

The Hurricane Breeze

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

Tracking Fern — Hype and The Storm

By Ron Allen

The 2021 song "Storm Coming" features lyrics in which the vocalist issues a challenge to the storm — "Give me your best shot and I'll show you what I got." The storm Fern may not have given Putnam County her best shot but Fern will be remembered. Details of what Putnam got follows.

At 9:58 p.m. on Wednesday, January 12, Governor Morrisey declared a State of Preparedness for all 55 counties in response to a Winter Storm Watch issued by the National Weather Service.

The Weather Channel named the storm Fern sometime between January 21 and 23.

Shoppers at the Hurricane Walmart emptied the bread shelves prior to 7 p.m. on Thursday, January 22.

At 4:31 p.m. on the 22nd, Governor Morrisey gave notice that he would issue update on preparations for the storm on Friday, January 23, at noon.

WV Metronews (wvmetronews.com) 6:15 a.m., January 23, headline read: "Storm Watch goes to Storm Warning as system

approaches the Mountain State 9 to 12 inches possible."

At 1:56 p.m. on Friday, January 23, Morrisey urged State residents to prepare for a potentially significant winter storm. The Governor said state agencies, local emergency managers, public safety officials, utilities, FEMA, the National Weather Service, and the federal Department of Homeland Security have been in close communication and voluntary and community organizations have met Friday to discuss readiness related to food banks, shelters, and crisis response plans.

As needed, the State Emergency Response Center will be activated and staffed to support coordination and focus the response on saving lives and protecting property.

On Friday, January 23, the City of Hurricane Facebook page posted a notice from the Hurricane Construction Services Team for residents park vehicles off-street to allow for snow removal.

At 7:49 p.m. on Friday, Governor Morrisey declared a State of Emergency for all 55 counties in response to The National Weather Service forecast of nine to twelve inches of snow along with ice accumulations of approximately two-tenths of an inch to begin on Saturday and continuing through Monday. At 9:52 p.m., Morrisey issued a press release stating that he had requested President Trump to issue a Presidential Emergency Disaster Declaration for the State of West Virginia.

At 6:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 24, The National Weather Service posted a map predicting 6-8" snowfall and <0.1 inch ice for Putnam County from the storm. At

Valley Parks' Puzzle Competition Attracts 25 Puzzler Teams



The January Putnam Puzzler Competition winning team was comprised of Katie Hammett of Frazier's Bottom, and Bryn, Chris, and Katie Tokarz, all of Winfield.

By Betsy Allen

Participants raced against the clock to complete a winter-themed jigsaw puzzle during the Putnam Puzzler Competition, which was held on Thursday, January 22, at the Valley Park Conference Center. Using various strategies, teams

of two to four players attempted to complete 500-piece puzzles within two hours. At the end of the event, participants were allowed to take the puzzles home with them.

The winning team of the January Putnam Puzzler Competition was Katie Hammett of Frazier's

Bottom, and Bryn, Chris, and Katie Tokarz, all of Winfield. They finished the puzzle in 51 minutes. The prize was 25% of the entry fees for the event. Twenty-five teams were registered for the January competition.

The Putnam Puzzler Competition is a monthly

event at Valley Park. Each competition features a different puzzle, often with a seasonal theme. While participants have two hours to finish their puzzles, most teams are usually done within 45 minutes. The fastest time so far has been 39 minutes.

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WEATHER SUMMARY

January 20 -26		
	Low	High
January 20		
Hurricane	5°	25°
January 21		
Hurricane	7°	36°
January 22		
Hurricane	16°	40°
January 23		
Hurricane	7°	33°
January 24		
Hurricane	3°	14°
January 25*		
Hurricane	10°	29°
January 26**		
Hurricane	3°	18°

*RAIN/**SNOW
1.9 inch recorded Jan. 25
2 inches recorded Jan. 26

6:20 a.m., the NWS posted a map which predicted precipitation in Putnam County to begin between 12 noon and 3pm.

At noon on Saturday, Accuweather (accuweather.com) forecasted: Snow beginning at 2pm and continuing 3 hours (1" accumulation possible), 3-6" to fall during night. In an updated forecast at 1:49 p.m., Accuweather had snow beginning in 32 minutes (1" accumulation possible) with 3-6" to fall during night.

In a 1:49 p.m. Facebook
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Eleanor Mayor Cam Clendinin led one of the teams at the January puzzle competition. With him are Caroline Clendinin and Terrance Wiseman.

DEPRESSION YEARS

Wintertime Posed Many Special Problems

Editor's Note:

The bitter cold of winter triggers memories of past winters. The following article, written in January of 1983, is a warm memory of the late Irene Ambler from the winters she experienced during the Great Depression some ninety years ago. The Breeze hopes Irene's memories will produce some warmth during the present cold snap.

By Irene Ambler

If anyone should labor under the misunderstanding that the Great Depression lasted only a short time such as a summer vacation or a weekend or a few weeks or months, then they really aren't in the know concerning those hard-up years. The stock market crash occurred on October 29, 1929 (Black Friday), and actually continued until the summer of 1940, at which time the United States believed itself to be a state of national emergency because of the worsening war in Europe.

Roosevelt assuring England, "You furnish the men and we will furnish the material," and at the same time assuring mothers that "Not one of your sons will set foot on foreign soil." Mr. Roosevelt made regular radio talks to inform citizens of international affairs and perhaps to stifle the fear we all had down deep that we, too, would before long be engaged in the conflict which, because of its very nature, was destined to ensnare the world in warfare which would end ultimately in the dropping of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

It was World War II which ended the Great Depression. It was the manufacture of weapons and ammunition and ships and planes - instruments of death - which put Americans back to work. Of course, not everyone got to work very long because during the whole tragedy of war nearly 300,000 young Americans did not return; and untold thousands returned as either physical or emotional cripples. It seems an undeniable

fact that we cannot enjoy peace and prosperity at the same time. That possibility frightens me, especially at this particular time when millions are out of work, countries all over the world are suffering financial disaster, sabers are rattling continually, soup lines are forming in this country, people are going to get paid for not growing crops, millions of people just don't want to work, foreclosures on homes and businesses are at an exceedingly high rate, and robberies are occurring with an alarming frequency.

All of these things make me wonder if we are on the threshold of another Great Depression, which, if it comes, will be a lot worse than the first one. I hear a lot about "recession," but when you hear of all the poor people who have lost their jobs and have exhausted their unemployment insurance; when you hear of those unfortunate homeowners who can't meet their mortgage payments and pay their taxes; when you ponder the cost of medical

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Putnam County CloverSTEMs: WV Core Values Champions!



Front (L to R): Maddox Huddleston, Daniel Bennett, Austin Baria, Bowen Harless, Elliott Meadows, Danielle Cummings. Back (L to R): Gavin Kersey, Katie Matthews, Jackson Lipford, Markus LeMasters

By Elliott Meadows
On December 6, 2025, the Putnam County CloverSTEMs competed in the WV State First Lego League Robotic Championship at Fairmont State University. The team won the Core Values Award, which celebrates demonstration of First Lego League values of

discovery, innovation, and identify sites with impact, inclusion, fun, and cooperation.

The CloverSTEMs competition season began in September when they started working on a research and innovation project to go with the 2025-2026 archaeological theme. The team members chose to create a website to locate

archaeological significance to increase awareness of these sacred sites.

The CloverSTEMs are a 4-H Robotics team that have been competing since 2014. For more information on upcoming events, follow the CloverSTEMs on their Facebook.

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 MARCH

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

• JANUARY 29

The Town of Eleanor is hosting a history chat from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Homestead Room at the Eleanor Town Hall.

- There will be a First Time Home Buyers' Guide Workshop from 6 to 8 p.m. at Area 34, 971 WV Route 34, Hurricane. RSVP by going to <https://tally.so/r/Y5GbA0>

JANUARY 30

- There will be a homeschool science class at 10 a.m. at the Putnam County Main Library in Teays Valley. Meet and greet with Putnam County's Litter Control Officer Micha Casto.

- The Putnam Chamber Annual Dinner Meeting and Celebration will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. at Valley Park Conference Center in Hurricane. Tickets are \$150; to RSVP, call (304) 757-6510.

JANUARY 31

- There will be a free clothing giveaway from 9 a.m. - noon at Washington Street Church of Christ in St. Albans.

- Sugar Shenanigans will be celebrating a grand opening at their new location, 14 Bank Street, Nitro, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

- The Macholah Ballet, 6422 Teays Valley Road, Scott Depot, will be hosting a Mac Market fundraiser from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. Closet clean out, baked goods, housewares, craft items.

- Zoology Zone Science Center, located at Valley Park in Hurricane, will be holding a January Giants special event from 10 a.m. to noon. Meet some of the zoo's large animals.

- WV Cupcake Festival presents Bingo Into 2026 at Valley Park Conference

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

Subscription \$22 per year (including tax) in Zip Code 25526 and \$27 for all other Putnam County addresses. West Virginia addresses are \$45 per year. Out of state addresses are \$50 per year.

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ESTABLISHED 1900 978 HURRICANE CREEK ROAD BOX 310 HURRICANE, W. VA. 25526

Phone (304) 562-9881 email address at hurricanebreeze@citynet.net

Center in Hurricane. Doors open at 4 p.m.; games start at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30 in advance, or \$35 at the door. To register, go to <https://304tix.com/events/bingo-into-2026-1-31-2026-212858>

- There will be a Free Lil Ninja Workshop for children ages 4-5 at 11 a.m. at Pinnacle Karate Center, 3544 Commerce Drive, Hurricane.

- There will be a Free Karate Beginner Kids (6+) and Family Workshop at Pinnacle Karate Center, 3544 Commerce Drive, Hurricane.

FEBRUARY 1

- There will be a fly tying event at 1 p.m. at The Pallet Bar, 3999 Teays Valley Drive, Suite A, Scott Depot.

FEBRUARY 3

- There are free line dancing classes at 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Brookse's Bar and Grill, 13184 Winfield Road, Winfield.

- Teays Valley Christian School, 7062 Teays Valley Road, Scott Depot, will be holding a Pre-K and Kindergarten Open House. Times are Pre-K at 9 a.m.; Kindergarten at 1 p.m.; and both from 5 to 7 p.m.

FEBRUARY 5

- STEMuary Event: There will be a Bill Nye the Science Guy watch party at 3:30 p.m. on Thursdays in February at the Poca Library.

FEBRUARY 6

- Business Before Business will be held from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Putnam County Library in Teays Valley. RSVP by calling 304-757-6510.

- Cozy Soul: Soothing Seasonal Fatigue Yin Meditation Yoga will be held at 6:30 p.m. at River Ridge Church, Saturn Way, Hurricane.

FEBRUARY 7

- There will be a tire and electronic collection at 9 a.m. at Paynes Porduce in Winfield.

- The Meeks Mountain Trails Hurricane Crush Run will start at 9 a.m. at Meeks Mountain Trails, located at the Hurricane City Park.

- The 2026 Hurricane Polar Plunge starts at 5 p.m. at Hurricane City Park. For more information, go to www.sowv.org/polar-plunge

FEBRUARY 8

- The Putnam County Fair will be hosting Super Bowl Sunday pre-game lunch from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Eleanor Fire Department. Lunch is \$7.

FEBRUARY 9

- The Town of Eleanor will be hosting a puzzle competition from 6 to 8 p.m. The cost is \$20 for a team of 2-4 people. To register, call 304-586-2319.

FEBRUARY 10

- The WV Attorney General's Office will be at the Putnam County Main Library at 10:30 a.m. to discuss scams and how to avoid them.

- The Putnam Young Professionals will be hosting Off the Clock Evening Networking from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Fireside Grille in Teays Valley.

Free Ad Space

The Breeze is offering free ads to individuals and organizations. Yard sales, estate sales, home appliances, personal items, etc.

Submissions must be received by noon on Monday for publication on Thursday. With the exception of upcoming yard/estate sale notices, a new submission is required each week.

Space is limited. Submission by email is preferred (breezenews@citynet.net).

Hillbilly Bash Demolition Derby Coming to Huntington

The Hillbilly Bash Demolition Derby is back and louder than ever!

Rev your engines—one of Marshall Health Network Arena's most explosive fan-favorite events is making its long-awaited return on February 14th! Get ready for a night packed with snarling engines, metal-twisting collisions, and edge-of-your-seat chaos as drivers from across the region battle it out for glory in the ultimate showdown of skill, grit, and pure adrenaline.

Whether you're a die-hard derby goer or a first-timer looking for a wild ride, this is the event you'll hear—and feel—long after the smoke clears. The crashes are bigger, the hits are harder, and the energy is off the charts.

Derby events include Big Car Street Stock, Mini Car Gut N' Go, Crazy Carl's Wreckfest (MWFA), 2 Man Mini

Van Team (MWFA Style), and Youth Mini Car—with bigger payouts than ever!

This year's Hillbilly Bash comes with a major arena upgrade: a brand-new, improved ventilation system designed to keep the air cleaner, fresher, and more comfortable than ever before. The enhanced airflow technology quickly clears exhaust and smoke, helping maintain a safer, more enjoyable environment for fans and drivers alike.

Enjoy all the high-octane action with greater comfort—it's the same wild derby you love, now with a breath of fresh air.

Doors open at 3:30 p.m., and the show begins at 5 p.m. General admission is \$30; children 12 and under \$17. Pit passes are \$55. Prices do not include ticket fees. To purchase tickets, go to <https://www.mhnaarena.com/events/2025/hillbilly-bash-demolition-derby>

Marshall to Pilot Artificial Intelligence Software in Counseling Training

Marshall University's Department of Counseling, part of the College of Education and Professional Development, has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Soma Lab Inc. (DBA SimCare AI), a for-profit innovator in AI-driven clinical simulations and field experience management software. The collaboration includes design, a pilot program and the evaluation of a new field experience platform and simulation technology that enhances counselor and healthcare training.

Marshall will serve as a co-design partner in developing SimCare AI's platform and will receive early access to its simulation software beginning this spring. The initiative supports Marshall's commitment to innovative, ethical, and culturally competent counselor education, ensuring graduates are prepared to meet evolving clinical demands with both technical competence and ethical integrity.

The collaboration takes a careful approach, recognizing the need to thoughtfully and ethically use AI in training. Researchers are aware of wider concerns about AI and are looking to ensure the technology is carefully tested and used responsibly as a tool to supplement human connection in care.

"This technology solves a problem that did not have a solution before: how do we get high fidelity training repetitions for students prior to field experience? This partnership allows us to innovate the educational experience and respond to workforce demands while keeping our professional and ethical commitments at the center," said Dr. Eric T. Beeson, chair of the Counseling Department. "We are excited to explore how emerging technologies can support, not substitute, the deep relational work that defines counseling and healthcare."

"Marshall's students and faculty bring the kind of insight that makes a pilot truly meaningful," said Vrishank Saini, CEO of SimCare AI. "This pilot allows us to create training simulations that mirror real-world

counseling scenarios while tailoring the experience to the unique needs of counselor education. By co-designing the pilot together, we can make sure the technology reflects the realities of counselor training and always keeps the focus on human connection at the center of learning."

Under the MOU, Marshall will contribute faculty expertise, facilitate user feedback, participate in pilot testing and seek grant funding to support the broader rollout. SimCare AI will oversee technical development and provide comprehensive access and training. While the initial focus is on counseling, Beeson says the platform has potential applications across healthcare disciplines.

Articles Welcome

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

Putnam County Food Pantries And Clothing Banks

for more information.

Christian Community Cupboard

2843 Virginia Avenue Hurricane (304) 562-9373
Food pantry open from 10 a.m. to noon Tuesdays and Fridays

Calvary Baptist Church

3653 Teays Valley Road Hurricane (304) 757-8829
Call for food pantry hours.

Light House Baptist Church

2440 US Route 60 Hurricane 304-562-3900
Food pantry on the second Saturday of each month from 9-11 a.m. Church also offers free clothing giveaways on a regular basis.

Teays Valley Baptist Church

3926 Teays Valley Road Hurricane (304) 380-3100
Call for food pantry hours.

Heartbeat of the Valley

28 Mission Way Scott Depot (681) 235-2097 heartbeatofthevalley.com

Organization offers food pantry, community programs, and special events; call or go to webpage

The Way We Were, The Way We Are

By Brenda Burke

A Cinderella Story and West Virginia ...

Yes... there is a connection. The Indiana University football team has been labeled something similar to The C. Story... and there is a link to WV albeit a few years ago.

I have watched the IU games all year, not remembering... my daughter graduated from IU in 1994. Her husband really likes Notre Dame. Two other girls are Purdue graduates or almost (one of them). We all like IU.

During the games, I got out my IU mom sweatshirt from 1992 and my mug. I watched the games in my apartment,

Putnam Town And City Council Meetings

The Bancroft Town Council meets the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Bancroft Town Hall. Contact the Town Hall at 304-586-1227 for more information.

Eleanor Town Council meetings are held on the first and third Thursdays of each month in the Homestead Room of the Town Hall. Meetings began at 7:30 p.m. Contact the Town Hall (304-586-2319) the Friday before the next scheduled meeting if you would like to be put on the agenda.

The Hurricane City Council meets the first Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Members of the public who wish to address Council may sign in prior to the start of the meeting.

The Buffalo Town Council meets the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. For more information, call (304) 937-2041.

The Winfield City Council meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. For more information or to contact any council members, please call the Winfield City Hall at (304) 586-2122.

but I ran down to the community room at breaks. My friends there celebrated with me as we won another game on this journey.

During the final game, my daughter came to watch with me. We went downstairs a few times. The people here love her too. She spent the night with me, and we were up late chatting on the phone with friends and family. Exciting.

IU winning 16-0... Heisman winner... imagine... amazing... unbelievable. The last game was nerve wrecking. Fun fun fun... I live in IU territory. Unbelievable.

Friday night I realized the name of the IU coach. Of course, I am not into the names of the coaches or even the players. The IU coach is a graduate of WVU. His dad coached there. He (IU coach) played football there. I remember. I remember his name. I had to tell the others here about the connection to WV.

This Cinderella story had a happy ending. IU won. The underdog... it was a time of hope, along with a time of sharing with others. A long time ago, this story started in a college in a little state... WVU in WV. Imagine that. This coach took awhile to get to where he is. A long road... he ended up at a university that we are connected to. His story, along with his players and the whole state of Indiana, has finished for awhile.

We like to make connections because the way we were is the way we are... the quarterback brought the Heisman to IU... his family has supported him... ironically, he played this championship game in the city and state where he went to school... his grandparents are immigrants... what a Cinderella story for a young man, with his fellow teammates, his family, his roots, his coach, and his university. Good job. Congrats.

Buffalo Baptist Church

287 High Street <https://www.facebook.com/BufaloBaptistWV>
Food pantry on the third Friday of the month from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Five Loaves Three Fishes

Poca United Methodist Church Silver Street (304) 755-7341
Food pantry open from 9 a.m. to noon second and fourth Saturday

Heizer Creek

Community Church 6580 Heizer Creek Road, Poca
Food pantry on the third Saturday of each month, 10 a.m. - noon.

Food and More At The Bridge

The Bridge Church 279 Dairy Road Poca (304) 373-6068
Church offers hot meals, food pantry boxes, and a clothing closet from 5 to 8 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month

Bridge Family Resource Center

30 Mallory Lane North, St. Albans 304-727-6991
Resource Day is held on the third Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Clothing, furniture, household, and other items

Tracking Fern — Hype and The Storm



The rate of melting and freezing were equal for most of the storm at the Ranch.

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posting, Hurricane Mayor Scott Edwards posted Governor Morrissey's Proclamation of State of Emergency and a short sound clip from the Alternative/Indie band Once Monsters' 2021 hit "Storm Coming." The failure of Fern to meet projected arrival times prompted the Breeze to create a log, titled Reality Update, that paired prediction to ongoing observations at the Ranch (Breeze office).

3:27 pm 1-24-26: Reality Update

No snowflake sighting at the Ranch

Accuweather — Snow to begin falling in 7 minutes

National Weather Service website — No updated forecast (last 6-hour forecast period ended at 1:00 p.m.)

3:54 pm 1-24-26: Reality Update

No snowflake sighting at the Ranch

Accuweather — Snow to begin falling in 4 minutes

3:58 pm 1-24-26: Reality Update

No snowflake sighting at the Ranch

Accuweather — Snow to begin falling in 10 minutes

4:15 pm 1-24-26: Reality Update

No snowflake sighting at the Ranch

Accuweather — Snow to begin falling in 4 minutes

4:27 pm 1-24-26: Reality Update

No snowflake sighting at the Ranch

Accuweather — Snow falling and to continue for 60 minutes

5:22 pm 1-24-26: Reality Update

Snow falling at the Ranch

Accuweather — Snow falling and to continue for 60 minutes

6:37 pm 1-24-26: Reality Update

Dusting of snow at the Ranch

Accuweather — Snow falling and to continue for 60 minutes

10:32 pm 1-24-26: Reality Update

Dusting of snow at the Ranch

Accuweather — Snow to begin falling in 16 minutes

12:25 am 1-25-26: Reality Update

> 0.25 inch dusting of snow at the Ranch, none falling

Accuweather — Snow is falling and to continue to be heavy for at least 60 minutes.

5:18 am 1-25-26: Reality Update

1 inch accumulation of snow at the Ranch, wintry mix falling

Accuweather — Wintry mix is falling and to be heavy at times for at least 60 minutes.

8:26 am 1-25-26: Reality Update

1 inch accumulation of ice-crustrated snow at the Ranch, rain falling

Accuweather — Rain for at least 60 minutes.

10:30 am 1-25-26: AEP Customer Outages:

11 outages on Teays Valley Road near Hurricane City Park; Estimated restoration is 4:30 pm Jan 25, 2026.

45 outages on Harmons Branch Road near Winfield; Estimated restoration is 3:30 pm Jan 25, 2026.

26 outages in Windsong Acres Road area near Winfield; Estimated restoration is 3:00 pm Jan 25, 2026.

12:30 pm 1-25-26: AEP Customer Outages:

432 outages along entire length of Cow Creek Road and several miles of Hurricane Creek Road; Outage began 11:49 am Jan 25, 2026.

3:00 pm 1-25-26: Putnam County schools closed for Monday, January 26.

9:03 am 1-26-26: AEP Customer Outages:

Putnam - 590 (3rd highest in State); Kanawha - 14,630, Lincoln - 1,726.

9:26 am 1-26-26: Accuweather forecast:

Snow for at least 60 minutes. Current temperature — 15° (Reality at the Ranch — 10°) Predicted high of 21° at 2 p.m.

1:05 pm 1-26-26: AEP Customer Outages:

Putnam - 637 (3rd highest in State); Kanawha - 11,508, Lincoln - 1,465.

1:30 pm 1-26-26: Putnam County schools closed for Monday, January 27.

3:02 pm 1-26-26: Accuweather forecast:

Snow for at least 60 minutes. Current temperature — 18° (Reality at the Ranch — 16°) Predicted high of 21° (19° projected for 4 pm, to drop to 7° at midnight) [actual 4 pm temperature — 18°]

6:07 pm 1-26-26: AEP Customer Outages:

Putnam - 283 (3rd highest in State); Kanawha - 7,198, Lincoln - 984.

6:12 pm 1-26-26: InfoOne.us customers without power

Putnam - 241; Poca - 133, Red House - 58, Scott Depot - 38

12:02 am 1-27-26: Accuweather forecast:

Very cold with a low of 1° and high of 27° Current temperature — 3° (Reality at the Ranch — 3°)

2:01 am 1-27-26: infoOne.us customers without power

Putnam - 131; Poca - 110, Winfield - 7, Scott Depot - 8

6:06 am 1-27-26: Accuweather forecast:

Clouds and sun with a couple of flurries this afternoon; dangerously cold; bundle up; high of 29°

Tonight: Mostly cloudy and frigid with occasional snow and flurries with little or no accumulation. Low of 3°.

Current temperature — 5° (Reality at the Ranch — 0°)

9:03 am 1-27-26: AEP Customer Outages:

Putnam - 134; Kanawha - 4,626; Lincoln - 829; Boone - 204.



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

Jan. 29, 1903: The great rhododendron was designated the official state flower of West Virginia, after being recommended by the governor and voted on by public school students.

Jan. 29, 1928: Wood sculptor Wolfgang Flor was born in Silesia, Germany (now part of Poland). After immigrating to Upshur County, he became a renowned artist in the late 20th century. His masterpiece is the Twelve Apostles in Wesley Chapel at West Virginia Wesleyan College.

Jan. 30, 1818: Nicholas County was created by the Virginia legislature from parts of Greenbrier, Kanawha and Randolph counties. The county was named for Wilson Cary Nicholas, a Virginia governor and U.S. senator who lived from 1761 to 1820.

Jan. 31, 1922: Movie and television actress Joanne Dru was born Joan Letitia Lacock in Logan. Her movie career included more than 40 films. Her brother, singer and TV host Peter Marshall, was also a West Virginia native.

Jan. 31, 1945: Sergeant Jonah Edward Kelley of Mineral County was killed in action while leading his squad against German positions during World War II. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for his "superb courage."

Feb. 1, 1832: Education reformer Alexander Luark Wade was born. Wade reorganized rural Monongalia County schools to require progress through eight prescribed levels with a graduating exercise and receipt of a diploma. Wade's system worked so well it was copied in other counties and states.

Feb. 1, 1901: Frank

Putnam Puzzle Competition



Over 100 people came out last Thursday to work puzzles at the Putnam Puzzler Competition.

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The competition is a way to get people out of the house and beat winter according to Rita Meadows of Putnam County Parks. "January through March

have the highest turnouts," she said.

In addition to the competition, there is a puzzle swap at each event. Participants bring puzzles to share with others, and perhaps take home a puzzle

of their own.

The next Putnam Puzzler Competition will be held on February 26. For more information, go to the Valley Park Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/putnamcountyparks>

THIS WEEK IN THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES

For the week ending Jan. 23, 2026

The West Virginia House of Delegates finished its first full week of the 60-day regular legislative session with seven House Bills having passed the full Chamber and been sent to the West Virginia Senate for deliberation.

"Nearly all our Delegates told us they

wanted to double down on putting West Virginians to work because the best way we can fix so many other problems in our state is to help put as many West Virginians as possible to work in good-paying jobs," said House Speaker Roger Hanshaw, R-Clay. "These legislators have been consistent, focused and they have been hard at work having the necessary conversations to move these bills forward."

Many members of the House took time Wednesday during Trades Day at the Legislature to celebrate the success of the Skilled Trades Apprenticeship Nontraditional Degree (STAND) Program. The program allows those who complete their apprenticeships to apply their on-the-job and classroom training toward college credit. It was created during the 2024 legislative session and funded during the 2025 session. The West Virginia Building and Construction Trades received the national Construction User's Roundtable Workforce Development Award for the program back in November and shared it with the House of

Virginia legislature passed a resolution adopting "The West Virginia Hills" as an official state song. Prior to the adoption of "Take Me Home, Country Roads," "The West Virginia Hills" was the best-known of our four official state songs.

Feb. 4, 1845: Doddridge County was formed from parts of Harrison, Lewis, Ritchie, and Tyler counties. It was named for Philip Doddridge, a Western Virginia congressman, state legislator and member of the Virginia Constitutional Convention of 1829–30.

Feb. 3, 1961: The West

Delegates this week.

"What we're seeing right now is a lot of young people are going straight into college," said Delegate Evan Worrell, R-Cabell, a sponsor of the STAND Program. "They're amassing a large amount of debt and then coming out still trying to find a job with whatever their degree program is."

"We have a slate of bills this year that sends a clear message of what we're here for, and that's to support workers, support fair competition, support local jobs and also making sure that we ensure accountability when taxpayer dollars are on the line."

The full house passed House Bill 4007, related to industrial access roads, Jan. 23, with only a few dissenting votes. The bill would update the 25-year-old program to account for inflation, doubling the amount of money a county or municipality could request within one year for industrial access road construction to help projects get completed faster.

House Bill 4008 also passed the full House Jan. 23. It is another measure aimed at flexibility for communities to cultivate right-sized and responsible economic growth in every corner of the state. The measure would expand the current grants to include 5-acre sites for grants of as much as \$75,000 in assistance, 20-acre sites for as much as \$100,000 and sites of more than 20 acres may be eligible for as much as \$250,000.

The last day to introduce bills is Feb. 17, and 798 bills have been introduced in the House. The 60-day, regular legislative session ends at midnight March 14.



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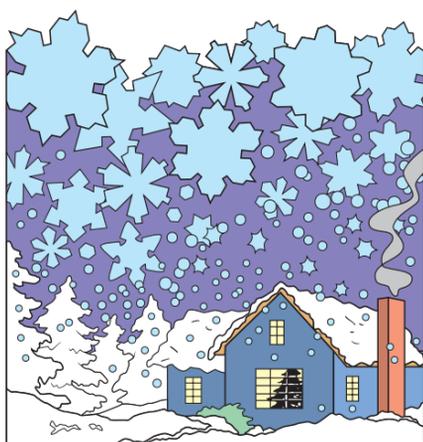
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 3109 Teays Valley Road, Hurricane
 Located inside Fruth Pharmacy

Fillers Page

Edited by Betsy Allen



Be A Friend

By Edgar A. Guest

Submitted by Myra Simmons

Be a friend... You don't need money,
Just a disposition sunny;
Just the wish to help another
Get along some way or other;

Just a kindly hand extended
Out to one who's unbefriended;
Just the will to give or lend,
This will make you someone's friend.

Be a friend. You don't need glory.
Friendship is a simple story.
Pass by trifling errors blindly,
Gaze on honest effort kindly.

Cheer the youth who's bravely trying.
Pity him who's sadly sighing;
Just a little labor spend
On the duties of a friend.

Be a friend. The pay is bigger.
Though not written by a figure
Than is earned by people clever
In what's merely self-endeavor.

You'll have friends instead of neighbors
For the profits of your labors:
You'll be richer in the end
Than a prince, if you're a friend.

Fillers Contributors Wanted

The Hurricane Breeze always needs Fillers Page contributors. We would like to print your recipes, inspirational sayings, poems, clean jokes, fun facts, and other submissions.

Please send contributions to The Hurricane Breeze Fillers Page, PO Box 310, Hurricane, WV 25526.

You can also email submissions to breezenews@citynet.net

Serve Up A One-Pot Time-Saver

(Family Features) If you feel like you're constantly scrambling in the evenings to help with homework, prep dinner and get ready for the next day, turn to a warm, cozy meal that's ready in a snap. This Skillet Lasagna is a one-pot solution that makes cleanup a breeze so you can skip the craziness of home cooking. Visit Culinary.net to find more family-favorite recipes for those hectic evenings at home.

Skillet Lasagna



Recipe courtesy of "Cookin' Savvy"
Servings: 4-6

1 pound ground beef
1 tablespoon onion powder
1 tablespoon garlic powder
salt, to taste
pepper, to taste
44 ounces marinara sauce
1/2 cup heavy whipping cream
1/2 cup ricotta
1 1/2 cups frozen spinach
9 lasagna noodles
1 cup mozzarella cheese
bread, for serving
Parmesan cheese, for topping (optional)

In large skillet or Dutch oven, brown ground beef with onion powder, garlic powder and salt and pepper, to taste. Drain excess grease. Mix in marinara sauce, heavy whipping cream, ricotta and spinach.

Break up lasagna noodles and add to skillet. Cover and let set over medium heat 10 minutes. Stir and top with mozzarella cheese. Cover and let set 10 minutes.

Serve with bread and top with Parmesan cheese, if desired.

Fillers from Linda

Submitted by Linda~Lavender Armstead
Washington Hill Road, Hurricane

To some marriage is a word, to others it's a sentence.

The problem with political jokes is that they sometimes get elected.

I've got friends in high places! The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The supreme happiness of life is the conviction that we are loved. - Victor Hugo

Love is a fruit in season at all times, and within reach of every hand. - Mother Teresa

Judge a man by his questions rather than by his answers.

May your day be filled with love and unexpected blessings.

Taking time to do nothing often brings everything into perspective.

Sometimes, you did your best, and all you ended up with was a big mess.

You deserve to be seen, heard, valued, loved, and understood.

Most people don't want you to do better than them - just not worse.

The person you marry will decide 90% of your happiness or misery.

The worst form of inequality is to try to make unequal things equal.

Success feels empty if you have no one real to share it with.

Whenever I try to eat healthy, a chocolate bar looks at me and Snickers.

Be true to your work, your word, and your friend. - Henry David Thoreau

Love cures people - both the ones who give it and the ones who receive it.

The cow stumbled into the pot field. The steaks have never been higher.

Spend your money on comfort and connection, not on things you'll leave behind.

True humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is thinking of yourself less.

You lose a part of yourself when you lose somebody you love.

No matter your age, you'll always wish you started younger. But today is the youngest you'll ever be.

Somewhere in Heaven my kind and loving parents are shining down on me. I miss you, Dad and Mom!

The older I get, the more I talk to myself. It doesn't mean I'm crazy. But I/we have some awesome conversations.

Doggies wake up each morning excited to see the same people, eat the same food, and walk the same route, and somehow they are happier than all of us.

Thankful people are the happiest people alive.



We need much less than we think we need. - Maya Angelo

Don't hide your enthusiasm - pure joy is refreshing to the soul.

We are like snowflakes, all beautiful in our own way.

Each one prays to God according to his own light.

I named my doggy Rolex - he's my watchdoggy.

If hugs were snowflakes, I'd send you a blizzard.

Man's silence is wonderful to listen to.

Every sunrise is another chance to shine.

In a world full of colors, I choose purple!

I just can't handle automatic doors.

Gratitude is a simple but powerful thing.

Bitter pills may have blessed effects.

No one has become poor by giving.

A stumble may prevent a fall.

Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can become great. - Mark Twain

It hits different when someone says, "I saw something purple and immediately thought of you!"

I'm not afraid of heights. I'm afraid of falling. I'm not scared of the dark; I'm scared of what's in it.

Laughter is a tremendously helpful method to shake off all dust that everybody gathers without his knowing.

The lines on your face aren't signs of decline. They are proof that you've smiled, cried, loved, healed, tried, and kept going even when life got heavy.

A vote is like a rifle; its usefulness depends upon the character of the user. - Theodore Roosevelt

Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless. - Mother Teresa

Truckers are the real supply chain.

Parents aren't here forever; give them love and time.

Each day you wake up is a blessing to someone.

Why are they called dentures and not substitooths?

The best thing you can give someone right now

is love.

No matter how hopeless it seems, hope is never absent.

Hummingbirds are nature's little miracles, bringing joy on tiny wings.

All doggies deserve humans, but not all humans deserve doggies.

Some endings are gentle, just like the quiet of a night.

Let your hope of heaven master your fear of death.

Anyone who hurts an innocent animal belongs in prison.

Healing doesn't change the past, it changes the future.

If time heals all wounds, why do doctors exist?

The best investment is in relationships that matter.

Aim higher in case you fall short.

There's a stranger out there who still thinks of you because you were kind to them when they really needed it.

Teachers carry the responsibility of shaping minds while also building the confidence that helps students grow.

People may leave, but a doggy's love is constant. That's friendship you can count on, fur real.

Tell your stories while you still can, because wisdom dies in silence.

From error to error one discovers the entire truth. - Sigmund Freud

We take care of the future best by taking care of the present now.

It is better to be faithful than famous. - Theodore Roosevelt

Aging is not a burden. It's a gift that not everyone gets.

If you stand with Jesus Christ, you never stand alone.

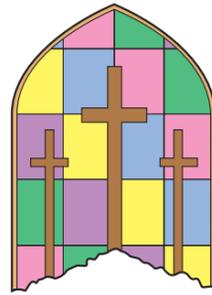
No darkness in your life is too deep for God's light.

Success comes before work only in the dictionary.

Some people collect memories. I collect purple.

One thing about being young is you'll grow out of it.

Bible Verse



But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.
— John 14:26

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

**ORDER OF PUBLICATION
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
PUTNAM COUNTY,
WEST VIRGINIA**

**PUTNAM COUNTY DILAPIDATED
& ABANDONED ENFORCEMENT
AGENCY, a subsidiary of PUTNAM
COUNTY COMMISSION**
Plaintiff,

v. **Civil Action No.:
CC-40-2024-C-85**
JACOB GILLISPIE,
Defendants.

Pending before this Court, in the above-styled action is a Motion to Enforce Judgment Lien filed by Plaintiff. The purpose of said Motion is to enforce a judgment lien by obtaining an order to sell real property owned by Defendant. A hearing on this Motion to Enforce Judgment Lien is to be held on **Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.**, at the Putnam County Judicial Building, 12093 Winfield Road, Winfield, WV 25213. It appearing by affidavit filed in this action that Plaintiff is without knowledge as to the existence or whereabouts of the Defendant, it is hereby **ORDERED** that the Defendant serve upon Eric S. Embree, plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 3564 Teay Valley Road, Hurricane, West Virginia 25526, a response to said Motion prior to the hearing date of March 18, 2026. Failure to respond or appear at the hearing may result in the Court granting the relief requested without further notice. A copy of said Motion may be obtained from the undersigned Clerk at her office at the Putnam County courthouse.

Entered by the Clerk of said Court on this 15th day of January, 2026.

STEPHANIE SMITH/sg
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF PUTNAM COUNTY

1-29-2t

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.: 6347
Estate Of: Opal Louise Casto
Administrator: Dale C. Richardson
259 Mimosa Drive
Evans, WV 25241

Estate No.: 6297
Estate Of: Elsie Davie
Executor: Scott D. Davie
333 Thompson Rd.
Culloden, WV 25510

Estate No.: 6233
Estate Of: Ernestine S. Morrison
Executor: Gregory Alan Morrison
1205 Stanridge Drive
Raleigh, NC 77613

Estate No.: 6318
Estate Of: Betty Jane Parsley
Executrix: Teresa Matney
103 Lake Drive
Hurricane, WV 25526

Estate No.: 6321
Estate Of: Michael Avery Sawyer
Administratrix: Mackenzie Sawyer
101 White Oak Lane
Hurricane, WV 25526

Estate No.: 6319
Estate Of: Linda Lou Snodgrass
Co-Executrix: Holly L. Clagg
2 Market Street
Hurricane, WV 25526
Co-Executrix: Andrea Y. Wagner
7 Blossom Way
Hurricane, WV 25526

Estate No.: 6357
Estate Of: Shirley Glen
Snodgrass
Co-Executrix: Holly L. Clagg
2 Market Street
Hurricane, WV 25526
Co-Executrix: Andrea Y. Wagner
7 Blossom Way
Hurricane, WV 25526

Estate No.: 6281
Estate Of: Sylvia Louise Sowards
Executrix: Melissa Lynn Hardy
4601 Tealwood Trail
Wesley Chapel, FL
33544

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 January 22, 2026, 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 January 22, 2026.

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 16th day of January 2026.

Fiduciary Supervisor
Putnam County Commission
10293 Winfield Road,
Winfield, WV 25213

1-22-2t

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

Notice of Public Hearing

The Putnam County Planning Commission will meet on Thursday, February 26, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 221 of the Putnam County Courthouse, 12093 Winfield Road, Winfield, WV 25213 to conduct business and hold the following public hearing.

PCPC REZ 2026-01 Tammy Curry Smith has submitted a Zoning Amendment Application for a Rezoning for 126.05 +/- acres (Tax Map 172, Parcel 5+) in Fraziers Bottom, WV 25082. The request is to rezone part of the parcel from "R-2" Mixed Residential District to "C-2" High Density Commercial District and the majority of the parcel from "R-R" Rural Residential District to "C-2" High Density Commercial District.

All interested parties are invited to attend this meeting and will be granted an opportunity to speak.

1-29-1t

Wintertime Posed Many Special Problems

Continued from Page 1

bills and utilities and food; and the shameful waste of natural resources and the waste in our governments, then it is pretty hard to manufacture a silver lining and dismiss the depression idea as merely gloom and doom thinking.

I started out to write about the depression of the 1930's; and here I am trying to conjure up another one. That is not actually the case. When I started some time ago to write about my experience during

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

**STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
At Charleston
A PROCLAMATION
By the Governor**

WHEREAS, the passing of Justice Tim Armstead, has caused a vacancy in the office of Justice of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia; and

WHEREAS, article VIII, section 7 of the Constitution of West Virginia provides that if from any cause a vacancy shall occur in the office of a justice of the Supreme Court of Appeals, the Governor shall issue a directive of election to fill such vacancy in the manner prescribed by law for electing a justice of the court in which the vacancy exists, and the justice shall be elected for the unexpired term; and

WHEREAS, section 3, article 10, section 3 of the West Virginia Code provides that where an unexpired term of office for a justice of the Supreme Court of Appeals is for a period longer than two years, the vacancy shall be filled by a successor who has timely filed a certificate of candidacy, and has been elected in a non-partisan election and qualified to fill the unexpired term; and

WHEREAS, at the time of Justice Tim Armstead's retirement, more than two years remained unexpired in the term of office for the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PATRICK MORRISEY, Governor of the State of West Virginia, under the authority vested in my by the Constitution of West Virginia and the laws of this State, do hereby proclaim and declare that the unexpired term of office for Justice of the Supreme Comt of Appeals of West Virginia shall be filled by the voters of West Virginia at the primary election to be held on May 12, 2026.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

DONE at the Capitol in the City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this Ninth Day of January, in the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Six, and in the One Hundred Sixty-Third Year of the State.

**SEAL
By the Governor**

**Patrick Morrisey
GOVERNOR**

**Kris Warner
SECRETARY OF STATE**

**STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
At Charleston
A PROCLAMATION
By the Governor**

WHEREAS, the retirement of Justice Elizabeth D. Walker, has caused a vacancy in the office of Justice of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia; and

WHEREAS, article VIII, section 7 of the Constitution of West Virginia provides that if from any cause a vacancy shall occur in the office of a justice of the Supreme Court of Appeals, the Governor shall issue a directive of election to fill such vacancy in the manner prescribed by law for electing a justice of the court in which the vacancy exists, and the justice shall be elected for the unexpired term; and

WHEREAS, section 3, article 10, section 3 of the West Virginia Code provides that where an unexpired term of office for a justice of the Supreme Court of Appeals is for a period longer than two years, the vacancy shall be filled by a successor who has timely filed a certificate of candidacy, and has been elected in a non-partisan election and qualified to fill the unexpired term; and

WHEREAS, at the time of Justice Elizabeth D. Walker's retirement, more than two years remained unexpired in the term of office for the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PATRICK MORRISEY, Governor of the State of West Virginia, under the authority vested in my by the Constitution of West Virginia and the laws of this State, do hereby proclaim and declare that the unexpired term of office for Justice of the Supreme Comt of Appeals of West Virginia shall be filled by the voters of West Virginia at the primary election to be held on May 12, 2026.

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**SEAL
By the Governor**

**Patrick Morrisey
GOVERNOR**

**Kris Warner
SECRETARY OF STATE**

1-29-1t

that other depression, I was doing it merely to share my thoughts with a lot of people who went through those years and to tell the younger folks how it was. Now, however, I believe that people had better get into the mood of "making-do with nothing," because I honestly believe that everyone will have to revise his lifestyle greatly in order to survive in case we do have another depression.

Survival without, or almost without, money was difficult; but survive we did by making the most of everything we had, wasting nothing, helping each other, and trusting that god had a better day planned for all of us. You know, I don't remember seeing very much written about, or advertised about, dieting back in those days. Come to think about it, I can't remember seeing very many fat people. Most people had a lean and hungry look. A lot of people had to take commodities from government agencies. Some people got plenty of butter and cheese. They also gave out flour and beans and other staples. Many fathers had to work on public works programs part-time, some receiving less than twenty dollars per month. I believe the most paid was around thirty-seven dollars per month for fathers of large families. I may be wrong about the amounts of wages; but I am not far off.

Summertime was pretty easy during the Great Depression, especially for youngsters. We got to go swimming in nearby clean streams unpolluted by public sewage. We got to go on a lot of picnics. We played dolls and ball, skated and bicycled, hike and camped, and went fishing. Most people who lived in the country and in small towns like Hurricane had big gardens and chickens. A lot of families, including ours, had cows. In the summertime, we

pastured our cows in either Bernie Henderson's or Harbour's pastures for about a dollar or dollar and a half per month. We would go to the pasture field to do the milking. Most kids knew how to milk; and the milking was usually also an opportunity to play some catch ball. We had plenty of fresh green vegetables and eggs and milk and butter during the summer from lettuce and green onion time clear into the fall and early winter with the turnips and kale and turnip and mustard greens. Our diet would be a pediatrician's dream. We had all the basic seven needed nutrients, plus generous helpings of homemade ice cream and home-canned fruits and juices.

Yes, summers were nice and pleasant and comfortable and lots of fun. And although I really loved cold weather and howling winds and mountains of snow, I will have to admit that, if we suffered any deprivation, it was in winter.

It was in winter that we had to walk a long distance to school. It was in winter that I had to wear those awful long tan stockings and those inch-wide elastic garters. It was also in winter that I had to wear the long underwear with the flap until I was a great big girl. Seems to me in recalling those winters that the snow was deeper, the rain was colder, and the wind more cruel than it had ever been since.

Perhaps it was because I never had any galoshes. I can still almost feel that snow sliding into the heels of my shoes, wetting my tan stockings and sometimes my long underwear legs in the process. Of course, it didn't stay in my shoes very long, because most of the time the soles had holes and the snow would melt and run out.

I hated going to bed at night since the bed was cold as ice because we turned out the fires at night. After we had been under the covers a while, it was very comfortable, though, because we had very warm covers. My mother, my grandmother and I would, every winter, gather up any old woolen clothing we had (which was very well-worn, I tell you); and we would cut and sew together squares of the material by hand and buy dark striped outing material and tack the comforters with big balls of red or green or blue twine.

While summertime milking was fun, wintertime milking was just about the most disagreeable, irritating, tiresome, unwelcome chore which I had to bear.

When I was about eleven years old, I made the mistake of learning how to milk a cow, becoming very proficient in the job. I learned to milk in the summer, never dreaming what awaited me come winter and the snow and the wind and the cold, cold rain. We had two cows, which we kept in a small barn on one of our back lots in wintertime.

The barn had a loft which held hay for the cows and also ears of corn when we had them. There was a narrow fenced-in lot behind the barn which ran clear back to Virginia Avenue. We raised a lot of corn in our gardens and in the wintertime we would harvest quite a bit of fodder complete with nubbins which we would feed the cows until the supply ran out. I had to milk those cows all the time, because by that time my brother Norman was learning the printing business at the BREEZE office. Well, as I said, we had two cows; and I tell you, one would

have been a-plenty. We could well use the milk because we also sold milk to some of our cow-less neighbors for a dime a quart usually in an eight-pound lard bucket which our customers would bring. We would always give them almost a half-gallon - good measure, you know.

Well, I must get back to those cows. The reason I said one was enough was because the barn was so small that I really had trouble at milking time. Their names were Old Red, a milking Shorthorn, and Spot, a really good Holstein. Spot was a perfect lady who would stand still while she was being robbed of her milk; but that Old Red was a demon on hooves.

Usually I would milk Old Red first, then I would tie her up in the farthest corner of the barn, where she would kick and lunge and bawl as if she were being killed, all of this in trying to come over to where I was milking Spot, so she could rob Spot of her food. I never had to tie up Spot because she would stand quietly content, chewing her cud until it was her time to get milked. Another thing about Old Red was that she dearly loved to switch me in the face with her tail, which was so long it dragged on the barn floor and was not always too clean. She liked to dip her trail in the milk bucket, too, when the bucket had some nice warm milk in it. that is when she would sock me in the face with that dirty-well tail.

What she loved to do best was either to kick the bucket when it was full of milk, splashing it all over me, or to put her foot in the bucket, making it impossible for me to remove her foot. If I touched her leg in trying to remove it from the bucket, she would kick the living daylights out of my shin. The only redeeming features of milking in the wintertime were that I got to take the lantern to the barn at night; and I got to put on a pair of men's four-buckle arctics, which I just loved to wear because it was the only time in winter that my feet were warm. And I dearly loved to carry a lantern because I could warm my hands over it after I had been shucking and breaking nubbins; and besides, I just felt very needed and important in doing such a necessary task as bringing in a good supply of milk.

Another hardship we had to face every winter was frozen water pipes. We did have a bathroom; but unfortunately, we didn't have a very well-insulated house; and the pipes always froze every winter. Frozen pipes in themselves were not the worst of it. When the pipes froze we didn't have any water and thus had to go to the little PWA comfort station sitting proudly near the alley

at the back of the lot. In warm weather, it wasn't so bad because you could sit on the throne and look at the stars and the lightning bugs and hear the drone of the jar-flies. You could even imagine what it would be like to be a movie star or to have a boyfriend who was a movie star who played roles as a sheik, or a Royal Canadian Mountie who sang while running down the villain, or maybe a cowboy who rode a horse, played a guitar and sang. You could even try to figure out how Dick Tracy could possibly escape from the crooks who were trying to kill him in the serial movie which was playing and playing and playing at the picture show.

In the winter, when we had to obey the calls of nature when the pipes were frozen, it had to be a matter of utmost urgency before we could travel that path to the little privy out back. Oh, mercy, it was cold! It wasn't the sitting down that I feared. It was the getting up, because by that time you could be frozen nearly nub. Neither did I appreciate the Sears Roebuck catalogs. We did not feel we could afford the luxury of bathroom tissue both inside and outside the house.

Another hardship we had was in getting the butter churned in cold weather. It would take forever to get butter; and we would sit, not too patiently, up and down, up and down, with the wooden dasher, pouring in a little hot water here and a few grains of soda there until we finally got butter. When we achieved our purpose, the butter was usually sort of white in winter because the cows didn't have any green grass and had to subsist on hay and fodder and nubbins and mill feed. I never liked white butter. Sometimes in winter when the hens weren't laying, we would have poor man's gravy, side meat, biscuits, white butter and sorghum molasses. Now, that was a breakfast I could do without; but we realized that we were blessed in having that. Some folks weren't so lucky.

Well, if we do have another Great Depression, a lot of people will have to learn to exist on a lot less, because survival will become more important than the second or third car, or the wall-to-wall carpet, or the bathroom with the gold fixtures. We will have to learn once again to 'make-do with nothing', perhaps even have to learn to eat sorghum molasses. If we have to choose between a depression or a war, let's all pray for a good, big depression.

One thing for sure: if we do have either a depression or a war, crowds will fill the churches to overflowing; and we'll hear more praying than we have heard since the Great Depression or World War II.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
PUTNAM COUNTY,
WEST VIRGINIA**

In Re: Change of Name from
Dustin Wayne Tilley Jr
to Cooper Wray Coleman

**LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
CHANGE OF NAME PROCEEDING**
Civil Action No. 25-P-152
**Circuit Court of Putnam County,
West Virginia**

Notice is hereby given that on the 5th day of February, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. on said day, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, before the Honorable Judge Phillip Stowers, Brooke Pinkerton-Coleman will apply by Petition to the Circuit Court of Putnam County, West Virginia for the entry of an order by said Court, changing her child's name from Dustin Wayne Tilley Jr to Cooper Wray Coleman, at which time and place any interested party may appear and be heard, if they so desire.

You are hereby notified that this matter may be rescheduled without further notice or publication.

A copy of said Petition can be obtained from the undersigned Clerk at her office at 12093 Winfield Road, Ste. 12, Winfield, WV 25213.

Entered by the Clerk of said Court this 29th day of December, 2025.

Stephanie M. Smith
Putnam County Circuit Clerk

1-22-2t

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
PUTNAM COUNTY,
WEST VIRGINIA**

In Re: Change of Name from
Chase Logan Venes
to Chase Logan Smith

**LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
CHANGE OF NAME PROCEEDING**
Civil Action No. 26-P-12
**Circuit Court of Putnam County,
West Virginia**

Notice is hereby given that on the 27th day of February, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. on said day, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, before the Honorable Judge Phillip Stowers, Chase Logan Venes will apply by Petition to the Circuit Court of Putnam County, West Virginia for the entry of an order by said Court, changing his name from Chase Logan Venes to Chase Logan Smith, at which time and place any interested party may appear and be heard, if they so desire.

You are hereby notified that this matter may be rescheduled without further notice or publication.

A copy of said Petition can be obtained from the undersigned Clerk at her office at 12093 Winfield Road, Ste. 12, Winfield, WV 25213.

Entered by the Clerk of said Court this 23rd day of January, 2026.

Stephanie M. Smith
Putnam County Circuit Clerk

1-29-2t

pastured our cows in either Bernie Henderson's or Harbour's pastures for about a dollar or dollar and a half per month. We would go to the pasture field to do the milking. Most kids knew how to milk; and the milking was usually also an opportunity to play some catch ball. We had plenty of fresh green vegetables and eggs and milk and butter during the summer from lettuce and green onion time clear into the fall and early winter with the turnips and kale and turnip and mustard greens. Our diet would be a pediatrician's dream. We had all the basic seven needed nutrients, plus generous helpings of homemade ice cream and home-canned fruits and juices.

Yes, summers were nice and pleasant and comfortable and lots of fun. And although I really loved cold weather and howling winds and mountains of snow, I will have to admit that, if we suffered any deprivation, it was in winter.

It was in winter that we had to walk a long distance to school. It was in winter that I had to wear those awful long tan stockings and those inch-wide elastic garters. It was also in winter that I had to wear the long underwear with the flap until I was a great big girl. Seems to me in recalling those winters that the snow was deeper, the rain was colder, and the wind more cruel than it had ever been since. Perhaps it was because I never had any galoshes. I can still almost feel that snow sliding into the heels of my shoes, wetting my tan stockings and sometimes my long underwear legs in the process. Of course, it didn't stay in my shoes very long, because most of the time the soles had holes and the snow would melt and run out.

I hated going to bed at night since the bed was cold as ice because we turned out the fires at night. After we had been under the covers a while, it was very comfortable, though, because we had very warm covers. My mother, my grandmother and I would, every winter, gather up any old woolen clothing we had (which was very well-worn, I tell you); and we would cut and sew together squares of the material by hand and buy dark striped outing material and tack the comforters with big balls of red or green or blue twine.

While summertime milking was fun, wintertime milking was just about the most disagreeable, irritating, tiresome, unwelcome chore which I had to bear.

When I was about eleven years old, I made the mistake of learning how to milk a cow, becoming very proficient in the job. I learned to milk in the summer, never dreaming what awaited me come winter and the snow and the wind and the cold, cold rain. We had two cows, which we kept in a small barn on one of our back lots in wintertime.

The barn had a loft which held hay for the cows and also ears of corn when we had them. There was a narrow fenced-in lot behind the barn which ran clear back to Virginia Avenue. We raised a lot of corn in our gardens and in the wintertime we would harvest quite a bit of fodder complete with nubbins which we would feed the cows until the supply ran out. I had to milk those cows all the time, because by that time my brother Norman was learning the printing business at the BREEZE office. Well, as I said, we had two cows; and I tell you, one would

have been a-plenty. We could well use the milk because we also sold milk to some of our cow-less neighbors for a dime a quart usually in an eight-pound lard bucket which our customers would bring. We would always give them almost a half-gallon - good measure, you know.

Well, I must get back to those cows. The reason I said one was enough was because the barn was so small that I really had trouble at milking time. Their names were Old Red, a milking Shorthorn, and Spot, a really good Holstein. Spot was a perfect lady who would stand still while she was being robbed of her milk; but that Old Red was a demon on hooves.

Usually I would milk Old Red first, then I would tie her up in the farthest corner of the barn, where she would kick and lunge and bawl as if she were being killed, all of this in trying to come over to where I was milking Spot, so she could rob Spot of her food. I never had to tie up Spot because she would stand quietly content, chewing her cud until it was her time to get milked. Another thing about Old Red was that she dearly loved to switch me in the face with her tail, which was so long it dragged on the barn floor and was not always too clean. She liked to dip her trail in the milk bucket, too, when the bucket had some nice warm milk in it. that is when she would sock me in the face with that dirty-well tail.

What she loved to do best was either to kick the bucket when it was full of milk, splashing it all over me, or to put her foot in the bucket, making it impossible for me to remove her foot. If I touched her leg in trying to remove it from the bucket, she would kick the living daylights out of my shin. The only redeeming features of milking in the wintertime were that I got to take the lantern to the barn at night; and I got to put on a pair of men's four-buckle arctics, which I just loved to wear because it was the only time in winter that my feet were warm. And I dearly loved to carry a lantern because I could warm my hands over it after I had been shucking and breaking nubbins; and besides, I just felt very needed and important in doing such a necessary task as bringing in a good supply of milk.

Another hardship we had to face every winter was frozen water pipes. We did have a bathroom; but unfortunately, we didn't have a very well-insulated house; and the pipes always froze every winter. Frozen pipes in themselves were not the worst of it. When the pipes froze we didn't have any water and thus had to go to the little PWA comfort station sitting proudly near the alley

at the back of the lot. In warm weather, it wasn't so bad because you could sit on the throne and look at the stars and the lightning bugs and hear the drone of the jar-flies. You could even imagine what it would be like to be a movie star or to have a boyfriend who was a movie star who played roles as a sheik, or a Royal Canadian Mountie who sang while running down the villain, or maybe a cowboy who rode a horse, played a guitar and sang. You could even try to figure out how Dick Tracy could possibly escape from the crooks who were trying to kill him in the serial movie which was playing and playing and playing at the picture show.

In the winter, when we had to obey the calls of nature when the pipes were frozen, it had to be a matter of utmost urgency before we could travel that path to the little privy out back. Oh, mercy, it was cold! It wasn't the sitting down that I feared. It was the getting up, because by that time you could be frozen nearly nub. Neither did I appreciate the Sears Roebuck catalogs. We did not feel we could afford the luxury of bathroom tissue both inside and outside the house.

Another hardship we had was in getting the butter churned in cold weather. It would take forever to get butter; and we would sit, not too patiently, up and down, up and down, with the wooden dasher, pouring in a little hot water here and a few grains of soda there until we finally got butter. When we achieved our purpose, the butter was usually sort of white in winter because the cows didn't have any green grass and had to subsist on hay and fodder and nubbins and mill feed. I never liked white butter. Sometimes in winter when the hens weren't laying, we would have poor man's gravy, side meat, biscuits, white butter and sorghum molasses. Now, that was a breakfast I could do without; but we realized that we were blessed in having that. Some folks weren't so lucky.

Well, if we do have another Great Depression, a lot of people will have to learn to exist on a lot less, because survival will become more important than the second or third car, or the wall-to-wall carpet, or the bathroom with the gold fixtures. We will have to learn once again to 'make-do with nothing', perhaps even have to learn to eat sorghum molasses. If we have to choose between a depression or a war, let's all pray for a good, big depression.

One thing for sure: if we do have either a depression or a war, crowds will fill the churches to overflowing; and we'll hear more praying than we have heard since the Great Depression or World War II.

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Acts 5:17-42	Acts 6:1-15	Acts 7:1-22	Acts 7:23-43	Acts 7:44-8:3	Acts 8:4-25	Leviticus 19:1-18
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BASIC BIBLE

By Ron Allen
304-562-9881

Solomon's Dedication Prayer

I Kings 8:22-30

"And Solomon stood before the altar" (v. 22). The altar which Solomon stood before was the altar upon which burnt offerings were offered up to the Lord. The altar was constructed of stones not hewn by man. The smoke rising from the altar serves as a picture of prayer ascending to the Lord in heaven. At the altar and in the presence of "all the congregation of Israel," Solomon extended his hands toward heaven and prayed.

The words that issued forth from Solomon's lips were "Lord God of Israel" (v. 23). The Lord God of Israel is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Solomon addresses the Lord God. Solomon's words, however, are for the ears of all the congregation of Israel — all who are joined to the Lord through the covenant of the law. The Lord God wants His people to know there is no God like the Lord their God. The Lord God wants His people to know that He keeps the covenant (His promises) and that He extends mercy to His servants — to them who walk before Him with all their heart.

In verse 24, Solomon's words reveal that he knows God as the Lord God who has kept His promises to "thy servant David" (Solomon's father). Again, the Lord God wants all the congregation of Israel to know the Lord God is faithful to keep His every promise. The promise to David which was fulfilled "this day" is found in II Samuel 7:13. The Lord promised David that his seed would build a house for "my name." Every word which is recorded between verse 23 and verse 61 is the prayer of dedication of the house for the Lord which Solomon finished building in the eleventh year of his reign (I Kings 6:38).

In II Samuel 7:12, the Lord told Nathan that He (the Lord) would establish the kingdom of David's seed after David's death. The promised seed would build a house for the Lord's name. Solomon became king of Israel before David died (see I Kings 1:43). Solomon built a house for the Lord. Solomon, however, could not be the promised seed of David whose kingdom would be established after David's death unless the Lord would establish his kingdom forever. Solomon's kingdom was divided immediately after his death and ceased to exist in any form after Babylon conquered the kingdom of Judah.

Solomon, in his prayer, reveals that he knew that his kingdom would not endure forever unless "thy children take heed to their way, that they walk before me as thou hast walked before me" (v. 25). David is the "thy" and "thou" of verse 25 to whom God spoke. David was not without sin. David walked in faith, believing the Lord God. For Solomon (whom David made king before he died) to be the promised builder of God's house, Solomon and all who would reign after him would need to walk as David walked.

New Testament believers take note. We are children of the King, the promised Son of David, who is the foundation and cornerstone of God's house (the kingdom of heaven) and whose kingdom is forever. We walk, as David walked, believing and standing upon God's every promise. In verse 26, Solomon asks God to verify all that which He promised David. Again, New Testament believers take note. We are testimony of the verification for which Solomon prayed. Again, we are children of the King whose kingdom is forever. History attests to the fact that the lineage of David through Solomon failed to walk as David walked and Solomon's kingdom ended with the rise of Babylon some five hundred years later.

After confessing that the house which he had built to be totally inadequate to serve as God's dwelling place (v. 27), Solomon prays that the Lord God be attentive to the prayers of His people who would lift up petitions to Him from this house and this place.

"Yet have thou respect unto the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication" (v. 28). Solomon counts himself as a servant of the Lord God. Servants of the Lord God do as the Lord God directs. The words of Solomon's prayer have been placed before us at God's direction. The Comforter, the Holy Spirit, guides believers such that we might read and hear that which the Lord would have us to understand.

Solomon, servant of the Lord, asks: "That thine eyes may be open toward this house night and day, even toward the place of which thou hast said, My name shall be there: that thou mayest hearken unto the prayer which thy servant shall make toward this place" (v. 29). The Lord desires that we, New Testament believers, know that it is the desire of His servant's heart that "this house" (the house which His servant built) should be subject to the Lord's attention, day and night. The Lord intends that all should note that the house which Solomon built is where "My name shall be." The Lord God wants believers to know the Lord's dwelling place is where His name (Yaweh) is.

A thought for believers — The Comforter resides within all who have called upon the name of Jesus (Yaweh saves), believing.

Solomon, additionally, asks that the Lord to hear "the supplication of thy servant" and of "thy people Israel" — that the Lord hear and forgive (v. 30). A prayer to God asking forgiveness is a request that the Lord not look upon one's sin. Genesis 3:21 reveals that Adam did not physically die on the day in which he ate the forbidden fruit. Adam did not die because he accepted the covering which the Lord provided. God does not see the sin of them who have received His covering. Prayers asking the Lord to forgive are, effectually, pleas for Him to provide an acceptable covering.

Isaiah 53:11-12 reveals that the blood of "my righteous servant" is the acceptable covering which God would provide. The children of Israel were spared death of the first-born in Egypt because they were covered by the blood of the passover lamb.

New Testament believers know that God is not willing that any should perish, that all should come to repentance (II Pet. 3:9). Coming to repentance means casting aside the pursuit of covering one's self. Repentance means calling upon the name of the Lord and accepting the covering blood of the Lamb.

The Lord would have His people Israel and people of every nation call out, believing, and be eternally covered by the blood of His righteous servant.

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KIDS TALK ABOUT GOD

BY CAREY KINSOLVING AND FRIENDS

How Is Peace From Jesus Different?

"God's peace is eternal just as he is eternal," says Jayden, 11. "The reason he gives us peace is because we aren't eternal like he is, and we can't handle things like he does."

Yes, God is eternal, and we are mortal. Consider your mortality and awaken to your need for God.

Do you know if you'll see the sun come up tomorrow? No one knows that for sure. Only God knows. Hence our great need.

"The peace from Jesus is peace with God, who sent Jesus to come, die and pay the price for our sins and give us his righteousness," says Enoch, 12.

Jesus' offer of eternal life as a gift to all who believe in him addresses our greatest need (Ephesians 2:8-9).

World-renowned preacher Charles Spurgeon once said, "Little faith will take your soul to heaven, but great faith will bring heaven to your soul."

All who believe in Jesus Christ as their savior have peace with God, but only Christians who abide in Christ enjoy the peace of God (Romans 5:1 & Philippians 4:6-7).

There are no problems in heaven. No one worries. God wants all his people to bring heaven's peace to people on earth filled with anxiety.

Since 1945, people live with more uncertainty. Those who lived before 1945 didn't have the atom bomb hanging over their heads. Our world could disintegrate in a flash! Hiding under school desks, as children were taught in the 1950s and 60s, probably won't help much.

The little faith of which Spurgeon spoke is the tiny amount of faith it takes to accept the gift of eternal life by placing your faith in Jesus as your savior. The great faith that brings the peace of heaven into your soul is called abiding.

Jesus likened abiding to the grape vine and its branches. A branch cannot produce grapes unless it receives the vine's nourishment (John 15:5).

Jesus is the eternal vine and all who believe in him are branches. Those who abide in Jesus bring God's peace to hurting people who are looking for some kind of stability in this unstable world. Prayer, fellowship with believers, Bible study, and meditation on your new identity in Christ are all means of receiving life-giving nourishment from Jesus our vine.

"Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to comfort us," says Naomi, 10. "Whoever does not love Jesus does not keep his word, but he who loves the Lord does keep his word."

Jesus sent the Holy Spirit as our counselor to guide us into all truth (John 16:7).

Alexander the Great conquered the world by the age of 30. He had two great advantages. He was the son of King Philip II of Macedon. Aristotle was his private tutor.

Christians enjoy similar advantages, but to a greater degree. They are sons and daughters of King Jesus. The Holy Spirit is their indwelling tutor. As Christ's ambassadors, they advance God's kingdom with a secret weapon. They bring God's peace to this uncertain world of people in turmoil.

Think about this: "The world bases its peace on its resources, while God's peace depends on relationships. To be right with God means to enjoy the peace of God," wrote Pastor Warren Wiersbe.

Memorize this truth: "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid," (John 14:27).

Ask these questions: Do you have peace with God? If so, are you enjoying the peace of God?

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Edgemon (Joey) of Hurricane, WV, and Arlie Miller of Corpus Christi, TX; grandchildren: Grayson Miller, Luke Miller, Sam Edgemon, Mallory Edgemon, and Grant Miller; sister, Teresia Saulton of St. Albans, WV; and great friend, Sam Kirk who was like a brother to him.

A Memorial Service for Roger will be 6:00 pm Friday, January 30, 2026, at Chapman Funeral Home, Hurricane, with Eddie Cooper officiating.

Friends may visit with family one hour prior to the service.

JULIA FAY PRINCE

Julia Fay Eggleton Prince, 92, of Scott Depot, passed away on January 20, 2026.

Julia was born to the late Thomas Stephen and Allie Mae Phelps Eggleton on August 13, 1933 in Teays Valley. In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by her husband, James L. Prince; sisters: Edith Petry and Kathleen Harris; brothers: Frankie, Woodrow, Carl, George, Charles, Leo, Burford, James, and Lloyd Eggleton.

She was a homemaker, who was a member of Teays Valley Baptist Church and a proud member of TOPS Association that had earned many awards and pins.

Julia is survived by her children: Mary M. (Steve) Johnson of Loris, SC, John C. (Katherine) Prince of Myrtle Beach, SC, Sarah E. Lake of Scott Depot, Mark E. (Marilyn) Prince of Scott Depot, and; sister, Barbara Ruth Strum of FL; 8 grandchildren; 4 great grandchildren as well as several other family members.

Funeral service for Julia

was Tuesday, January 27, 2026, at Chapman Funeral Home with Rev. Dr. John D. Smith officiating. Burial was in Mount Vernon Cemetery in Hurricane.

JOSHUA SANTROCK

Joshua David Santrock, 41, of Hurricane, passed away on January 21, 2026.

He was born on April 6, 1984, to James D. and Susan J. Lunstrum Santrock.

Josh was a 2002 graduate of Hurricane High School, then attended WV Tech where he earned his Chemical Engineering degree and was a member of Redeemer Presbyterian Hurricane.

He was a Principal Technologist for Marathon Petroleum Company. He was a subject matter expert and process design engineer who completed several major projects for the Catlettsburg, KY refinery with over 20 years' service. In his technologist role, he developed many young engineers across all Marathon sites, was loved as a mentor, teacher, and an advocate for technology improvement.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his sons: Isaiah D. and Solomon J. Santrock; stepson, Jace Carrier; mother of his children, Jessica Santrock all of Hurricane; and brother, Aaron and Samantha Santrock of Winfield; as well as several other family members.

A forthcoming Celebration of Josh's Life will be at Redeemer Presbyterian Church Hurricane.

ROWENA TUCKER

Rowena Jean Tucker, 92, of Scott Depot, passed away on January 20, 2026.

She was born to the late

Obituaries

FRANKLIN DELANO ASBURY

Franklin D. Asbury, 89, of Liberty, passed away Sunday, January 18, 2026, at Thomas Memorial Hospital. He was an avid hunter and farmer. He spent many years working on his farm and chopping wood. He formerly attended Center Point Church.

Born May 24, 1936, he was the son of the late Douglas M. Asbury and Maude M. Asbury. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by sisters, Fay Asbury, Lenore Taylor, Eleanor Casto; brothers, Vadron Asbury, Bert Asbury, Orville Asbury, Hershel Asbury, Donald Asbury and Ray Asbury.

Survivors include his sisters, Loretta Wheeler of Wisconsin, Audrey Myrice of North Carolina, and Jane Asbury of Liberty. Frank is also survived by several nieces, nephews and extended family.

Funeral service will be held at 1:00 P.M. on Saturday, January 24, 2026, at Raynes Funeral Home, Eleanor. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

MICHAEL BECKETT

Michael Burrel Beckett, 73, of Hurricane, passed away peacefully at his home on January 18, 2026. He was a retired groundman with IBEW Local 317 and proudly served his country in the United States Army.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Burrel and Naomi Garrett Beckett; his brother, Timmy Beckett; and his nephew, Jason Kitchens.

He is survived by his sister, Joyce Campbell of Poca, and his brother, David Beckett of Hurricane; four nephews, Heath Woodall, Corey Kitchens, Dustin Beckett, and Jonathan Johnson; and four nieces, Carrie Ayoob, Nicki Marcum, Kacey Beckett, and Rachel Tyler.

In accordance with his wishes, his remains will be cremated and laid to rest at the Donel C. Kinnard Memorial State Veterans Cemetery in Dunbar, West Virginia.

CONNIE JO WITHROW DEVORE

Connie Jo Withrow Devore, 65, of Dunbar,

formerly of Hometown, went home to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on Saturday morning, January 24, 2026, at her home.

Connie was born on January 22, 1961, and was raised in Hometown, where she attended Poca High School. She spent many years as a talented and well-loved hairdresser throughout the Kanawha Valley, a career that allowed her to connect with others and bring confidence and joy to those she served.

A devoted Christian, Connie lived her life grounded in faith, holding firmly to the promise of salvation and the blessed hope it brings. Her faith was the foundation of her life and the greatest comfort to those who loved her.

Connie cherished time with her family and found great happiness at the beach, where she loved the peace, beauty, and memories made there. She will be remembered for her loving heart, gentle spirit, and the closeness she shared with those dear to her.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Reverend Jack and JoEllen Withrow, and her sister, Julie Ann Bonnett (Bob). She leaves behind her brothers, Jack and wife Rose Withrow and Rick and wife Barbie Withrow; her beloved niece and nephew, Katie and Robbie Bonnett, to whom she was especially close; and her cousin, Danny Pauley.

ROGER LLOYD MILLER

Roger L. Miller, 76, of Winfield, passed away on January 24, 2026.

He was born to the late Lloyd and Arabelle (Kirk) Miller on June 29, 1949, in Madison.

Roger was a retired Heavy Equipment Mechanic for 30 years, with Anderson Equipment. He enjoyed carpentry work and time well spent with his friends and family, especially his grandchildren. He loved to entertain with his stories, had a heart the size of Texas, and his thoughtfulness was valued by all who knew him.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Jeannie; children: Roger Miller Jr. (Monica Stephenson) of Winfield, WV, Marci

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William "Bill" and Eileen Ash on January 11, 1934, in St. Albans. In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by her husband, Osley Howard Tucker; daughter, Brenda Sue Mash; and brothers: Larry and Dick Ash.

Rowena enjoyed bowling, working in her yard, planting flowers, watching wrestling and spending time with her grandchildren.

She is survived by her son, Michael Howard Tucker of Scott Depot; grandchildren: Eric Tucker, Jeff Davis (Nicole), Brent Davis (Christy); great-grandchildren: Abby Tucker, Tristan Tucker, Gage Davis (Ryan Davis); sister, Bonita Goodall of St. Albans; niece, Cheryl Goodall of St. Albans; and nephew, John Goodall Jr. of Scott Depot.

Graveside Service for Rowena was Friday, January 23, 2026, at Cunningham Memorial Park, St. Albans, with Pastor Robert "Bobby" Morris officiating.

Daniel Nelson Watson, 63, of Hurricane, passed away on January 19, 2026 with his family by his side at CAMC General Division.

He was born on October 20, 1962 to the late Nancy Sue Thevenin Watson and John Nelson Watson Jr., in Akron, OH. Danny was retired from Leslie Lumber Company. In his life he worked hard, lived hard and loved hard, he was always doing work on Watson Mountain or could be found splitting wood.

He is survived by his sister, Tamra Tomaszewski (Richard) of Hurricane; brother, Brian Watson (Nancy) of Milton; several nieces, several nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins, as well as many other family members.

In accordance with Danny's wishes, he will be cremated and later laid to rest with his father in Mason Cemetery on Watson Mountain.



- | | |
|--|---|
| GUNNER RICHMOND
Pyrite Lane
Hurricane
5th Birthday January 18 | CHRISSE WRAY
Huntington
47th Birthday February 1 |
| DENISE CHAPMAN
SALMONS
Barboursville
57th Birthday January 30 | EDWARD (BUDDY) CHAPMAN
5201 5&20 Road
Frazier's Bottom
73rd Birthday February 1 |
| ALICE WILCOXEN
AKERS
4177 Mt. Union Road
Pliny
79th Birthday January 30 | ASHLEY NICOLE AUSTIN MOORE
Hurricane
41st Birthday February 1 |
| JOE MIKE HENDERSON
78 Twp 1255
Proctorville, Ohio
Birthday January 30 | CHARLENE BIRD BURTON
141 Bayside Drive
Huntington
76th Birthday February 1 |
| NELSON WHITE
2951 Shank Avenue
Hurricane
75th Birthday January 30 | GARY SHEPPARD
Milton
51st Birthday February 1 |
| EMMA WITHROW
Huntington
18th Birthday January 30 | BRENDA RUSSELL
#6 Mockingbird Drive
Milton
Birthday February 1 |
| JESSICA WHEELER
Charleston
Birthday January 30 | CINDY CHANNELL
113 Mulberry Drive
Hurricane
69th Birthday February 2 |
| CHRISTINA CHILDERS
493 Fudge's Creek Road
Barboursville
33rd Birthday January 31 | JEANNIE HEDRICK
#25 Gene Drive
Frazier's Bottom
83rd Birthday February 2 |
| AUSTIN JAMES GEFFS
413 W Red Oak Road,
Apt. 73
Red Oak, Texas
22nd Birthday January 31 | LILLY ROBERTS
532 Lynn Street
Hurricane
76th Birthday February 2 |
| DALE FISHER
292 Ada Dell Avenue
Hurricane
84th Birthday January 31 | JOHNNY KEATON HODGES
5078 Evergreen Road
Frazier's Bottom
30th Birthday February 2 |
| BARBARA YOUNG ROSE
2662 2nd Street
Hurricane
78th Birthday January 31 | LORI CHANDLER
Kelly' Creek
Hurricane
Birthday February 2 |
| JANET ERLEWINE
Winfield
75th Birthday January 31 | DAN ABSHIRE
Kentucky
Birthday February 2 |
| JOHN WILLIAM HAGEE
Texas
19th Birthday January 31 | MARY BURGESS
1021 Holly Brook Lane
Culloden
Birthday February 2 |
| COURTNEY ADAMS DANIEL
Helen Drive
Hurricane
37th Birthday January 31 | LEVI BLAINE MEADOWS
3290 Turkey Creek Road
Hurricane
13th Birthday February 2 |
| ROBIN HARDWICK
Huntington
57th Birthday January 31 | TODD BROWNING |

Midway Meridians Lend a Hand To KCHD's Giving Tree



Left to right: Mason Crawford, Jaxon Crawford, Elliott Meadows, Julie Blackwood.

By Elliott Meadows
Putnam County Midway Meridians 4-Hers used their hands for larger service while enjoying the Holly Jolly Brawley trees in downtown Charleston. President Elliott Meadows, Treasurer Mason Crawford, and member Jaxon Crawford were able to help restock the Kanawha-Charleston Health Department's Giving Tree along with Julie Blackwood on December 7th, 2025. They stocked the tree with gloves, hats, snacks, toothpaste and other toiletry items. The 4-Hers were glad to help to spread holiday cheer to those in need. They all enjoyed ice cream after and it was a great day.

Soup-er Bowl Sunday Fundraiser

The Putnam County Fair will be hosting a Super Bowl Sunday pre-game lunch on February 8 from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Eleanor Fire Department.

Come hungry to pick up your SUPER SWEET AUCTION fundraiser items (or just come hungry) to the Eleanor Volunteer Fire Department Building. The \$7 lunch special to raise funds for the 2026 Putnam County Fair will include a bowl of soup, choice of bread, and a drink, as well as desserts which will be available for sale.

Union PSD Meetings

The 2026 Putnam Union PSD water meetings will be held the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Rt. 34 Fire Department in Red House.

New this year and immediately after lunch (1:30 p.m.), The Turquoise Rhinestone will be hosting a TRUCKER HAT PARTY where you can make your own custom trucker hat with up to three patches for \$26.

A percentage of the sales will go to support the Putnam County Fair, so come on out and have some fun for a good cause.

Happy Anniversary

Fred and Phyllis Taylor Bailiff of Frazier's Bottom will celebrate their forty-sixth wedding anniversary on January 30.

Kenny and Sharl Hinkle of 390 Evans Creek Road in Frazier's Bottom will celebrate their fifty-third wedding anniversary on February 3.

- | | |
|--|--|
| Gallatin, Tennessee
Birthday February 2 | MARVEL HAMMICKS
Oakbridge
Hurricane
81st Birthday February 2 |
| BECKY WALLACE HARPER
1662 Central Avenue
Culloden
77th Birthday February 3 | THOM CHAPMAN
109 Main Street
Winfield
76th Birthday February 3 |
| LUCY WALLER BECKETT
2851 Buff Creek
Hurricane
76th Birthday February 3 | SHEILA JORDAN
1711 Buff Creek Road
Hurricane
69th Birthday February 3 |
| AIDEN WRAY
Erwin Road
Winfield
3rd Birthday February 3 | ALAN WRAY
Erwin Road
Winfield
3rd Birthday February 3 |
| DAN QUAYLE
79th Birthday February 4 | NELSON EDWARDS
220 Carper Lane
Barboursville
79th Birthday February 4 |
| CARLA NEAL SHEETS
2191 Northup Road
Gallipolis, Ohio
76th Birthday February 4 | STEVE JOYCE
542 Whitt Road
Frazier's Bottom
79th Birthday February 4 |

- | | |
|--|---|
| TIM HILL
South Charleston
69th Birthday February 4 | TRACI BROWN SMITH
207 White Pine Road
Pliny
54th Birthday February 5 |
| ADAM MICHAEL COYNER
Eau Claire, Wisconsin
31st Birthday February 5 | SAVANNAH CAROL PAYNE
College Station, Texas
29th Birthday February 5 |
| RENEE NEAL
Route 1, Box 385-A
Milton
66th Birthday February 5 | ROGER DONEFF
399 Coon Creek Road
Culloden
50th Birthday February 5 |
| CAROLYN SWISHER
Scott Depot
Birthday February 5 | BETH CARNEFIX
1206 Bill's Creek Road
Winfield
61st Birthday February 5 |

Lions Club Visited by Visiting Angels



Stephanie Wetzel of Visiting Angels

Members of the Putnam County Lions Club learned about the valuable work of Visiting Angels at its meeting on January 19. Stephanie Wetzel spoke to the group about the national home care organization where she has worked for eight years. The Barboursville office also covers South Charleston and Portsmouth, Ohio, with 150 employees who assist clients with personal care, errands, and daily living activities. Strict background checks are required, and discernment is used

in pairing clients with appropriate caregivers. For example, there was once a request for an "Angel" who enjoyed playing Monopoly. Upcoming Lions activities include visits with all 292 fifth graders in Putnam County Schools on February 25 to discuss flag etiquette and the annual essay contest. For more information about Putnam Lions, please call 304-380-6782. Meetings are held the first and third Mondays at 6:30 P.M. at the Winfield Clubhouse, 4 Second Street.

Town of Eleanor Puzzle Competition

The Town of Eleanor is hosting its first-ever Puzzle Competition, and you're invited to be part of the fun!

The competition will be held on Monday, February 9, at the Homestead Room in the Eleanor Town Hall from 6 to 8 p.m.

Each team is made up of 2 to 4 people. The cost is \$20 per team. The winning team takes home 50% of all registration fees, and will be crowned the First-Ever Town of Eleanor Puzzle Competition Champions. Every team keeps their puzzle.

Register in person at the Town Hall or by calling 304-586-2319. Payment due at registration. The deadline is February 3 at 4 p.m.

Gather your team, sharpen your skills, and let's see who can piece it together the fastest!

Animal Shelter Donations Requested

The Putnam County Animal Shelter is in need of supplies.

- Most-Needed**
- Plain Greek yogurt (for digestion & enrichment)
 - Peanut butter (xylitol-free only)
 - Dawn dish soap
 - Bleach
 - 50-gallon trash bags
- Other High-Need Items**
- Dog & cat treats
 - Paper towels and disinfecting wipes
 - Laundry detergent
 - Old towels, blankets, and sheets
 - Toys, enrichment items, KONGS
 - Collars, leashes, food and water bowls

Donations can be dropped off during business hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays from noon to 6 p.m.; and Fridays and Saturdays from noon to 4 p.m. For more information, call (304) 586-0249.

The Breeze on Microfilm

Microfilm copies of the Breeze can be found at the Putnam County Main Library in Teays Valley and the West Virginia State Archives in Charleston.

Available Pets at the Putnam County Animal Shelter

These are one of the many pets up for adoption at the Putnam County Animal Shelter. By the time that this issue of the Hurricane Breeze is published, this animal may have already been adopted and found a forever home. However, there are many pets at the shelter that still need homes. For more information, call the Putnam County Animal Shelter at 304-586-0249, or visit animalshelter.putnamcountywv.gov



Thomas the Tom Cat (PCWV-A-26971) is a male longhair cat who weighs 9 pounds and is estimated to be around 4 years old.



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