4, 2024. Scout is 6 months old and loves to watch "Hey Bear," play with his siblings, and roll! His favorite baby food is sweet potatoes, and his favorite thing to do is jump in his jumperoo! Scout lives in Hamlin with his family.

**Hensley Hollis Bartram**



Hensley Hollis Bartram, born May 4, 2024, will be celebrating his first Christmas with his mommy and daddy, Dalton and Minyera Bartram, and his three-year-old big sister Gwendolyn and his two-year-old big brother Dalton.

Hensley loves watching Mrs. Rachel and eating yummy things.

Merry Christmas Everyone!

# Holiday Pet Photos

*Holly*



Pet name Holly is a nine-week-old corgi. Holly's owner is Sara Stone.



*Nevi*



Nevi is the companion of Sarah Deleon of Hurricane. She is a piebald husky.



*Ace and Dutch Finley*



Meet Ace and Dutch Finley—two lifelong citizens of Hurricane who are ready to spread some holiday cheer! These two are just as Christmas-obsessed as their mom, Sarah Finley, and they can't wait to see what presents Santa has in store for them! Ace is all about toys of every shape and size, while Dutch prefers to soak up the sun and enjoy the outdoors. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas filled with love and joy!

## Hurricane's 2024 Christmas House Decorating Contest



This house at 3418 Carpenter Avenue was one of the entries in Hurricane's 2024 Christmas House Decorating Contest under the Traditional category. Featuring elegant lights and classic designs, traditional displays capture the charm and sophistication of a traditional Christmas. Other categories included Clark Griswold and Crazy Inflatables. Winners will be announced on December 22.

*Dixie*



Dixie belongs to Taylor Loomis of Hurricane.



*Mr. Baby*



Mr. Baby resides in Hurricane. He belongs to Hailey Ayers. He enjoys making biscuits for the family and providing the best cuddles.



*Milly*



Milly is a red and white border collie. Her owners are Bobby and Kathy VanHoose of Hurricane. She LOVES to go for long walks at the Valley Park and she loves to catch Frisbee. She is an excellent Frisbee catcher. It's her most favorite thing to do. She is a very sweet dog.



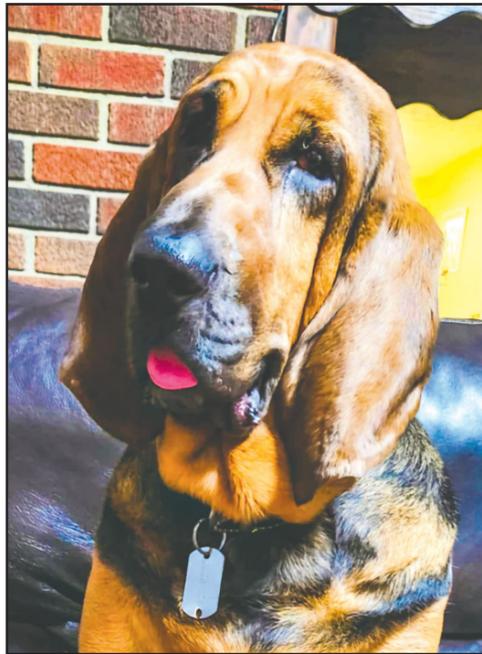
*Bailey*



Bailey is giving Santa lots of kisses. Bailey is the canine companion of Angie Harkins of Hurricane.



*Ruby*



Ruby is the doggie pal of Teresa Caudill of Culloden.



*Simon*



Simon is a one-year-old Yorkie who is the canine companion of Ruth Sayre of Buffalo.



# Merry Christmas

## . . . And a Happy New Year



There's No Place Like  
Our Hometown for  
the Holidays

Thanks for supporting our local  
business, and best wishes for a  
warm and wonderful season!

**H&R BLOCK**  
 168 Midland Trail  
 Hurricane, WV 25526  
 Michael Carpenter  
 304-562-5122  
 michael.carpenter@hrblock.com

## Wishing You Health, Wealth, Wisdom & Joy

We trust this Christmas brings you peace and contentment.

Thank you for placing your trust in us.  
We count your support and friendship among our blessings  
this holiday season and always. Merry Christmas!

**ALLEN FUNERAL HOME**  
Serving Families with Care for over one hundred years

*Jean, Greg and Kelly, Wesley and Katie  
and Employees*



## Silent Night Holy Night

May this Christmas season bring  
comfort and great joy to you and your  
loved ones.

We thank you for your business and  
contributions in making our community  
shine with excellence



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# Joy to the World

## EXTRA, EXTRA MERRY!



Hope Your Holiday Season Is **Extra-Extra Happy!**



*Thanks for supporting our publication and the future of local journalism.*

### The Breeze

As we turn the page on 2024, we'd like to take a moment to thank you, our loyal readers, for your trust and support. Hoping this Christmas is filled with pages of blessings.

# Merry Christmas



### As We Welcome the Holidays...

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for coming by this year. We wish you the best of the season and hope your holidays roll along smoothly with lots of happy celebrations along the way.

It's been our good fortune to have you for our customer, and we hope you have a very good new year.

### Hatcher's Auto Repair

304-743-5867



## Peace. Hope. Joy.



*May the miracle of His birth fill your heart and soul with delight and wonder!*

### WHITT'S FARM SUPPLY

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Bill, Dana, Fred and the gang

### Christmas Greetings



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6422 Teays Valley Road  
Scott Depot  
themacholahballet@gmail.com  
<http://www.themacholahballet.com>



Joy  
Peace  
Hope  
Love  
Health  
Happiness  
Harmony  
Prosperity

In the spirit of the season, we'd like to wish all our friends and neighbors a happy, healthy and meaningful holiday season

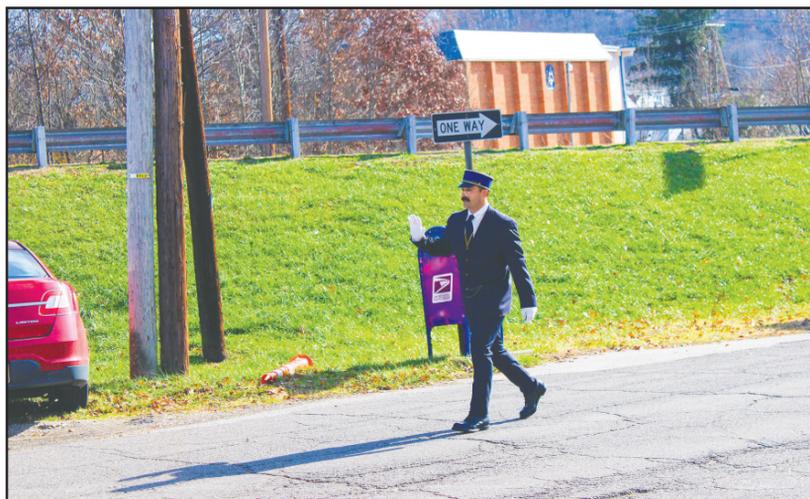


3275 Teays Valley Road  
Hurricane, West Virginia

# Hurricane Christmas Parade



The Foam Garage generated artificial snow to create an Arctic setting for the parade's Polar Express theme.



The Polar Express conductor's real life appearance was made possible by Matt Stevens.



The Polar Express parade delivered an abundance of Christmas joy and excitement.



The Hurricane High School Marching Band is a long-standing feature of the annual parade.



There were numerous Polar Express cars which delivered the happiness of Christmas to parade spectators.



This antique vehicle was one of several in the parade.



This frog is proof that the Polar Express is not fantasy.



There were several antique tractors in the long parade procession.



Hurricane Town Elementary School's float dazzled with the colors of Christmas.



Dancing Unlimited has been part of Hurricane's Christmas parade forever.



A small sampling of Christmas horses to participate in this year's parade.



Santa always manages to make room in his schedule to ride in Hurricane's parade.

Merry Christmas



*From -  
Mayor Scott Edwards,  
City Council,  
and the City of Hurricane employees!*

*Hurricane*  
West Virginia