

The Hurricane Breeze

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

May 12th Primary West Virginia Farm Museum — A Place to Relive History

Limited

By Ron Allen

Facsimiles of the ballots which Putnam voters will see on election day, May 12, or before (if one chooses to participate in the early voting option) can be found on Pages 8, 9 and 10.

On April 14, Putnam County Clerk Brian Wood reported 8,619 Democratic Party registrations, 20,299 Republican Party registrations, and 8,391 registrations without any party affiliation. Only registered Republicans may vote a Republican ballot. Both registered Democrats and registered no party affiliation voters may choose to vote a Democrat ballot. The Nonpartisan ballot is included as part of both the Democratic and Republican party ballots. All voters, with the exception of registered Democrats and registered

Republicans may vote the Nonpartisan ballot as a separate ballot.

Some political commentators predicted that some non-affiliated voter would change their registration to Republican because the Republican ballots offer more choices than do Democratic ballots. These predicted changes have not come to be. Between September 3, 2025 and April 14, 2026, the number of non-affiliated voters increased from 8,336 to 8,391. During this same time period, Democratic registrations dropped from 8,864 to 8,619 (a loss of 245) while Republican registration increased by 507. These numbers suggest that non-affiliated voters have not switched. The increase in Republican registration appears to be linked to Democratic registration losses.

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Lawsuit Filed in Fatal Spike Strip Accident

Chris Dickerson of the West Virginia Record reports that the family of Angela Marie Born has filed a federal lawsuit alleging police officers caused the fatal accident in which Born died last month in an I-64 accident in Putnam County.

The complaint was filed in federal court in Huntington on April 10 against the Putnam County Commission, Putnam County Sheriff's Deputy C. Ford, the City of Hurricane and unnamed Putnam County and Hurricane officers.

Angela Born died on March 5 when her automobile exploded after being slammed by a vehicle driven by Joseph Ryan Elswick, who was engaged in a high-speed chase with Putnam County and Hurricane officers.

The complaint states that an extended vehicular pursuit turned into a high-speed chase along country roads and secondary routes through Putnam and Cabell counties in absence of extraordinary

circumstances or a public danger. The complaint states that police officers from the City of Hurricane activated spike strips during a time of heavy traffic. The complaint further states Elswick weaved in and out of the bumper-to-bumper traffic to avoid the spike strips and crashed into the back end of Born's vehicle, causing it to cross two lanes of traffic and into the median where it burst into flames.. Born died at the scene.

The complaint states that Deputy Ford began the pursuit of Elswick with flashing lights and sirens and continued when Elswick began driving more recklessly and at a higher speed. According to the complaint, Ford did not receive authorization from his supervisor to engage in the high-speed pursuit. The report states, "Ford possessed no information or reasonable suspicion that Elswick was involved in a violent crime or presented an imminent threat to the community."

Early Hummingbird Arrival



On Saturday, April 11th I decided to sit on the porch for a few minutes to wait and see if my favorite birds had returned for their emergency stop.

Everyone who knows me knows that my favorite bird is the Hummingbird! After about 15 minutes at 7:35pm a little red-throated bird came to Linda's Delicatessen for a supper sip. As I raised my camera to get a picture it left so I didn't get a picture

at that time.

George had just walked to the door to come on the porch and saw the little bird, too!

The earliest I have seen a hummingbird here was on April 9th in 2015. In 2011 my first hummer came on April 11th.

I'm hoping since they have returned that I will get to fix lots of sugar water for them!

— Linda Armstead



Ron Allen inspects the dump rake on display at Farm Museum special event.

By Ron Allen

The West Virginia State Farm Museum in Point Pleasant came into existence in 1976 and is celebrating its 50th anniversary throughout all of 2026 by sponsoring a number of special events. Ron and Betsy Allen visited the museum Saturday, April 11, to take in the opening observance.

The State Farm Museum's stated mission is to preserve rural farm life heritage for future generations. The museum does this by housing displays of antique farm machinery and exhibits that reflect rural life of times past.

Many visitors, upon viewing some of the long-retired equipment, wonder



Bluegrass music was the entertainment of the day at Farm Museum event.

The complaint further states, "The identity of the driver of the Jeep, Joseph Ryan Elswick, was known to the police and he could have been apprehended later, without any significant increase of risk to the community."

The complaint states that Hurricane police officers did not clear or halt traffic on I-64 prior to activating the spike strips. The fatal crash occurred at 3:08, 23 minutes after initial pursuit at 2:45 p.m.

The complaint accuses Ford and the unknown officers of violating Angela Born's due process rights under the Fourteenth Amendment, and accuses unknown officers - particularly the supervisors - of bystander liability for choosing not to act and failing to halt the high-speed pursuit

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how it worked. Not Ron Allen. At least not for much of the equipment on display. I knew how it worked because I had witnessed much of it in operation during my childhood in rural Maine in the years following World War II, a time when horse-powered equipment had been replaced by gasoline engines. Farms in the late 1940's featured lots of horse-drawn equipment

that was pulled by tractors. The displays at the farm museum include original horse-powered equipment and equipment modified for tractor pulling.

I became very familiar with equipment relating to hay and milk production at Grandpa Joe's farm in the summer of '49. I raised and lowered the cutting bar of converted horse-drawn mowing machine pulled by Grandpa on the Ford

tractor which had replaced Old Dobbin. I rode upon, but did not operate, the dump rake used to gather hay. Grandpa tripped the release mechanism from his tractor seat with a pull rope at the precise moment needed to produce windrows.

The mowing machine and dump rake on display at the museum were almost identical to those

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Jo's Belknap Ribbon Cutting Ceremony



Ribbon cutting marks Belknap Dough Company becoming Jo's Belknap.

Belknap Dough Company at 2725 Main Street in Hurricane became Jo's Belknap in January. The new owners, Madi Jo Lunsford and her mother Stephanie kept the pizza shop will continue to produce authentic Neapolitan pizza using

the same wood-fired oven which Jimmy Belknap brought all the way from Rome, Italy, to Hurricane. On Thursday, April 9th, City of Hurricane officials joined Madi Jo and Stephanie in a ribbon cutting to celebrate the reopening. For Madi Jo, just 21 years old,

the celebration marks a shift from working at the restaurant to assuming 24/7 operational responsibility. The restaurant is open 4-9 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, with hours extended until 10 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

WEATHER SUMMARY			
April 7 - 13			
	Low	High	
April 7	Hurricane	28°	53°
April 8	Hurricane	24°	65°
April 9	Hurricane	34°	74°
April 10	Hurricane	36°	76°
April 11	Hurricane	40°	65°
April 12	Hurricane	36°	82°
April 13	Hurricane	49°	74°
*RAIN			
None recorded			

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.

APRIL 17

- Silver Sneaker Dance Night will be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the YMCA, 200 Carls Lane, Scott Depot. The cost is \$3 for single, \$5 for couple. Instructors will be teaching the rumba.
- There is karaoke every Friday from 8 p.m. to midnight at the Putnam Moose, located in Putnam Village Shopping Center in Teays Valley. Open to the public.
- Sunday Rose beauty and spa, 3860 Teays Valley Road, Hurricane, will be celebrating their grand opening from 1 to 6:30 p.m.

APRIL 18

- Community Bridge will be hosting Bless You Day from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at King's River Worship Center, 777 Mallory Lane, St. Albans. Free clothing, kids' items, shoes, lunch, household items, etc.
- Town N Country Youth League will be hosting a learning session for youth bowlers at Town N Country Lanes, 409 1st Avenue South, Nitro. Sign up by calling 304-991-6917.
- Hyphen Girls Night - a craft event for ladies ages 18-30 - will be held at 6 p.m. at Hometown Apostolic Church. Bring an item to bedazzle; rhinestones, glue and glitter will be provided.
- There will be a Fraziers Bottom area-wide clean-up from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. beside Boltz Lawn Care, 2000 Winfield Road, Fraziers Bottom.
- The Nitro Little League Sports Card Show will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Nitro High School, 1300 Park Avenue, Nitro. Sports cards, collectible card games, comic books, and other collectibles.
- The First Baptist Church of Nitro, 2200 2nd Avenue, will be holding a Spring Into Fun vendor fair from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. to support their youth group.
- Lee's Studio of Dance, 8325 Winfield Road,

Winfield, will be hosting drop-in dance classes. Contemporary dance at noon; hip hop at 1 p.m.; and acro and tricks at 2 p.m. The cost is \$15 for one class, or \$45 for all three. To register, call 304-437-2860.

- The YMCA, 200 Carls Lane, Scott Depot, will be hosting Healthy Kids Day from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

- Appalachian Championship Wrestling will be hosting a matinee show from 4 to 6 p.m. at Teays Valley Christian School in Scott Depot. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children and students.
- Relative Obscurity will be performing from 7 to 10 p.m. at Emma Rae's Steakhouse, 1101 Hospital Drive, Hurricane (formerly Barnyard BBQ).
- There will be a Meet the Candidates event at 4 p.m. at the red barn at Hurricane City Park. Both local and state candidates are represented.
- There will be a benefit spaghetti dinner for Timmy Call at 5 p.m. at John Henson Senior Center, 2800 Putnam Avenue, Hurricane. The cost is \$10.
- Quantum Sports Center, 3548 Teays Valley Road, Hurricane, will be hosting an EA Sports Tournament starting at 10 a.m. To register, call 304-562-1020.
- Cops N Rodders Classic Car Club will be holding a cruise-in from 5 p.m. to dusk at the Putnam County Bank parking lot behind the Hurricane McDonalds.

APRIL 19

- There are free line dancing lessons every Sunday night from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Putnam Moose, located in Putnam Village Shopping Center in Teays Valley. Open to the public.
- Chosen Road will be performing at 6 p.m. at Teays Valley Church of the Nazarene, 3941 Teays Valley Road, Hurricane.
- The Town of Eleanor will be holding an open house to discuss the Town's Comprehensive Plan at 6 p.m. at the Town Hall, 401 Roosevelt Blvd.
- Learn about the Putnam County Rotary Club at 9 a.m. at Area 34, 971 WV State Rout 34, Teays Valley.
- There will be an acrylic painting class from 6 to 9 p.m. at Valley Park Conference Center in Hurricane. For more information, call (304) 562-0518 or check out the Valley Park, WV Facebook page.

APRIL 22 - 25

- The Nitro Antique Car Club will be holding their spring swap meet from 2 to 5 p.m. each day at the Winfield Riding Club.

APRIL 22

- The West Virginia Department of Transportation will be discussing Earth Day and the environment at 10 a.m. at the Eleanor Library.
- There will be a grief support group at 10 a.m. at Coffee With A Twist, 101 Main Avenue, Nitro.
- There will be an open house on-site hiring event for Diamond Electric, 62 Eleanor Industrial Park, Eleanor, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- The April Putnam Puzzler puzzle competition will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. at Valley Park Conference Center in Hurricane. The cost is \$20 for a team of 2-4. For more information, call (304) 562-0518.

APRIL 23

- There will be bingo at 6 p.m. at Coffee With A

Spaghetti Benefit Dinner for Timmy Call

There will be a spaghetti dinner benefit for Timmy Call at 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 18, at the John Henson Senior Center, 2800 Putnam Avenue, Hurricane. The menu includes spaghetti, side salad, garlic bread, and a drink. The cost is \$10 per plate. Desserts available for 50¢.

Timmy Call has been dealing with illness over the past couple of weeks and was recently diagnosed with a form of meningitis. His medical team anticipates a lengthy hospital stay as he receives ongoing treatment and care.

Timmy is a husband to his wife, Stachia, and a father of three. Anyone who knows Timmy knows he is a hard worker who would never ask for help, always taking pride in providing for his family and showing up for others whenever needed.

With an extended hospital stay ahead, medical bills, everyday expenses, and loss of income can quickly add up. Any amount raised will go directly toward helping Timmy and Stacia and their family manage expenses during this difficult time. Every act of kindness truly matters.

Marshall Theatre to present 'Much Ado About Nothing'

Marshall University's School of Theatre & Dance will present William Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing" April 22-26 in the Playhouse in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center. Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. April 22-25, and at 2 p.m. April 26.

This clever, fast-paced Shakespearean comedy is a tale of love, wit and mistaken identity. Directed by John Colclough, who heads the School of Theatre & Dance, the show's cast includes the following actors, who include students and members of the community: Mike Murdock, Braden Burnside, Eliza Aulick, Gabby Belomy, Roza Beller, Maggie Piaskowski, Matt "Slice" Hicks, Thaddeus Stambaugh, Daniel Calwell, George Kinley, Sam McElwain, Harper Aulick, Jacob

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).

Twist, 101 Main Avenue, Nitro.

- Putnam County Solid Waste Authority will be holding a homeschool science class from 10 a.m. to noon at Hurricane City Park.
- There will be a Swift Party at Quantum Sports Center, 223 Commerce Drive, Hurricane. 6 - 9 p.m. kid friendly; 9 p.m. - midnight, 18+. Tickets start at \$10. For more information, go to <https://quantumpartyrentals.ticketspice.com/taylor-swift-night>

Town of Eleanor Comprehensive Plan Open House

The Eleanor Planning Commission will hold an open house on Tuesday, April 21, to solicit input for the development of the Town's Comprehensive Plan. The open house will be held at 6 p.m. at the Eleanor Town Hall, 401 Roosevelt Blvd.

There will be no speeches or presentations; the purpose of the meeting is to hear from you. Anyone interested is welcome to drop in during the posted hours to share ideas, express concerns, and help shape a vision for Eleanor's future. Various stations will be set up where input on specific topics will be gathered.

The purpose of a comprehensive plan is to establish a vision for the future of Eleanor and recommend specific projects that the town should invest in. Public input is essential to determine the priorities of residents, business owners, and other stakeholders.

The development of the Comprehensive Plan is being led by the West Virginia University College of Law Land Use and Sustainable Development Law Clinic. For more information, please contact 304-293-4614 or christy.demuth@mail.wvu.edu.

Gillispie, Noah Ritchie, Josiah Baker, Tom Henkel, Vance Robinson and Audrey Steele.

"I chose Much Ado About Nothing because it's just a really fun, lively story that still feels relatable today," Colclough said. "William Shakespeare gives us characters who fall in love, get things wrong, and figure it out along the way — often in hilarious ways. It's a great mix of comedy and heart, and it lets both actors and audiences enjoy the humor while still connecting to something real."

Tickets are \$22 at the door for the general public, \$5 for Marshall students and \$15 for seniors age 60 and older and for Marshall employees. Admission is free for Marshall students who attend on April 22 with a valid MU ID.

The Way We Were, The Way We Are

By Brenda Burke

Where did time go? I ask this question in so many columns. I would like to know how the years have flown by so quickly. When we were children, we wanted to be teenagers. When we were teens, we could not wait to become adults, marry, and have children. Then... time started flying... days... weeks... months... years... one day it was 1965 and we were graduating high school... now we are turning 79.

Not just 79... the class before us, 1964... they are turning 80. Our kids are planning to see their dad for his 80th in May. 80... imagine... yesterday, he was the boy in high school, and we were dating... now he is turning 80 and living on a mountain in WV.

Mike has a legacy of two children with spouses and five grandchildren. They are fantastic and caring and kind. He is blessed. He will be 80 and cherished.

Where has time gone? When my Mama Coyner died at sixty five, I was devastated for a long time, but I thought she had lived a good long life. When Mother died at sixty, I was so sad for years, but I thought she had a fairly kind of long life... I did not realize how young they really were.

I have to wonder what those two women would think about Hurricane and the area where they lived, and where I grew up. The changes...

I will be 79 in September, and inside, I feel like that teenager. My life is good, despite the physical impairments. I love my children and grands and my good friends. They make me

Historical Society To Meet

The Upper Vandalia Historical Society will be meeting at 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 26, at the Historical Square Community Church, 20058 Charleston Road, Buffalo. The topic will restore the first fire truck in Buffalo, and the guest speaker will be Wayne Jeffers.

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

for more information.

Good Shepherd Baptist Church

162 Tiger Lane
Scott Depot
(304) 757-7621
Monday - Thursdays, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Call before coming.

Salt & Light Food Pantry

Winfield Church of the Nazarene
10822 Winfield Road
(304) 586-2180

Food pantry open second Saturday of the month; 9 a.m. - noon

The Pulse Church

5368 WV Route 34
Winfield
(304) 936-1679

Food pantry open from 2 to 4 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month

Putnam County Family Support Center

108822 Winfield Road
Winfield
Hours of operation: 8:30 - 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday
Provides free resources, classes, and support to families.

Eleanor Presbyterian Church

647 Eleanor Circle
Eleanor
Food pantry open second and third Tuesday from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.; every fourth Thursday from 4 - 6 p.m.

laugh and appreciate what I have. My days are full and fun, delightful actually.

Where did the time go? Well, I had several jobs and careers. Raised the kids... enjoyed the grands and family time... traveled quite a bit... fun with friends... started a couple of churches... taught Sunday School...

After graduation from HHS, I worked civil service at the state house in WV. A semester at State and back to the state house. Next job was with three docs, OB/GYM in Charleston.

After Mike and I married, I worked part time for an ophthalmologist in Huntington. Years raising kiddos. Parenting and loving it... In Ohio, part time for a surgeon.

In Summersville, part time for docs, a year in a bank, and then years of running Burke's Hallmark... retail... do NOT ask. Pediatrician's office...

I graduated from Glenville before teaching in South Carolina and then Kanawha County and finishing in Putnam. Adjunct for Marshall and State and private tutoring... I taught online several years and helped home school grands. I worked in a prison at night in South Carolina...

Many jobs... my favorite was teaching, and if I lived in WV, I would sub... other jobs... too many... I have been blessed... I babysat in our home for two years in Ohio... one little girl... imagine...

A big part of my life is my walking... there have been a few years when I didn't do as much, but this year, I hit my 10,000 miles (since I started counting on my Fitbit). I know I reached it at the end of 2025, but I was always counting. 10,000 miles, one painful step at a time. It took me all or part of 5-6 years... I averaged 4 plus miles a day... imagine... so I guess I have answered my question of where did the time go because the way we were is the way we are... always living. I must add I have read a million books!!!! at least... lol...

Buffalo Baptist Church

287 High Street
<https://www.facebook.com/BuffaloBaptistWV>

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

THE HURRICANE BREEZE

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



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.

April 16, 1829: Jacob Beeson Jackson was born in Parkersburg. In 1881, he became West Virginia's sixth governor.

April 16, 1894: Leonard Riggelman was born in a Randolph County cabin. As president of Morris Harvey College (now University of Charleston), he moved the school to Charleston in 1935 and led the college to accreditation in 1958.

April 16, 1923: Arch Moore was born in Moundsville. He was the first governor in 100 years to serve a second term, and he returned later for a third. He also was the second former governor to serve federal prison time.

April 17, 1827: Outdoorsman William "Squirrelly Bill" Carpenter was born on the Elk River near the mouth of Laurel Creek, Braxton County. Carpenter guided prominent West Virginians, including Gov. MacCorkle, through the wonders of the Elk Valley.

April 17, 1861: Delegates to a special convention in Richmond voted for Virginia to secede from the Union, subject to approval by a public referendum. This decision also set in motion the process that would lead to the creation of West Virginia.

April 17, 1871: West Virginians approved the Flick Amendment, restoring voting rights to former Confederates. Although the amendment also applied to formerly enslaved people, they had already been granted suffrage under the Fifteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

April 17, 1924: A fire destroyed much of downtown Franklin, the Pendleton County seat.

April 17, 1972: Actress Jennifer Garner was born in Houston, Texas. Growing up in Charleston,

she appeared in theater and ballet productions before becoming a television and film star.

April 18, 1756: The largest battle fought in Virginia during the French and Indian War occurred at Fort Edwards in Hampshire County.

April 18, 1861: At the start of the Civil War, retreating U.S. troops set fire to the national armory and arsenal at Harpers Ferry to prevent them from falling into Confederate hands. Virginia militia extinguished the flames, salvaged much of the weapon-making equipment and sent it south before ultimately destroying the site in June 1861.

April 18, 1912: The Paint Creek-Cabin Creek Strike of 1912-13 began in Kanawha County when coal operators rejected union workers' demands for higher wages. The ensuing strike became one of the most dramatic and violent episodes in the early 20th-century labor struggles in southern West Virginia, collectively known as the Mine Wars.

April 19, 1896: Writer Melville Davisson Post was born in Harrison County. His best-known works are the Randolph Mason series, published in three volumes, and the more successful collection, Uncle Abner: Master of Mysteries.

April 19, 1902: Author Jean Lee Latham was born in Buckhannon. She wrote a number of children's books, including Carry On, Mr. Bowditch, which won the 1956 Newberry Award.

April 20, 1823: General Jesse Lee Reno was born in Wheeling. He graduated from West Point in 1846, with another cadet from western Virginia, Thomas J. Jackson, later known as "Stonewall." Reno was the highest-ranking officer from present West Virginia killed in the Civil War.

April 20, 1863: President Lincoln issued a proclamation that in 60 days, West Virginia would become a state. This occasion was marked 100

May 12th Primary Ballot

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The last date upon which voters may register or change their party affiliation is April 21. The early voting period begins

on Wednesday, April 22nd.

The Democratic ballot does not feature a single race for county office. The Republican ballot features Wesley Landers, Mike Stone, Zach Crede,

and Doug Pierson against each other in a race to fill the seat on County Commission left vacant by the resignation of Steve Dewese.

The most interesting

and competitive contest which will be decided on May 12th is for School Board. Registered voters of every registration must select three from a field of seven candidates.

Lawsuit Filed in Fatal Spike Strip Accident

Continued from Page 1

and the use of spike strips. All defendants have been accused of negligence. The Putnam County Commission and City of Hurricane are accused

of negligent training, negligent supervision.

The estate seeks compensatory damages, general damages, punitive damages, pre- and post-judgment interests, court costs, attorney fees and

other relief.

The estate is being represented by diTrapano, Charles Bellomy, Amanda Davis and Timothy Houston of Calwell Luce diTrapano in Charleston and by Jesse Forbes,

Jennifer Taylor and Michael Heidenrich of Forbes Law Offices in Charleston.

The case has been assigned to U.S. District Judge Robert C. "Chuck" Chambers.

Marshall School of Art & Design to present exhibition of students' foundational works

The Marshall University School of Art & Design presents "Proof I Was Here: Selected Foundations Works," an exhibition showcasing outstanding pieces by students who have recently completed the Foundations program and review process. The featured creations were selected by faculty and highlight some of the most compelling works created by students during this

period.

The exhibition will be on view April 20 through May 1 in the Birke Art Gallery, located in the Visual Arts Center, 927 Third Ave. in downtown Huntington. A reception is planned for 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 22. Awards will be announced at 5:30 p.m.

The exhibit and reception are free and open to all.

"The Foundations program guides students through the initial years of material exploration, where they refine their technical skills and learn to develop artwork around self-defined concepts," said Gallery Director Sophia Celdrán. "Through a curriculum that encompasses both two- and three-dimensional design, drawing, and theory, students

participate in six hours of weekly studio practice augmented by mentorship and critical discussions. These foundational years are critical in teaching students to see, articulate and create with clarity and conviction."

Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Admission to the gallery and all events are free and open to the public.

years later during the state's Centennial celebration with a special ceremonial session of the West Virginia legislature on April 20, 1963, in Wheeling.

April 20, 1909: Fiddler Melvin Wine was born near Burnsville, Braxton County. A favorite of old-time music enthusiasts nationally, he was chosen as a National Heritage Fellow in 1991 by the National Endowment for the Arts, the highest recognition given to a folk artist in the United States.

April 20, 1939: Poet Irene McKinney was born in Belington, Barbour County. Governor Gaston Caperton appointed her state poet laureate in 1993, and she served in that capacity until her death in 2012.

April 21, 1908: Musician Phoebe Cottrell Parsons was born in Calhoun County. Parsons' traditional clawhammer banjo style, unaccompanied ballad singing, riddles and storytelling have influenced countless numbers of younger musicians.

April 21, 1936:

President Franklin Roosevelt established the Jefferson National Forest. The West Virginia portion of this forest includes about 19,000 acres in Monroe County.

April 22, 1908: Marshall "Little Sleepy" Glenn was

born in Elkins. Glenn coached basketball at West Virginia University from 1934 to 1938 and football from 1937 to 1940. He was inducted into the WVU Sports Hall of Fame in 1992.

April 22, 1948:

Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter and musician Larry Groce was born in Dallas, Texas. He is best known as the longtime host and artistic director of the Mountain Stage radio program.

Cpl. William B. Fulks Detachment 1474 invites all interested in becoming part of the Marine Corps League to its April 20 meeting at Hurricane City Hall at 3255 Teays Valley Road, Hurricane, at 1800 hours.

The Marine Corps League provides an avenue by which members may express loyalty to one another and reach out in support to the families of those Marines who never got to come home. Through numbers the League works to protect the benefits of all veterans.

One can join at any detachment meeting by filling out and signing a MCL membership application, showing character of service with a copy of discharge papers (DD-214), and pay the annual membership dues of \$30.00



WVSU Extension Service to Host Spring Gardening Workshops in Hamlin

West Virginia State University (WVSU) Extension Service will host workshops focusing on container gardening and stormwater management this spring at the Hamlin-Lincoln County Public Library in Hamlin, West Virginia. The hands-on workshops are designed to equip residents with practical gardening and environmental care skills, regardless of the size of their living space.

A Container Gardening: Grow Anywhere workshop will educate attendees on how to successfully grow flowers and produce in containers of all kinds—from milk jugs and grow bags to raised beds. The free workshop will demonstrate that anyone can garden, whether you have a backyard or just a small porch.

Two options for the workshop will be held: Wednesday, April 22, or Thursday, May 6, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Registration is not required.

In Stormwater Management 101: Protecting Our Community, participants will learn about

stormwater, its impacts on communities and the environment, and management strategies. Experts will also demonstrate how to install a rain barrel with a diverter kit.

A limited number of rain barrels and diverter kits will be available for sale at this workshop. Participants who stay for the presentation can purchase both for \$40. Those who want to purchase them outright and not attend the presentation can do so for \$80. Payment will be accepted on the day of the workshop and can be made in cash, check or PayPal.

The stormwater management workshop will take place Wednesday, May 6, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Registration is required, as space is limited to 25 participants. To register, visit bit.ly/WVSUHamlinStormwater

Workshops will take place at the Hamlin-Lincoln County Public Library, 7999 Lynn Avenue, in Hamlin.

For more information on these events, contact anr@wvstateu.edu.

BLESS YOU DAY

EVERYONE WELCOME - EVERYTHING FREE

APRIL 18TH

EVERYTHING 9 AM - 1 PM

FREE

CLOTHING

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SHOES

LUNCH

MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

BRING YOUR OWN BAGS & BOXES

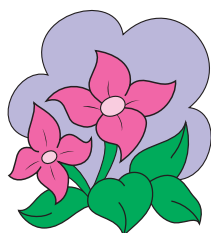
LOCATION: BACK PARKING LOT
KING'S RIVER WORSHIP CENTER
777 MALLORY LANE, ST ALBANS, WV





Fillers Page

Edited by Betsy Allen



Take Me Back

Submitted by Myra Simmons
By Darrielle Cresswell

Take me back
To those childhood years.
And the man in the moon
And having no fears;
Take me back to that land of gold
Where everything glittered
And there was no old;
Take me back
To the path yet to tread
When the promise of life
Was all wonder, not dread;
Take me back
Turn the clock,
Take me back.

Recipes

Submitted by Connie Reddington of Eleanor

Triple-Layer Pumpkin Spice Pie
Prep: 20 minutes (plus refrigerating)
2 cups cold milk
2 pkg. (4-serving size each) Jell-O Pumpkin Spice Flavor Instant Pudding & Pie Filling
1/4 tsp. ground cinnamon
1 tub (8 oz.) Cool Whip Whipped Topping, thawed
1 Honey Maid Graham Pie Crust (6 oz.)
1/2 cup Planters Pecan Halves
1 Tbsp. honey
Beat milk, dry pudding mixes and cinnamon with wire whisk until well blended. Spread 1 1/2 cups onto bottom of crust. Add 1 1/2 cups of the whipped topping to remaining pudding mixture; stir gently. Spoon over layer in crust; top with remaining whipped topping.
Refrigerate 1 hour. Meanwhile, cook pecans and honey in skillet on medium-low heat 2 to 4 minutes or until pecans are caramelized, stirring frequently. Spread onto sheet of waxed paper, separating larger clusters. Cool. Sprinkle over pie just before serving. Store leftovers in refrigerator.

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, or email submissions to breezenews@citynet.net

Serve A Plate of Pasta Salad to Round Out Spring Picnics

(Feature Impact) If clear skies and bright sunshine have you dreaming of a fresh meal outdoors, a picnic may be just the solution. Rounding out your spread of sandwiches and cold refreshments doesn't have to be a trick – instead, treat yourself to a light, simple side like this Picnic Pasta Salad.

Cooked rotini is mixed with fresh veggies, tossed with Italian dressing and topped with crumbled feta cheese for a zesty complement to your favorite al fresco meals. Visit Culinary.net to find more ways to round out a perfect picnic lunch.

Picnic Pasta Salad



Recipe adapted from "Budget Bytes"

Prep time: 10 minutes

Cook time: 8 minutes

Servings: 10

1 pound rotini pasta
1 English cucumber
2 bell peppers
10 ounces grape tomatoes
1/2 red onion
2 tablespoons fresh chopped parsley
1/4 cup crumbled feta cheese
1 bottle (16 ounces) Italian dressing
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon freshly cracked black pepper

Cook pasta according to package instructions. Drain in colander and rinse with cool water; drain well.

Slice cucumber into half-moons, chop bell peppers, halve tomatoes, thinly slice red onion and chop parsley. Set vegetables and parsley aside.

Transfer drained pasta to large bowl. Add chopped vegetables, parsley and feta cheese.

Pour dressing over pasta salad and toss until evenly coated. Add salt and pepper then refrigerate until ready to eat.

Photo courtesy of Unsplash

Jokes From Linda

Submitted by Linda
Lavender Armstead



Dear Liz,
My heart has been so desolate ever since I broke our engagement. I have been devastated. Won't you please consider coming back to me. You hold a special place in my heart that no other woman can fill. I can never marry another woman quite like you. I need you so much. Won't you forgive me and let us make a new beginning?
I love you so, Jack.
P.S. Congratulations on your winning the mega millions lottery.

Why did the espresso keep checking his watch?
He was pressed for time.

What happens when a doggie sees his shadow?
Six more weeks of snuggling.

Did you hear about the guy who ate a train?
It was a choo-choo train.

What do you call a French man wearing sandals?
Philippe Phloppe



Fillers from Linda

Submitted by Linda~Lavender Armstead
Washington Hill Road, Hurricane

Make each day your masterpiece.

Stupidity knows no boundaries but it knows a lot of people.

Keep in contact with those who are in need of companionship.

Be kind, be thoughtful, and you will be an example to others.

Every day is a new opportunity to change for the better.

Take a deep breath and remember that life is a gift.

Life is so much easier when you think positive.

You have to be odd to be #1. - Dr. Seuss.

Eat more donuts. It's the original hole food.

A good mother is there for your whole life.

Time is a precious commodity. Use it well.

Mistakes are proof that you are trying.

The "start" is what stops most people.

Take your dreams seriously.

If it sparkly and purple, I want it!

The real risk is doing nothing.

We are not ready to live until we are prepared to die.

Make a list of things that will bring you happiness this spring.

Believe in the unseen. Some blessings arrive unannounced.

The moment you need applause, you become easier to control.

Sometimes joy is simple - a calm heart, a gentle smile, and a peaceful moment.

Forgive yourself for not knowing earlier what only time could teach.

Never lose hope; just when you think it's over, God sends you a miracle.

All you can change is yourself, but sometimes that changes everything.

Studies show that humans love doggies more than other humans.

Ain't it funny how being old(er) doesn't seem so old now that we're old(er).

Life doesn't get easier or more forgiving; we get stronger and more resilient.

Don't do anything that you will have to lie about later.

Don't try to change someone's life before you understand their world.

Sometimes, the smallest things take up the most room in your heart.

Still looking for the Gold in those so-called Golden years?

Be careful who you invite to solve your



problems.

I'm not old! I'm blessed with a life of great length - something not everyone can say.

I was thinking of the things I needed to do today, and my mind suddenly went blank. Problems solved.

No matter how long you've traveled in the wrong direction, you always have the choice to turn around.

Many people will panic to find a charger before their phone dies. But won't panic to find God before they die.

God is not going to rewrite the Bible for your generation. Stop trying to change scripture when it's written to change you.

The older I get, the more I understand that it's ok to live a life others don't understand.

Giving up your goal because of one setback is like slashing your other three tires because you got a flat.

Doctors' offices are like: "Show up 15 minutes early so the doctor can see you 45 minutes late."

Ignoring red flags because you want to "see the good in people" will cost you later.

May the freshness of the day keep you motivated and healthy throughout the day.

It's a new day; wake up, smile, and chase the little joys waiting for you.

Sometimes all you really need is a break from people needing you, because you need you.

Love is the greatest gift, hope is the brightest light, and kindness is the strongest force.

You can be very happy, and enjoy the scenery, even though you made a wrong turn.

I'm officially at the age where if I see a chair I'm going to sit down.

A president is picked, and then for four years is picked on.

Happiness is contagious. Let's hope you catch it.

You can't walk with God and run with the devil.

A bad day reminds us how special a good day is.

Be someone you could be proud of.

If you want to be happy, start with a smile.

Make every day an adventure to be proud of.

Happiness is a habit; you can make it grow.

A smile even makes your soul look beautiful.

Take pride in yourself and be respectful.

Never underestimate small things.

The church is prayer-conditioned.

When God ordains, He sustains.

Be a warrior, not a worrier.

This new generation does not like working. You could give them a job sleeping, and they'd wake up and quit.

If you remember the thrill of digging to the bottom of the cereal box to find the free prize, you remember simple morning joys.

A loyal, trusting, strong friendship doesn't always need daily conversation, doesn't always need togetherness. As long as the relationship lives in the heart, real friends will never part.

I'll never understand how a country can spend billions sending young men and women to war, yet somehow struggle to find the money to take care of them when they come home.

One of the biggest scams in life is paying taxes on the money we made, paying taxes on the money we spend, only to get taxed on the things we own, that we already paid taxes on, with our already taxed money.

Each day is once in a lifetime.

The most important things in life aren't things.

Peace is the only victory where no one has to lose.

The simplest moments often carry the deepest joy.

Happy people focus on what they love about their life.

Some connections don't need words, just connection and closeness.

There are friends in life, and there are friends for life.

You don't have to be like everyone else to belong.

They are not making yardsticks any longer.

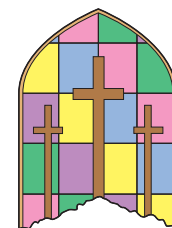
In life, be a participant, not a spectator.

Every time I walk outside it's a different season.

Gratitude is a light that shines from within.

Peace is not found. It is protected.

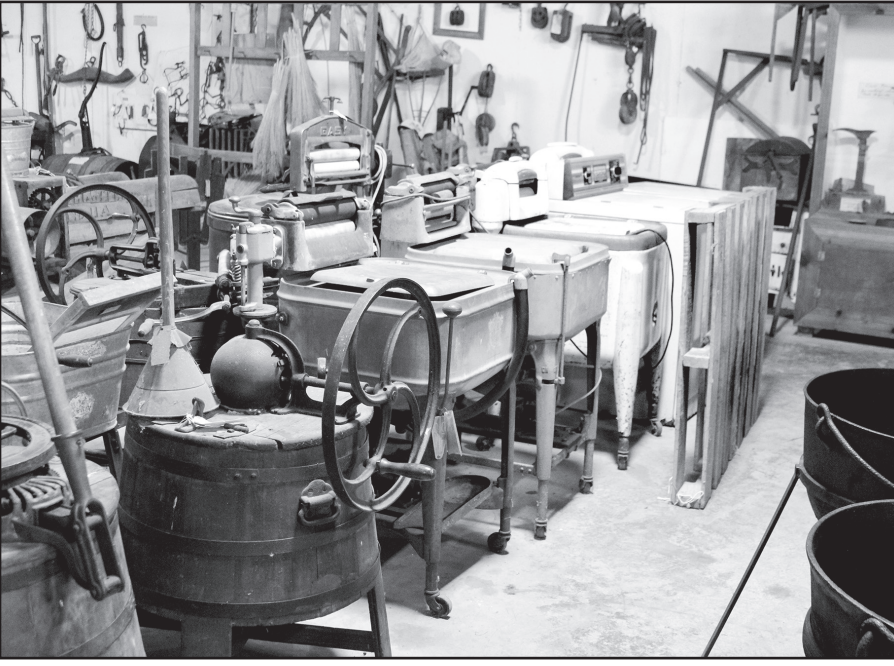
Bible Verse



One person considers one day more sacred than another; another considers every day alike. Each of them should be fully convinced in their own mind.

— Romans 14:5

West Virginia Farm Museum — A Place to Relive History



Washing machines from before electricity to the advent of the automatic.



The washing machine of Ron Allen's earliest years.



These cream separators are more modern than the one Ron knew.



Grandpa Joe's ice box was almost identical to this one.

Continued from Page 1

which I rode that summer. The museum's displays also featured a number of other items which were in use at Grandpa's farm. Dairy related equipment included 10-gallon milk cans, a milk can cooler, and cream separators. The cream separator at Grandpa's was a bit older than any on display. Grandpa's separator originally belonged to his father-in-law. Its gears lacked protective guards. Grammy (Grandpa's wife) was partially scalped as an eight-year-old when her hair became entangled in the gears. During the 1950's my Dad took over and expanded the dairy operation at the farm. The 10-gallon cans were replaced, first by a 500 gallon bulk tank, and then by a 1,200 gallon tank. There were times when milk production exceeded bulk tank capacity. When this happened the old cream separator came out of retirement and my mother used the cream to make butter. The separator could process a lot of milk in a short period. The clean up time greatly exceeded processing time.

Near the milk cans and the cream separator displays, there was an old ice box. It was identical to the one which Grandpa had. Grandpa got his first refrigerator in 1950. The ice box had three compartments, one on the left and upper and lower compartments on the right. Ice was placed in the upper right. Melt water was collected in a container below. Every few days, the ice man would stop and sell ice by the pound. At old time, Grandpa Joe maintained an ice house at the farm. I have memories of accompanying him to the Royal River where he cut ice for his own use. I was probably four years old.

Another exhibit to catch my eye was the washing machine display. It included every means used in clothes washing ever invented — everything from a washboard and tub to the first automatic washers. Before electricity, the knuckle-bruising washboard served as the appliance of choice. After washing and rinsing, excess water was wrung

by twisting and squeezing. Families with large washings employed hand crank wringers to remove the water.

I can remember my mother both hand

squeezing and wringer squeezing her tub washings, not at Grandpa's farm, but at our home, five miles distant. The wash tub was dual purpose in that it also served as vessel for my

Saturday night bath when I was a toddler.

There is much, much more to be seen at the farm museum in addition to farm tools, machinery, and household items of the

nineteenth century. There is a reconstructed rural community that includes a blacksmith shop, school, and church. The Farm Museum serves as a repository for local history,

featuring unique items like the Christopher H. Bauer Memorial Wildlife Museum and the world's largest taxidermy horse, "General".

Endorsements

Jo Ella Engel, Teacher West Teays
I am proud to support my friend as a candidate for the Board of Education. I know Tammy's values, her ethic, and genuine care for students and educators. Her integrity, dedication to students, and commitment to our community makes Tammy exactly the kind of leader our schools deserve.

Deana and Cheyenne McNeil, Owners of Kelle Biggs Dance Studio, Winfield
We are delighted to support and promote the campaign of our long-time dance family member at KBDS, Tammy Sowards. Tammy has shown unwavering dedication and passion over the years, and we believe she will bring valuable insights and energy to the Board of Education.

Lance and Sally Sutherland, Teachers, Putnam County
There is not a more caring or compassionate person I know of when it comes to kid and people in general. That is also why she has our vote for School Board. We know she is in it for the right reason, which is for the kids of Putnam County.

Derek Ragle, Principal Hurricane Middle School
I have known Tammy Sowards for over 20 years. In that time I have seen how much she values education and the integrity she has as a person. That is why she has my full endorsement for the Putnam BOE!

Glenna Ragle- Putnam County teacher
I believe Tammy will do a great job for our county school system. I've known her for years and have confidence in her always putting our students first.

Sonja Richardson, Principal Poca High School
Tammy Sowards brings female perspective and leadership to our board of education. She cares about our Putnam County students and schools, and she works tirelessly to support them. I trust her continued dedication to doing what is best for our students.



THE SOWARDS FAMILY

- Husband - Dwayne Sowards-Dwayne has been a Drivers Education teacher at Poca High School for over 36 years. If you, your spouse or any of your children had Drivers Ed in High School, they definitely know "Coach Sowards"
- Children:

***Jessica Hill** - Graduated from Winfield High School, and WVU with a degree in Elementary Education. Lives in Pinehurst, NC with her husband, Drew, who is a proud member of the US Air Force.

***Casey Sowards** - Graduated from Hurricane High School, lives in Greensboro, NC with his wife Carrie.

***Taylor Grimm** - Graduated from Winfield High School and WV State University and is now a proud Sargent with the US Army, stationed at Fort Drum in NY.

***Tyler Grimm** - Graduated from Winfield High School and Marshall University with a degree in Marketing. He has been a teacher in Florida and Kentucky.

Dan Mullins, Retired Putnam County teacher and coach
Tammy will bring a student-centered focus while prioritizing safety and high quality education for all Putnam County students.

Monk and Barb Collins
We are proud to support Tammy Sowards for the Putnam County Board of Education. We've known Tammy for over 47 years, and she is one of the most dedicated and honest people we know. She genuinely cares about our school, students, and community, and I know she will serve with integrity. Tammy has our full support.

Angie Washington
Tammy's priorities have been shaped by her family values, military up-bringing and recent service on the BOE. She is and will remain committed to supporting academic excellence for Putnam County students and families.

Chief Mike Mullins, Hurricane Police Department
As a current member of the Putnam County Board of Education, Mrs. Sowards demonstrates dedication and commitment to the students of Putnam County. She consistently prioritizes the needs and interests of the students. Being married to a Putnam County Educator, she has a unique perspective on the challenges and requirements faced by Putnam County students. I am confident Mrs. Sowards will continue to keep the best interest of the students in mind as she serves on the Putnam County Board of Education.

***Brandon Grimm** - Graduated from Winfield High School and attended WVU and Bridge Valley and graduated with a degree in Cyber Security. He works for Nitro Construction and lives in Fraziers Bottom.

***Payton Sowards** - Graduated from Winfield High School and is now attending WVU majoring in Secondary Education and Dance.

- Mother-in-Law - Sara Sowards age 87- Retired from Teays Valley Presbyterian Church where she was the secretary for over 30 years. She is affectionately know as "Granny" to many in the Teays Valley area.
- Father - Jack Van Dyke, age 101, proud WWII Veteran and life long educator and recruiter for Beckley College (now WVU Beckley) helping many high school students attend college when they thought they couldn't, changing their lives. He retired as a Real Estate agent for Old Colony in 1989.
- Grandchildren: 1 grandson, 4 granddaughters, and 1 more on the way

About Tammy Sowards

Tammy Sowards has proudly called Putnam County home for 50 years. She graduated from Hurricane High School, where she was involved in sports, band, and various clubs. She then attended Marshall University where she graduated with honors earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Marketing.

Tammy has built a successful career as a pharmaceutical representative and has received many sales and leadership awards throughout her career.

Tammy and her husband, Dwayne, have raised six children together, all graduates of Putnam County Schools. Their commitment to education extends beyond their own family. Recently they welcomed a student into their home who needed a stable place to live so he could remain in Putnam County and graduate from Buffalo High School. Tammy and her family are members of River Ridge Church in Hurricane.

In November 2024, Tammy was honored to be appointed to the Putnam County Board of Education. She has taken that responsibility seriously, working hard to learn the role and represent the community, schools, and students well.



- OUR STUDENTS
- OUR SCHOOLS
- OUR FUTURE

TAMMY SOWARDS

FOR
PUTNAM COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION

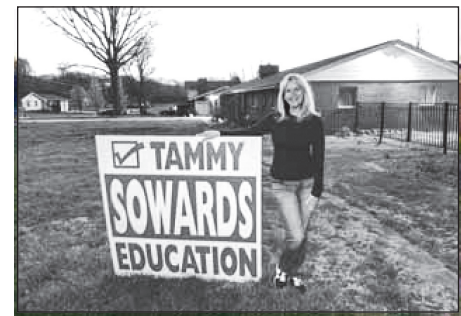
PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE
TO ELECT TAMMY SOWARDS

JO ELLA ENGEL, TREASURER

Tammy is running because she cares deeply about Putnam County, our students, our teachers, and our school staff. She believes strong schools strengthen our entire community, economy, and future.

Tammy's Guiding Principles

- Students First** - Every decision should be made with one question in mind: How does this impact our students?
- Fiscal responsibility** - Putnam County families work hard for their tax dollars. Tammy will work just as hard to ensure those dollars are spent wisely to strengthen our schools.
- Support for Teachers and Staff** - Teachers and school employees play a vital role in student success. Tammy will support the people who dedicate their lives to educating our children.
- Safe School Environment** - Tammy is committed to do what it takes to keep our children, teachers and staff safe.
- Extracurricular Activities** - In addition to academic success, Tammy believes in the importance of extracurricular activities to produce well-rounded students.
- Putnam Career and Technical Center** - Our Putnam County Career and Technical Center has provided some excellent opportunities for our students and I plan to continue this trend and offer support to this program.



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MORNING SERVICE 10:30 AM
EVENING SERVICE 5:00 PM
WEDNESDAY
TEENS 6:30 PM
SERVICE 7:00 PM

Daily Bible Readings

II Peter 2:1-22 Numbers 22:1-41 Exodus 40:1-38 John 8:1-59 Jude 1-25 Proverbs 26:1-28 I John 3:1-24

BASIC BIBLE

By Ron Allen
304-562-9881

The Deception of False Teachers

II Peter 2:10b-22

Peter, having expounded upon the manner in which God has judged the ungodly in times past, directs our attention to the ungodliness of false teachers and their egregious acts.

In verse 10, the apostle characterizes false teachers as being driven by unclean spirits (walking after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness) and despising authority (government). Peter further describes them as presumptuous and self-willed. He adds, “. . . they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities.”

At first blush, it would seem that Peter is saying that false teachers do not hesitate to speak out against those who are deserving of honor. A look at the Greek word which is translated as dignities, however, suggests that the false teachers were speaking out against the glories of God. The word “dignities” appears twice in the KJV. The Greek word “doxa” which is translated as dignities is translated as “glory” in 145 other occasions. In Greek translations of the Hebrew of the Old Testament, doxa is used to describe the visible glory of God which filled the tabernacle in Exodus 40:34-35.

False teachers do that which angels fear (see v. 11). Unlike angels, false teachers are flesh and blood and subject to destruction. Peter describes them as brute beasts, unaware that their destiny is to be slaughtered. They are without understanding and speak evil of that which they do not understand. Peter states that they shall perish in their own corruption and shall receive the reward of unrighteousness. Their unrighteousness is plain to see (they riot in the day time).

“Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you” (v. 13). False teachers feast with believers. They sit at the same tables and ingest the same food (a physical picture of the spiritual). It is a picture of self-deception because false teachers receive no nutritional benefit from the food they appear to consume. The spiritual food is ingested but not digested. False teachers make lavish claims of spiritual enlightenment (sport themselves) but are, in reality, spots and blemishes which cause the image of spiritual feasting to be distorted.

They eat but receive no nutritional benefit because they have “eyes full of adultery” and cannot cease from sin as they seek to beguile unstable souls (v. 14). Their quest is to feed upon the unstable. False teachers are not able to beguile the stable because the stable are anchored to the solid rock. Unstable souls are not anchored and subject to the evil which proceeds from the lips of them who deceive themselves.

Peter describes false teachers as cursed children which possess hearts that manifest covetous practices, children who have forsaken the right way to follow the way of Balaam the son of Bosor.

The way of Balaam is found in Numbers 22. Balaam inquired of the Lord. Heard God’s answer and then ignored it. Balaam disobeyed because he much desired the financial gain which he would receive upon cursing Israel. Balaam’s greed blinded him to danger (an angel with a sword). The angel was clearly visible to the ass which saved Balaam by refusing to continue on the path which Balaam had directed. Balaam, blind to danger, smote the ass three times. The Lord opened the mouth of the ass and she rebuked Balaam (Num. 22:28). False teachers are blinded by desire for gain as was Balaam. False teachers harm the innocent whom they seek to direct.

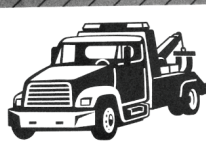
In verse 17, Peter describes them as wells without water and as wind blown clouds. Wells without water are empty and cannot satisfy. Peter adds that the mist of darkness is reserved for false teachers forever. The apostle did not reserve false teachers to eternal darkness. God did. God uses the pen of Peter to state that which is.

False teachers use great swelling words of vanity that appeal to the flesh to allure “those that were clean escaped from them who live in error” (v. 18). The clean were made clean because they were washed in the blood of the Lamb (I Pet. 1:19, Rev. 1:5). Those who live in error are the wicked, immoral, or idolatrous; they deny the Lord God and the righteousness of God. All believers have escaped the shackling fetters of sin. Believers know the Son who has made them free (Jn. 8:31-36). False teachers beguile the unstable with words of vanity — words which cause one to drift from the solid rock. False teachers promise liberty but are actually the servants of sin. All who follow their instruction shall become entangled with sin from which the Son has free them. Christ is not seen in them who are so entangled. False teachers are on a mission to ensnare the unstable again. False teachers cause men who are not firmly anchored to drift away from the solid rock.

Peter states, “For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them” (v. 21). The holy commandment is “That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another (I Jn. 3:23). If one knowingly turns from Jesus to follow false teaching, one rejects the way, the truth, and the life (Jn. 14:6). In so turning, one has chosen to believe Satan’s lies. Those who come to believe the lie, never truly believed the truth.

They are as a dog which return to its vomit and as a washed sow who returns to wallow in the mire. The dog never truly desired to leave his vomit and the sow never sought to leave her mire. True believers are anchored (stable) and do not turn from the way, the truth, and the life.

The judgment that awaits them who have chosen the way of Satan is most grievous. Let us tell all men in all places of the love which God has given — the way, the truth, and the life.



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Fri 8:00 - 5:30
Sat 7:30 - 3:00

KIDS TALK ABOUT GOD

BY CAREY KINSOLVING AND FRIENDS

Why Did Jesus Tell Peter to Put Away His Sword?

“Because Jesus didn’t want Peter to turn the garden into a pirate movie scene!” says Noah, 8. “And Peter was probably better at catching fish than fighting soldiers.”

When the soldiers came to arrest Jesus, Peter grabbed his sword and cut off the ear of Malchus, the high priest’s servant. But Jesus told him, “Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which my Father has given me?” (John 18:11). Jesus showed Peter and us that God’s plan was not about violence and revenge, but about love and sacrifice.

This “cup” was God’s plan for Jesus to bear the punishment of sin, so that eternal life could be offered freely by grace through faith in Jesus (Ephesians 2:8-9).

“Jesus wanted to show forgiveness,” says Mia, 9. “He didn’t come to fight back but to save us.”

Some people thought the Messiah would be a superhero, fighting bad guys and setting everyone free. But Jesus came to fight a different battle, the battle against sin and death. He came to lay down his life willingly. That’s why he stopped Peter from fighting.

“Jesus knew that if he didn’t let himself be arrested, he couldn’t die for our sins,” says Ethan, 10.

In that moment, Jesus showed mercy. He healed Malchus’s ear (Luke 22:51), showing love even to someone who was there to arrest him. Jesus taught that real strength is trusting God, even when it’s hard.

Sometimes we want to fight back when someone hurts us. Maybe we use our words like swords when we are angry. But Jesus calls us to put away our ‘swords’ and show love instead.

“Jesus was showing us that God’s kingdom is built on love, not fighting,” says Ava, 11.

Jesus could have called down angels to protect him. But he chose to obey God’s plan and go to the cross so that everyone could be saved from sin and death. Jesus wanted Peter (and us) to trust God’s plan, even when it looked scary.

Peter thought he was protecting Jesus by fighting, but Jesus had a bigger plan. As Charlie Bing often points out in his Grace Notes at gracelife.org, Jesus was committed to fulfilling the Father’s will, not Peter’s idea of victory. Jesus came to offer himself as the Lamb of God, a sacrifice for the sins of the world (John 1:29). Using the sword would have undermined the path of grace God laid out from the beginning.

We can also remember that Peter probably felt brave in the moment, but later he would deny Jesus three times before dawn. Jesus knew Peter’s heart and wanted to teach him a deeper lesson: the path to true victory is surrender to God’s will, not fighting.

Peter would later become a leader in spreading the gospel by preaching. This story shows us that God’s grace works through weakness and love, not through force.

When we face trouble, we might feel like grabbing a sword, but Jesus calls us to put it away, trust him, and remember that his grace is enough. Even when life feels chaotic, God’s plan is always best. Like Jesus, we can pray and abide in God’s peace by trusting that God in his grace will win our battles.

Think About This: Jesus trusted God’s plan, even when it meant suffering. He chose peace under extreme stress over revenge and violence.

Memorize This Truth: John 18:11 previously quoted.

Ask This Question: Have you chosen to abide in God’s love and peace instead of fighting back?

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Obituaries

SHIRLEY ANN ANDERSON

Shirley "Cricket" Anderson, 78, passed away on April 7, 2026, at Hubbard Hospice House in Charleston.

Born on January 25, 1948 in Virginia, Shirley spent most of her life in Hurricane, where she built a life centered around love, family, and caring for others. She was a daughter of the late Earl and Clara Jinks.

In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by her children: Kimberly Workman, Joey Russell, and Jessica Anderson; her sisters: Judy Ferrell and Elsie Jinks; her brother, Eddie Jinks; her granddaughter, April Owens; and her great-grandchildren: Braxton Marcel and Bentley Carter.

Shirley was known for her kind heart and selfless nature. She ran a daycare out of her home for many years, helping raise and care for countless children in her community. She was truly one of the most caring people you could ever meet and always willing to give the shirt off her back to anyone in need.

She is survived by her devoted husband of over 30 years, Oral James Anderson ("Jim"); her daughters: Sherry (Tony) Key of Winfield and Sarah (Todd) Bryant of Ohio; her sister, Mary Rooper of Saint Albans; her grandchildren: Ashley (Chris) Garnes, Carrie Owens, Britani (Wayde) Westfall, Tiffani (Trent) White, Kayla (David) Workman, Brady (Becca) Workman, Kaylee, Nathalia, Bennet, and Laney; as well as several great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

Graveside services for Shirley were Friday, April 10, 2026, at Donel C. Kinnard Memorial State Veterans Cemetery in Dunbar.

Shirley will be remembered for her warmth, generosity, and the love she gave so freely to everyone around her. Her legacy will live on through the many lives she touched.

THOMAS BOSTER

Thomas (TJ) Jefferson Boster, 89, of Hurricane, went home to his Lord and Savior on Wednesday, April 7, 2026. He was born on December 28, 1936 in

Culloden to the late James Herman Boster and Ruby Helen (Bowles) Boster, TJ was a dedicated husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather and brother. He loved to spend time with his family, to read and fish, and enjoyed quiet solitude. TJ was preceded in death by his parents, brother Brennis (BG) Golden Boster and Son-in-law Eddie Blount (Kris). He is survived by his loving wife, Ruth Ann (Bird) Boster, Sister Betty Richler (Ric), two sons Jeff (Sandy) and Steve (Debbie) Boster and daughter, Kris Blount, seven grandchildren and four great grandchildren. TJ was known for his kind and gentle spirit along with a solid contentment with life. He retired from Rhone Poulenc in 1999.

Visitation was at Allen Funeral Home on Saturday, April 11, 2026, followed by a graveside service at Mt. Olive Cemetery with Rev. Vernon Wallace officiating.

CHRISTINA ANN BURKS

Christina Ann "Crissy" Burks, 46, of Fraziers Bottom, passed away on Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at Hubbard Hospice House after a short illness with Vicky, Tina, and Alicia by her side.

She was born on May 10, 1979, to the late Shirley Ann Ferguson and Ernest Ross Burks. In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by her sister, Tammy Ferguson; brother, Mark Allen Burks; grandparents: Lilly and Cleatis Gillispie, Melvin Gillispie, Earl Ross Burks and Mary Mable Burks; as well as nieces: Kaylee Pearson Casto and Kayla McCutcheon.

Crissy is survived by her Life Partner, Andy Proctor; children: Samantha McCallister, Kaiden Proctor and Grayson Proctor; grandson, Kolten Riley; sisters: Tina Nutter (Ernie Miller) of Buffalo, Vicky Crouser of Fraziers Bottom, Deborah Burks (Johnny) of St. Albans, and Kimberly Burks; brother Phillip Ross Burks; as well as several nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends, certainly cannot forget her dogs Max and Bernie.

Memorial service for Crissy will be 7:00 pm, Friday, April 17, 2026, at Chapman Funeral Home, Hurricane.

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DARRELL LEE GOODWIN

Darrell Lee Goodwin, 71, of Poca, passed away Wednesday, April 8, 2026, at WVU Thomas Memorial Hospital.

He was a retired employee of T. Marzetti Corporation, a proud Army veteran, and a man who greatly enjoyed farming.

He was known for his strong work ethic, dedication to his family, and love of the land.

He is survived by his loving wife, Patricia; his children, Kitty (Jeff) Thomas, DJ (Heather) Goodwin, and Brandy (Jonathan) Presley; his step-daughters, Bonita (Paul) Bradshaw and Regina Bell; his grandchildren, Brad (Tristan) Thomas, Destiny Goodwin, Hope (Elijah Skewes) Goodwin, Courtney Thomas, Shane (Maggie) Presley, Elijah Goodwin, and Isaiah Goodwin; and his great-grandchildren, Jordyn Thomas and Alister Skewes.

In keeping with his wishes, there will be no services.

DIANE L. HALLEY

Diane L. Halley, 78, of Poca, formerly of St. Albans, passed away April 7, 2026.

Diane was a proud graduate of St. Albans High School and dedicated many years of service to City National Bank before her retirement. She will be remembered for her steadfast work ethic, quiet strength, and the care she showed to those around her.

She was the daughter of the late Gerald and Ruby Deal.

Diane is survived by her loving companion of 28 years, David R. Means, whose devotion and companionship brought her great comfort and joy.

Burial was in Haven of Rest Memory Gardens in Red House.

CHARLES HALSTEAD

Revelation 21:4: "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."

Charles William Halstead Jr., known to many as Bill or Billy, passed away on April 9, 2026, at St. Mary's Hospital in Huntington. He entered into eternal rest in the care of his Lord and Savior. He was a 1974 graduate of St. Albans High School and was employed at various chemical plants prior to his retirement. He was a member of First Baptist Church of Hurricane and sang in the choir until his illness prevented his attendance.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Pauline Halstead; his brother, Monty Halstead; and his parents-in-law, Hillard and Juanita McCallister.

He is survived by his wife, Cheryl Lynn McCallister Halstead; his two sons, Chad and Jeremy; his brother, Michael Halstead; his five grandsons, Peyton, Luke, Parker, Max, and Tyler; and numerous relatives and friends.

Among his passions was establishing a program at Recovery Point in Huntington, known as SOD (Surviving Others Dailey). Through this effort, he taught men to cultivate a garden; however, the mission extended beyond gardening, as he also shared Bible lessons that were new to many participants. He devoted himself wholeheartedly to the program until his health no longer allowed him to continue.

Funeral services were Tuesday, April 14, at Allen Funeral Home, with Pastor Jeff Davenport officiating. Interment was in Forest Memorial Park in Milton.

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BARRY E. LANHAM

Barry E. Lanham, 65, of Red House, passed away Monday, April 6, 2026, at CAMC Memorial. He was a graduate of Poca High School and retired from Cintas with many years of service. Barry loved to fish, golf and spend time outdoors. He was an avid sports fan and enjoyed listening and watching all sports.

He was preceded in death by his father Darrell Lanham.

Survivors include his mother, Dorene Lanham of Poca; wife of 40 years, Anita Darby Lanham;

daughter, Brooke (Craig) Goldsberry of Seebert; son, Ben (Ica) Lanham of Montgomery; daughter Alexa Lanham of Red House; brother, Brady (Tamie) Lanham of Poca; sister, Lisa (Chuck) Courtney of Poca; grandchildren, Hailey Goldsberry and James Goldsberry.

Funeral service was Monday, April 13, 2026 at Raynes Funeral Home, Eleanor, with Pastor David Panaro Jr. officiating. Burial was in Beech Grove Cemetery, Eleanor.

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SAMPLE BALLOT OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY Primary Election

Putnam County, WV

May 12, 2026

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER
To vote you must darken the oval (●) completely next to the candidate or issue of your choice.
NATIONAL TICKET
FOR U.S. SENATOR (Vote for ONE)
BRYAN McKINNEY Inwood Berkeley Co.
JANET McNULTY Martinsburg Berkeley Co.
TOM WILLIS Martinsburg Berkeley Co.
ALEXANDER GAASERUD Parkersburg Wood Co.
SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO Charleston Kanawha Co.
DAVID PURKEY Fairmont Marion Co.
FOR U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 1ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT (Vote for ONE)
CAROL MILLER Huntington Cabell Co.
LARRY JACKSON Hanover Wyoming Co.
STATE TICKET
FOR STATE SENATOR 4TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT (Vote for ONE)
The following precincts vote in the 4th Senatorial District: 3, 5, 6-1, 6-2, 7, 8, 9, 10-1, 10-2, 11, 12, 24, 25-1, 25-2, 26-1, 26-2, 27, 28, 29-1, 29-2, 30, 31, 32, 33-1, 33-2, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45 and 47
PHILLIP SURFACE Winfield Putnam Co.
TRAVIS WILLARD Hurricane Putnam Co.
ERIC J. TARR Scott Depot Putnam Co.
FOR STATE SENATOR 8TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT (Vote for ONE)
The following precincts vote in the 8th Senatorial District: 1, 2, 4, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 34, 37, 38 and 40
LANCE WHEELER Charleston Kanawha Co.
T. KEVAN BARTLETT Sissonville Kanawha Co.
STEVEN CARDER ESHENAUER Dunbar Kanawha Co.
FOR MEMBER OF HOUSE OF DELEGATES 18TH DELEGATE DISTRICT (Vote for ONE)
The following precincts vote in the 18th Delegate District: 30
JIM BUTLER Gallipolis Ferry Mason Co.
FOR MEMBER OF HOUSE OF DELEGATES 19TH DELEGATE DISTRICT (Vote for ONE)
The following precincts vote in the 19th Delegate District: 1, 2, 4, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 28, 34, 37, 38, 40 and 47
KATHIE HESS CROUSE Buffalo Putnam Co.
FOR MEMBER OF HOUSE OF DELEGATES 20TH DELEGATE DISTRICT (Vote for ONE)
The following precincts vote in the 20th Delegate District: 3, 11, 12, 25-1, 25-2, 26-1, 26-2, 27, 29-1, 29-2, 41, 43 and 44
SARAH DRENNAN Winfield Putnam Co.
FOR MEMBER OF HOUSE OF DELEGATES 21ST DELEGATE DISTRICT (Vote for ONE)
The following precincts vote in the 21st Delegate District: 5, 6-1, 6-2, 7, 8, 9, 10-1, 10-2, 24, 31, 32, 33-1, 33-2, 42 and 45
MICHAEL KIDD Hurricane Putnam Co.
C. D. CALDWELL Hurricane Putnam Co.
FOR STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 4TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT (Female) (Vote For Not More Than TWO)
Two males can be elected and two females can be elected, but not more than two people (male or female) of any one county can be elected.
The following precincts vote in the 4th Senatorial District: 3, 5, 6-1, 6-2, 7, 8, 9, 10-1, 10-2, 11, 12, 24, 25-1, 25-2, 26-1, 26-2, 27, 28, 29-1, 29-2, 30, 31, 32, 33-1, 33-2, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45 and 47
LOUISA FOSTER Fraziers Bottom Putnam Co.
CARLA LINVILLE Milton Cabell Co.
SHELBY HILL Milton Cabell Co.
JESSICA HODGE Hurricane Putnam Co.
ANNA MARIA BUTLER Gallipolis Ferry Mason Co.
Write-in, If Any

STATE TICKET
FOR STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 4TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT (Male) (Vote For Not More Than TWO)
Two males can be elected and two females can be elected, but not more than two people (male or female) of any one county can be elected.
The following precincts vote in the 4th Senatorial District: 3, 5, 6-1, 6-2, 7, 8, 9, 10-1, 10-2, 11, 12, 24, 25-1, 25-2, 26-1, 26-2, 27, 28, 29-1, 29-2, 30, 31, 32, 33-1, 33-2, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45 and 47
TONY HODGE Hurricane Putnam Co.
ISAAC TINCHER Scott Depot Putnam Co.
GUNNAR FOSTER Fraziers Bottom Putnam Co.
ROY L. RAMEY II Lesage Cabell Co.
JIM BUTLER Gallipolis Ferry Mason Co.
Write-in, If Any
FOR STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 8TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT (Female) (Vote For Not More Than TWO)
Two males can be elected and two females can be elected, but not more than two people (male or female) of any one county can be elected.
The following precincts vote in the 8th Senatorial District: 1, 2, 4, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 34, 37, 38 and 40
KRISTIN KING Lizemores Clay Co.
JEANETTE RAINES ATKINSON Reedy Roane Co.
ERICA J. MOORE Spencer Roane Co.
KATHERINE S. McCORMICK Dunbar Kanawha Co.
Write-in, If Any
FOR STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 8TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT (Male) (Vote For Not More Than TWO)
Two males can be elected and two females can be elected, but not more than two people (male or female) of any one county can be elected.
T. KEVAN BARTLETT Sissonville Kanawha Co.
STEVEN CARDER ESHENAUER Dunbar Kanawha Co.
MARTIN 'RICK' ATKINSON Reedy Roane Co.
ANDY SHAMBLIN Nitro Kanawha Co.
RANDY WAYNE HALSTEAD Ripley Jackson Co.
Write-in, If Any
NONPARTISAN BALLOT OF ELECTION OF JUDICIAL OFFICERS
NONPARTISAN BALLOT OF ELECTION OF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA - DIVISION 1 UNEXPIRED 6 YEAR TERM (Vote for ONE)
GERALD TITUS Charleston Kanawha Co.
TODD A. KIRBY Beckley Raleigh Co.
H.L. "KIRK" KIRKPATRICK Beckley Raleigh Co.
LAURA V. FAIRCLOTH Martinsburg Berkeley Co.
MARTIN P. "RED HAT" SHEEHAN Wheeling Ohio Co.
Write-in, If Any
NONPARTISAN BALLOT OF ELECTION OF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA - DIVISION 2 UNEXPIRED 2 YEAR TERM (Vote for ONE)
TOM EWING Edmond Fayette Co.
BILL FLANIGAN Wheeling Marshall Co.
Write-in, If Any
NONPARTISAN BALLOT OF ELECTION OF JUDGE OF THE INTERMEDIATE COURT OF APPEALS - DIVISION 1 (Vote for ONE)
JIM DOUGLAS Charleston Kanawha Co.
DAN GREEAR So Charleston Kanawha Co.
Write-in, If Any
NONPARTISAN BALLOT OF ELECTION OF CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE - 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT - DIVISION 2 UNEXPIRED 6 YEAR TERM (Vote for ONE)
MARK A. SORSAIA Hurricane Putnam Co.
Write-in, If Any

COUNTY TICKET
FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER (Not more than one resident of any magisterial district may be elected) (Vote for ONE)
BRIAN ELLIS Hurricane District 3
FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER UNEXPIRED TERM (Not more than one resident of any magisterial district may be elected) (Vote for ONE)
WESLEY LEE LANDERS Given District 1
MIKE STONE Leon District 1
ZACH CREDE Red House District 1
DOUG PIERSON Buffalo District 1
FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 1ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT (Female) (Vote for ONE)
JESSICA HODGE Hurricane
Write-in, If Any
FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 1ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT (Male) (Vote for ONE)
BRIAN WOOD Winfield
Write-in, If Any
FOR SENATORIAL DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 4TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT (Female) (Vote for ONE)
SABRINA MANUEL Hurricane
Write-in, If Any
FOR SENATORIAL DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 4TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT (Male) (Vote for ONE)
BRIAN WOOD Winfield
Write-in, If Any
FOR SENATORIAL DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 8TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT (Female) (Vote for ONE)
KRIS RAYNES Eleanor
Write-in, If Any
FOR SENATORIAL DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 8TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT (Male) (Vote for ONE)
NO CANDIDATE(S) FILED
Write-in, If Any
OFFICIAL NONPARTISAN BALLOT OF ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
NONPARTISAN BOARD OF EDUCATION (Vote For Not More Than THREE) Maximum eligible to be elected from districts: Dist. I (2); Dist. II (1); Dist. III (1)
CONNIE BRECK Hurricane District 2
BRAD HODGES Hurricane District 3
SARAH BROWN Hurricane District 2
KAREN DILLARD Winfield District 2
TAMMY SOWARDS Scott Depot District 2
JAKE FERTIG Scott Depot District 2
WILLIAM "BUTCH" LEGG Poca District 1
Write-in, If Any
OFFICIAL NONPARTISAN BALLOT
FOR CONSERVATION DISTRICT SUPERVISOR WESTERN DISTRICT (Vote for ONE)
JAMES WITHROW Leon
CHRISTINE WELCH Scott Depot
Write-in, If Any

FOR COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DISTRICT I (Female) (Vote For Not More Than TWO)
The following precincts vote in the 1st Magisterial District: 1, 2, 4, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 28, 30, 34, 37, 38, 40 and 47
KENESSA THOMPSON Poca
KRIS RAYNES Eleanor
Write-in, If Any
FOR COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DISTRICT I (Male) (Vote For Not More Than TWO)
MARK HIGGINBOTHAM Eleanor
NO CANDIDATE(S) FILED
Write-in, If Any
The following precincts vote in the 2nd Magisterial District: 3, 11, 12, 25-1, 25-2, 26-1, 26-2, 27, 29-1, 29-2, 41, 43 and 44
FOR COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DISTRICT II (Female) (Vote For Not More Than TWO)
SABRINA MANUEL Hurricane
NO CANDIDATE(S) FILED
Write-in, If Any
FOR COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DISTRICT II (Male) (Vote For Not More Than TWO)
KYLE LONG Fraziers Bottom
VASILIOS "BILLY" MANUEL Hurricane
RON STONE Winfield
Write-in, If Any
FOR COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DISTRICT III (Female) (Vote For Not More Than TWO)
The following precincts vote in the 3rd Magisterial District: 5, 6-1, 6-2, 7, 8, 9, 10-1, 10-2, 24, 31, 32, 33-1, 33-2, 42 and 45
FOR COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DISTRICT III (Female) (Vote For Not More Than TWO)
ILSE LONG Hurricane
JESSICA HODGE Hurricane
BECKY RICHMOND Hurricane
Write-in, If Any
FOR COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DISTRICT III (Male) (Vote For Not More Than TWO)
CALEB A. TURNER Hurricane
TONY HODGE Hurricane
Write-in, If Any
OFFICIAL LEVY BALLOT
The following precincts vote in the City of Hurricane: 5, 7, 8, 9, 42, 44 & 45
LEVY ELECTION
CITY OF HURRICANE TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026
A special election to authorize additional levies for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2027-2028, 2028-2029, 2029-2030, 2030-2031, and for the purpose of (a) Street Department expenses and (b) Public Safety expenses, according to an Order and Notice dated January 5, 2026 of the Council for the City of Hurricane.
The total approximate amount of said purposes being Street Department \$350,576.55 and Public Safety Department \$336,828.45 per fiscal year.
The Additional Levies, in cents per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation, shall be on Class I property, 6.25 cents; Class II property, 12.5 cents; Class IV property, 25 cents.
FOR THE LEVIES
AGAINST THE LEVIES

I, Brian Wood, Clerk of the County Commission and Ex-Officio Chairman of the Putnam County Board of Ballot Commissioners, hereby certify that the foregoing is a facsimile of the Official Ballot for the Primary Election to be held on May 12, 2026, as provided by Chapter 3, Section 5, and Article 10 of the West Virginia Code.

Given under my hand and seal of said Court this 12th day of March 2026.

Brian Wood, Clerk Putnam County Commission Ex-Officio Chairman of the Putnam County Board of Ballot Commissioners

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Table with 4 columns: Putnam County, WV; STATE TICKET; COUNTY TICKET; May 12, 2026. Includes sections for INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER, NATIONAL TICKET, STATE SENATOR, COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, and LEVY ELECTION.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
COUNTY OF PUTNAM, TO-WIT:
I, Brian Wood, Clerk of the County Commission and Ex-Officio Chairman of the Putnam County Board of Ballot Commissioners, hereby certify that the foregoing is a facsimile of the Official Ballot for the Primary Election to be held on May 12, 2026, as provided by Chapter 3, Section 5, and Article 10 of the West Virginia Code.
Given under my hand and seal of said Court this 12th day of March 2026.
Brian Wood, Clerk
Putnam County Commission
Ex-Officio Chairman of the Putnam County Board of Ballot Commissioners

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

SAMPLE NONPARTISAN BALLOT Putnam County, WV Primary Election May 12, 2026. INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER: To vote you must darken the oval (●) completely next to the candidate or issue of your choice. OFFICIAL NONPARTISAN BALLOT OF ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION. NONPARTISAN BOARD OF EDUCATION (Vote For Not More Than THREE) Maximum eligible to be elected from districts: Dist. I (2); Dist. II (1); Dist. III (1). Candidates include GERALD TITUS, TODD A. KIRBY, H.L. "KIRK" KIRKPATRICK, LAURA V. FAIRCLOTH, MARTIN P. "RED HAT" SHEEHAN, JIM DOUGLAS, DAN GREEAR, MARK A. SORSAIA, and others.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA COUNTY OF PUTNAM, TO-WIT: I, Brian Wood, Clerk of the County Commission and Ex-Officio Chairman of the Putnam County Board of Ballot Commissioners, hereby certify that the foregoing is a facsimile of the Official Ballot for the Primary Election to be held on May 12, 2026, as provided by Chapter 3, Section 5, and Article 10 of the West Virginia Code. Given under my hand and seal of said Court this 12th day of March 2026. Brian Wood, Clerk

Table with 2 columns: LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT and LEGAL NOTICE. Contains PUTNAM COUNTY EARLY VOTING SCHEDULE FOR MAY 12, 2026, PRIMARY ELECTION. Schedule includes dates from Wednesday, April 29 to Saturday, May 9, with voting times from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Note: SATURDAY, MAY 9, IS THE LAST DAY OF EARLY VOTING. VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION IS TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT LEGAL NOTICE. In compliance with West Virginia Code, Chapter 3, Article 4A, Section 13, the Putnam County Clerk hereby gives notice to the people of Putnam County that on April 21, 2026, at 8:30 a.m., on the second floor of the courthouse, testing of Election Day and tabulating equipment to be used for the May 12, 2026, Primary Election, will take place. City of Hurricane NOTICE OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING. Hurricane City Council will hold a Special Council Meeting to Lay the Levy for FY2027 on Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 6:30pm at Hurricane City Hall, 3255 Teays Valley Road, Hurricane, WV 25526.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

NOTICE TO REDEEM 2023-C-000272 - Putnam County To: REBECCA STARKEY WEBB, RICHARD W. RHOADES, TRUSTEE, ASSOCIATES FINANCIAL SERVICES OF AMERICA, INC., DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE C/O U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE SOUTHERN DISTRICT, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property. DISTRICT SCOTT MAP 214 PARCEL 0015 0000 0000

You will take notice that CLAY CLODFELTER, the purchaser of the following real estate, Cert. No. 2023-C-000272, located in SCOTT District, LOT CROOKED CRK, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of STARKEY DARLENE RUTH, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of PUTNAM County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on JUNE 18, 2024. CLAY CLODFELTER, requests that you be notified that a deed for such real estate will be made on or after June 1, 2026, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before May 31, 2026 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2022 - 26525. \$131.45 Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number \$0.00 Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2023-26614. \$54.45 Additional taxes with interest. \$0.00 Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest. \$219.00 Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest. \$703.22 Additional Statutory Fees with interest. \$781.08 Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check. \$1,889.20 You may redeem at any time before May 31, 2026, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above. Given under my hand March 27, 2026. Christal G. Perry Christal G. Perry Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of PUTNAM County, State of West Virginia Please return this letter and payment to the West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Building 1, Room W-114, Charleston, West Virginia, 25305. Questions please call 1-888-509-6568

Qualified Newspapers Only newspapers with a bonafide circulation are qualified to publish legal advertisements. A free distribution newspaper has a bonafide circulation of zero and does not meet state code requirements. The Breeze is qualified to publish all legal advertisement pertaining to Putnam County.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING The Putnam County Commission will meet on Tuesday, May 26, 2026 beginning at 5:00 pm in Room 221 of the Putnam County Courthouse, 12093 Winfield Road, Winfield, WV. All interested parties are invited to attend. The following will be on the agenda for discussion and possible decision. PCPC REZ 2026-02 W2 Investments has submitted a Zoning Amendment Application for a Rezoning for 0.94± acres (Tax Map 222E, Parcel 52.2) in Hurricane, WV 25526. The request is to rezone part of the parcel from "R-1" Single Family Residential District to "C-1" Suburban Commercial District.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT IN THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF PUTNAM COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA NOTICE OF HEARING ON ORDERS TO SHOW CAUSE AGAINST DELINQUENT OR UNPROGRESSED ESTATES The undersigned Fiduciary Supervisor does hereby NOTIFY all persons interested in the below estates that a hearing before the County Commission on this matter has been scheduled on Tuesday, the 28TH day of April, 2026, at 9:00 o'clock a.m. at the Courthouse located at 12093 Winfield Road, Winfield, West Virginia, on the Order to Show Cause previously entered by the County Commission on the 10th day of February 2026, for presentation of the Reports thereof by the Fiduciary Supervisor against the following appointed personal representatives: Estate of Lona J. Akers Estate of Dorothy Jean Angle Estate of Donna Lee Ashworth Estate of Bradley Atkins Estate of Trudy Elaine Bailey Estate of Catherine M. Ballengee Estate of Kathryn Sue Barnett Estate of Luther Jennings Whitt Angela Maynard, Administratrix Hope M. Siler, Administratrix CTA Zachary D. Ashworth, Executor David Atkins, Administrator Victoria Davis, Administratrix Donald Ballengee, Executor Basil M. Barnett, Administrator Douglas e. Grant, Executor Larry Frye Fiduciary Supervisor

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PUTNAM COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA State of West Virginia, West Virginia Department of Human Services, Petitioner, V. Civil Action No. 26-JA-14 Anthony Lawson, Respondent.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT The object of the Petition filed in this matter is to provide protection to the infant child, K.M., whose date of birth is 07/11/2020. To the above-named Respondent: Please take notice that you have been named as the purported father to the above-named child. This matter will come on for an adjudicatory hearing or any other appropriate relief before the Honorable Derek C. Swope, Judge of the Circuit Court of Putnam County, West Virginia, on the 5th day of June, 2026, at 1:00 p.m., at which time and place you may be present to protect your interests, if you so desire. You are further advised that the infant child and respondents in this proceeding shall have the right to counsel at this hearing and every stage of the proceedings; that if you cannot pay for the services of counsel, the Court shall appoint counsel for you; and that said proceeding could result in the permanent termination of your parental rights. You are further advised that if an answer or appearance is not made by you at said hearing, thereafter, judgment upon proper hearing and trial may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the petition. An original and copies of the petition have been filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk of Putnam County, West Virginia, at the Putnam County Judicial Building, 12093 Winfield Road, Winfield, West Virginia, 25213, and a copy of said petition is available for each respondent at said office upon request.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA By Counsel, /s/ Paige W. Hoffman Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Putnam County, West Virginia DATE: 4-1-26 4-9-2t

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT ORDER OF PUBLICATION IN THE MAGISTRATE COURT OF PUTNAM COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA Johnson Properties P. O. Box 93 Scott Depot, WV 25560, Plaintiff v. Civil Action No. 26-M40C-00107 Austin Dale Parsons & Haley Parsons 21 Valley Addition/27 Wabash Lane Poca, WV 25159, Defendant The object of the above entitled action is to gain possession of Real Property located at 21 Valley Addition - 27 Wabash Lane, Poca, WV 25159, the address above is the last known address for the Defendant. And it appearing by an affidavit filed in this action that the Plaintiff has used due diligence to locate the Defendant and to gain possession of property located at: 21 Valley Addition - 27 Wabash Lane, Poca, WV 25159, it is ordered that She/He do serve upon Putnam Co. Magistrate Court, Sarah Weaver, Magistrate, whose address is 12093 Winfield Road, Suite 15, Winfield, WV 25213, an answer or other defense to the complaint this action on or before April 29, 2026, otherwise judgment by default will be taken against Her/ Him at any time thereafter. A copy of said complaint can be obtained from the undersigned Clerk at her office. Entered by Clerk of said Court Putnam Magistrate Court DARRY CASTO/yc Magistrate Court Clerk 4-9-2t

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE OF ANCILLARY FILING WITHOUT ANY ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATE Notice is hereby given that a foreign will or affidavit without administration of estate has been filed Putnam County Clerk's Office pursuant to the provisions of law as follows: Decedent: HELEN JANE REA Filed By: WILLIAM COCHRAN 4630 JIM RIDGE ROAD LIBERTY, WV 25124

Any person interested person objecting to the filing of the foreign will or Affidavit or objecting to the absence of appointment or administration being made in this state must file a notice of an objection with the undersigned fiduciary supervisor within 60 days after March 25, 2026, or within 30 days of the service of the notice, whichever is later. If an objection is not filed timely, the objection is forever barred. Given under my than this 2nd day of April 2026. Fiduciary Supervisor, Putnam County 12093 Winfield Road, Winfield, WV 25213 4-9-2t

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PUTNAM COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA In Re: Change of Name from Alexander Lee Harmon to Alexander Lee Harrison

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLICATION CHANGE OF NAME PROCEEDING Civil Action No. 26-P-33 Circuit Court of Putnam County, West Virginia Notice is hereby given that on the 1st day of May, 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, Joseph Harrison will apply by Petition to the Circuit Court of Putnam County, West Virginia for the entry of an order by said Court, changing his child's name from Alexander Lee Harmon to Alexander Lee Harrison, 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 form the undersigned Clerk at her office at 12093 Winfield Road, Ste. 12, Winfield, WV 25213. Entered by the Clerk of said Court this 31st day of March, 2026. Stephanie M. Smith Putnam County Circuit Clerk 4-9-2t

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF PUTNAM COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA To: Magistrate Court Case No.: 26-M40D-00020 Jason Grant Winter Respondent's Name Family 158 Scottsdale Lane Family Scott Depot WV 25560 Court Respondent's Address Civil Action 10-20-1975 No.: 26-DV-15 Date of Birth

ORDER OF PUBLICATION (PROTECTIVE ORDER / HEARING DATE) 1. The object of this suit is to obtain protection from the Respondent. 2. The object of this publication by Class I legal advertisement is to notify Respondent of the PROTECTIVE ORDER prohibiting the above-named Respondent from having contact with certain individuals. This order may affect property and other rights of the Respondent. Violating this Order may subject the Respondent to criminal sanctions. The Respondent is strongly encouraged to obtain a copy of this Protective Order and Petition from the Circuit Clerk of the county listed above.

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT: It appearing by evidence duly taken in this action that you could not be found in or that you have left the State of West Virginia, you are hereby notified of the ORDER referenced above, a copy of the Petition and Order may be obtained at the Putnam County Circuit Clerk's office. This PROTECTIVE ORDER will remain in effect until 9-14-2026. The Respondent may appeal this Protective Order pursuant to W. Va. Code § 48-27-510, within 10 days of the date of the order was entered. Issued this 13th day of April, 2026. STEPHANIE SMITH/Jo Circuit Clerk 4-16-1tw

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.: 6408 Estate Of: Ira Lee Belcher Executrix: Kendra L. Burch aka Belcher 15171 Truman Manor Ln. Waldorf, MD 20601 Estate No.: 6412 Estate Of: Della Jill Litton Administrator: Michael R. Litton 48 Jordan Addition Scott Depot, WV 25560 Estate No.: 6431 Estate Of: Gretna Burns Forest Michels Executrix: Dennis R. Dodrill 39 Bexdley Drive Scott Depot, WV 25560 Estate No.: 6427 Estate Of: Charles W. Miller Co Executrix: Kimberly Lynn Perraut 707 Charlie St. Hurricane, WV 25526 Co Executrix: Deborah Ann Gray 856 Walker Rd Charleston, WV 25311 Estate No.: 6372 Estate Of: Thomas Edward Mullooly, II Executrix: Lisa Chabners 1 Woodvale Heights Hurricane, WV 25526 Estate No.: 6426 Estate Of: Claude Edward Null Executrix: Jerry Null PO Box 488 Eleanor, WV 25070 Estate No.: 6405 Estate Of: Havern Eric Parsons Administratrix: Tamara Larabee-Parsons 108 Muddy Gut Rd Poca, WV 25159 Estate No.: 6341 Estate Of: James Nathan Reed Executrix: Cynthia Ann Reed 293 E. Mud River Rd. Milton, WV 25541 Estate No.: 6350 Estate Of: Dorothy Faye Saunders Administratrix: Brandi F. Saunders 842 Pumpkin Vine Rd. Buffalo, WV 25033 Estate No.: 6370 Estate Of: Michael Lawrence Sipe Administrator: Haven M. Sipe 156 Oakwood Est. Scott Depot, WV 25560 Estate No.: 6441 Estate Of: Janet C. Young Executrix: John Edward Young 6 Richland Drive Hurricane, WV 25526

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 April 9, 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 April 9, 2026. Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 1st day of April 2026 Fiduciary Supervisor Putnam County Commission 10293 Winfield Road, Winfield, WV 25213 4-9-2t

Obituaries

Continued from Page 7

DONALD ALTON LOHR JR.

Donald A. Lohr Jr., 80, of Winfield, peacefully passed into the arms of the Lord on April 9, 2026, surrounded by his loved ones. Don devoted his life to discipleship, relational ministry, and caring for his family.

Don was born in Lima, Ohio, on March 10, 1946, to Donald A. Lohr Sr. and Marjorie Lohr. He attended Elida High School and graduated in 1964. The following year he wedded his wife, Sharon Gracely. United by their faith they cherished sixty diamond years of marriage.

Don was called to the ministry at a young age and began his lifelong commitment to preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ by training at a seminary in Illinois. He graduated in 1969 with a theological certificate and took his first pastorate in Indianapolis. He spent over 45 years serving as an ordained minister in the

Church of the Nazarene and shepherd to hundreds of people across Indiana, Michigan, Tennessee, Florida, West Virginia and beyond. His final pastoral assignment came at the Huntington First Church of the Nazarene. He spent his retirement years as an interim minister in churches across the Mountain State. He touched many lives and was a champion for those that needed a hand up.

Don had connections across the United States and treasured his golden years reconnecting and traveling with a few of his beloved friends. A baseball enthusiast, Don was a lifelong fan of the Cincinnati Reds and enjoyed watching and going to games with his family. He was an avid supporter of his four grandchildren - the pride and joy of his life - and dedicated time and energy to encouraging them in their endeavors.

Left to cherish the beautiful memories of a life well lived are his loving wife, Sharon Lohr; two daughters: Lisa (Terry) Hedrick of Hurricane and Christy (Shawn) Boggs of Scott Depot; his beloved grandchildren: Sierra (Kweja) Little of Saint Albans, Cheyenne (Justin) Smith of Morgantown, Brayton Boggs and Gannon Boggs of Winfield; and three sisters, Linda Kimmel, Marilyn Starr and Becky Crites.

A funeral service celebrating Don's life was held on Tuesday, April

14th, 2026 at Chapman Funeral Home, Winfield, with Reverend Marc Price officiating. Entombment was in Haven of Rest Memory Gardens in Red House.

KENNETH EARL SYBERT

Kenneth Earl Sybert, 71, of Buffalo, formerly of Kittanning, Pennsylvania, passed away Wednesday, April 8, 2026 at Glasgow Health & Rehab following a long illness. He loved to spend time in the outdoors and enjoyed hunting and fishing. Growing up in Pennsylvania, he often fished the Allegheny River. Kenneth had made many fond friendships during his years spent in Buffalo, and will be sadly missed.

Born June 26, 1954, he was the son of the late Samuel A. Sybert and Gladys S. Boarts Sybert. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by brothers, Samuel Ralph Sybert, and James Edward Sybert; and a niece, Tina Louise Sybert.

Survivors include his sister, Sara Henson of Buffalo; his brother, Charles William Sybert of Pennsylvania; a sister-in-law, Bernice Sybert; a cousin, Mary Ann Swarmer of Pennsylvania; and nephews, George Samuel Henson, and Steven Wade Henson, both of Buffalo.

In accordance with his wishes, his body was cremated. There are no services planned for the public at this time.

Marine Corps League Det #1474 presents the

CPL Fulks Memorial

5K / 10K Trail





Scan here to register!

MAY 9, 2026

MEEKS MOUNTAIN TRAILS

HURRICANE, WV

Putnam County Man Pleads Guilty to Federal Gun Crime

Steven Mark Hosey, 59, of Poca, pleaded guilty today to unlawfully engaging in the business of dealing in firearms.

According to court documents and statements made in court, from at least April 2024 through April 10, 2025, Hosey sold firearms without a Federal Firearms License (FFL) in Huntington. As part of his guilty plea, Hosey admitted that he knew he needed an FFL based on the quantity and regularity with which he was buying and selling firearms. Hosey further admitted that he purchased firearms from FFL licensees with the intent to sell the firearms to other individuals, received requests from individuals for specific firearms that he would purchase to sell to those individuals, purchased firearms without a specific buyer in mind, and advertised the sale of firearms on various social media platforms.

Hosey also admitted that he sold between 40 and 50 firearms for profit during the time period. These firearms included a Glock model 43X 9mm pistol and a Shadow Systems model MR920 9mm pistol on January 25, 2025, a Glock model 40 10mm pistol and a Colt model Anaconda .44 Magnum revolver on February 6, 2025, a Sig Sauer model P320 9mm pistol and a Smith & Wesson model 629 .44 Magnum revolver on February 28, 2025, a Glock model 45 9mm pistol and a FN model FNX-45 Tactical .45-caliber pistol on March 17, 2025, and a Kimber model Tactical Pro II 9mm pistol and a Springfield Armory model Hellcat 9mm pistol on April 8, 2025. Hosey admitted that he conducted the five transactions in the parking lot of an FFL business and sold the firearms to a confidential informant.

On April 10, 2025, law enforcement agents executed a search warrant at Hosey's residence and seized 34 firearms. Hosey admitted that he intended to sell some of the seized firearms for profit.

Hosey is scheduled to be sentenced on July 20, 2026, and faces a maximum penalty of five years in prison, up to one year of supervised release, and a fine of up to \$250,000.

United States Attorney Moore Capito made the announcement and commended the investigative work of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

United States District Judge Robert C. Chambers presided over the hearing. Assistant United States Attorney Stephanie Taylor is prosecuting the case.

This case is part of

Operation Take Back America, a nationwide initiative that marshals the full resources of the Department of Justice to repel the invasion of illegal immigration, achieve the

total elimination of cartels and transnational criminal organizations (TCOs), and protect our communities from the perpetrators of violent crime.

Subscribe to the Breeze in Putnam County for only \$27.00 per year

Dear Putnam Countians,

This election year, there are three open seats for the Putnam County Board of Education. I would appreciate you considering me for one of the open seats. My focus is our children, our community, and our future. I will work continuously to ensure all of our children have the very best educational experience possible.

Hopefully, at some point, we will meet, but until then, please take a moment to read the information in this brochure.

Sincerely,

Brad Hodges
Brad Hodges

ENDORSEMENTS, CONTINUED

Wade Neal, Scott Depot: I am supporting Brad Hodges. He is definitely the most qualified candidate.

Ashley Ellison, Buffalo, Poca High School, Athletic Director: Brad Hodges has supported all schools. He has been an excellent school board member.

Joe Rumbagh, Winfield Councilman: Brad Hodges has made decisions based on what is best for all children. He has my vote!

Melissa Isaacs, Scott Teays Elementary, Principal: Brad Hodges has, and will continue to be a stout supporter of Putnam County children.

Josh Caldwell, Hurricane High School, Principal: With his experience in the school system, Brad Hodges has been a great addition to the board.

MEET BRAD HODGES

Brad is a lifelong resident of Putnam County. He graduated from Winfield High School, and received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Education from Concord College. He received his Master of Arts Degree in Leadership Studies from Marshall University and afterwards earned an additional 30 Graduate Hours. Brad presently lives in Hurricane with his wife, Debbie.

Brad retired from Putnam County Schools in December 2019, with forty-three years of service, and the most senior employee in the county. He worked at Winfield High School, Winfield Middle School, Hurricane High School, and the Board of Education office in Winfield. He has been a **teacher** and a **coach** at Winfield High School, Winfield Middle School and Hurricane High School. He has been an **athletic director**, and an **assistant principal** at Hurricane High School.

Brad served as the **Assistant Superintendent of Schools** for Putnam County for ten years. He was elected to the Putnam County Board of Education in 2022.



Debbie Arthur, Bancroft: Brad Hodges has utilized a well thought, common sense approach in dealing with, and resolving issues.

Charlie Tribble, Winfield: Brad Hodges has the experience, knowledge and skills to keep our school system moving forward.

Bill Duncan, First Baptist Church Eleanor, Deacon/Teacher: Brad has always been financially responsible with taxpayers' money.

Coach Allen Osborne, Winfield: Brad Hodges has made an excellent addition to the Putnam County Board of Education.

Perry Estep, Hurricane: I enthusiastically endorse Brad Hodges. This man has experienced success at every level of Putnam County education for a lifetime. To say he cares about kids is an understatement. I encourage all who know me to join me in supporting Coach Hodges.

Matt Shock, Winfield Middle, Principal: No one knows Putnam County Schools better than Brad Hodges.

Rudy Moulder, Scott Depot: Coach Hodges knows how to get things done. He has been an outstanding Board Member.

Dr. Craig Spicer, Teays: Brad Hodges worked at the board office while I served on the Board of Education. He was a hard worker who cared about Putnam County Schools, and all of the children.

Mary Ann Allen, Retired Principal, Hurricane Middle: Brad will definitely support strong academic and extracurricular programs.

Pastor Scott Casto, Bus Driver, Red House: Brad Hodges has been a friend to school employees and students.

"Brad Hodges has been an educator his entire career. His knowledge and understandings of Putnam County Schools is beyond reproach!"

-Harold 'Chuck' Hatfield, Teays

THE HODGES FAMILY

- **Married-** Debbie Nutter Hodges, Retired Secretary with Putnam County Schools (Hurricane Town Elementary & Mountain View Elementary).
- **Children-** Jill Hodges, Alison Warner (Joey), Jennifer Campbell, and Michelle Holsopple (Chris).
- **Grandchildren-** 10
- **Schools Grandchildren Attend-** Conner Street Elementary, West Teays Elementary, Winfield Elementary, Hurricane High School, Winfield High School

ENDORSEMENTS

Butch Legg, Poca: Brad was in charge of the building projects when I served on the Board. Under his leadership, it was a smooth process. We need him on the Board of Education.

Dr. Penny Fisher, Winfield: I have known Brad Hodges my entire life. He truly cares for all of the children in Putnam County Schools.

Pastor Mike Tucker, Buffalo: Brad Hodges has the faith and character to make the best decisions for our children and schools.



Re-Elect
BRAD HODGES
PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Our Children, Our Community, Our Future

Paid for by the committee to re-elect Brad Hodges
Allen Messenger, Treasurer

Proven Leadership That Listens

BRAD HODGES HAS...

- always put the children's education first in all decisions
- investigated all recommendations by the superintendent
- strongly supported all extracurricular activities
- placed strong emphasis on academic achievement, and continued technology upgrades
- demanded and expected clean and safe schools for our children
- promoted and monitored justified investment of taxpayer dollars
- given teachers and service personnel the respect, support, and backing that they deserve
- established true open lines of communication- real transparency and partnership with all stakeholders

Experience, Knowledge, and Common Sense





- | | |
|---|---|
| CAROLYN NULL
Buffalo
Birthday April 12 | Sugar Camp Road
Winfield
60th Birthday April 19 |
| CALVIN EVANS
PO Box 763 Hedrick Road
Scott Depot
Birthday April 10 | J B MILLER
Ashland, Kentucky
Birthday April 19 |
| GEORGE "G" MCGEHEE
Nimitz, West Virginia
82nd Birthday April 16 | ANTHONY BLANKENSHIP
Clarksville, Tennessee
Birthday April 20 |
| SARAH ANN WESTFALL
402 Ada Dell Avenue
Hurricane
26th Birthday April 17 | MARSHA HASSIE-KELLEY
P.O. Box 1102
Scott Depot
Birthday April 20 |
| PAUL SOWARDS JR
2544 Main Street
Hurricane
41st Birthday April 17 | SHIRLEY CHANDLER THOMAN
Lexington, North Carolina
77th Birthday April 20 |
| GERALDINE TAYLOR BRYANT
Hurricane
74th Birthday April 17 | JERRY WELKER
Hurricane
80th Birthday April 20 |
| ALEXANDRA GLENN
10101 S Indian River Road
Ft. Pierce, Florida
28th Birthday April 17 | LISA GAYLE FRANKLIN
North Carolina
Birthday April 20 |
| CLAIRE LONDEREE
552 Fairwood
Huntington
20th Birthday April 17 | JONATHAN OSTEEEN
Houston, Texas
31st Birthday April 20 |
| MARLENE CHRISTIAN
Huntington
82nd Birthday April 17 | JERRY "TINK" DANIELS
Winter Haven, Florida
77th Birthday April 22 |
| RILEY JOE SMITH
Hurricane
7th Birthday April 17 | DEBORAH SMITH SAMPLES
Hurricane Creek Road
Winfield
55th Birthday April 22 |
| KYRA RYALLS JOHNSON
Route 1, Box 174
Milton
Birthday April 18 | DAVE ALFORD
Hurricane
84th Birthday April 22 |
| CALLIE MORRISON
Indian Meadows
Ona
Birthday April 18 | JERRY DANIELS
Winter Haven, Florida
78th Birthday April 22 |
| JUDITH HOWARD
Hurricane
Birthday April 18 | MARCELLA LINCOLNOGGER
2259 U S Hwy 60
Culloden
62nd Birthday April 22 |
| RHEA FAITH HAYMAN
P.O. Box 422
Syracuse, Ohio
80th Birthday April 19 | OLIVIA ELAINE TONEY
425 Buffington Acres
Milton
17th Birthday April 22 |
| LINDSAY HENDRICKS
3689 Martin Drive
Ona
Birthday April 19 | MADISON KATHERINE HAGEE
Texas
13th Birthday April 22 |
| ROBIN CALL DAVIS | JERRY "TINK" DANIELS
Winter Haven, Florida |

PIPESOUNDS Presents "Hymns Through the Ages"

PipeSounds will be presenting an organ concert, "Hymns Through the Ages," on Sunday, April 19, at 3:00 p.m.

PipeSounds guest performer at the April 19th organ concert will be Dave Wickerham, of Crystal Falls, MI, playing the Harrah Symphonic Organ for the fifth consecutive year. Wickerham announced he's "performing a special concert of 'Favorite Hymns Through the Ages' on this amazing Organ (with 6 manuals/ keyboards custom draw-knob console, 452 stop controls, 56 coupler controls, and 375 ranks) located at Forrest Burdette Memorial United Methodist Church, 2848 Putnam Ave., Hurricane. The Harrah Symphonic

78th Birthday April 22

MIKE MULLINS
Hurricane
56th Birthday April 23

DR MANUEL MOLINA
217 Brentwood Road
Hurricane
67th Birthday April 23

JERRY WEARS
100 Riverview Road
Pliny
Birthday April 23

CLAYTON GENE GRANT
3507 35th Street
Nitro
82nd Birthday April 23

RONNIE ROACH
Rocky Step Road
Winfield
68th Birthday April 23

Happy Anniversary

Brad and April Gibson of 110 Derby Road in Hurricane will celebrate their thirty-third wedding anniversary on April 17.

Rev. Jim and Myra Dennis of Montana Avenue in Hurricane will celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary on April 17.

David and Glenna Wears Smith of 406 Circle Drive in Hurricane will celebrate their thirty-fourth wedding anniversary on April 18.

Greg and Kelly Rogers Allen of Hurricane will celebrate their thirty-sixth wedding anniversary on April 18.

Steve and Katie Fellure of Frazier's Bottom will celebrate their thirty-sixth wedding anniversary on April 19.

Dr. John and Becky LaFerner Tussing Simmons of Pierre, South Dakota will celebrate their seventh wedding anniversary on April 20.

Jared and Courtney Howell of 141 Cow Creek Road in Hurricane will celebrate their fourteenth wedding anniversary on April 20.

Jarrett and Regina Roy Grant of 3605 Poindexter Road in Frazier's Bottom will celebrate their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary on April 21.

Bobby and Jenny Glenn of 4020 Stave Branch Road in Frazier's Bottom will celebrate their third wedding anniversary on April 22.

Henry and Lovetta Burnett of Bluffton, South Carolina, will celebrate their fifty-fifth wedding anniversary on April 23.

Organ series has featured some of the nation's and world's renowned organists over the past twenty years.

Dave is a "par excellent" performer who toured last year in Great Britain and twice in prior years in Australia and New Zealand. Wickerham is a recent honoree of the American Guild of Organists for his improvisational skills and was the 2011 American Theatre Guild's "Organist of the Year."

This concert highlights a great musician and performer in Dave Wickerham and the largest hybrid digital/pipe organ when dedicated "to the Glory of God" in 2003. The PIPESOUNDS Organ Series would not be possible without the sponsorship of the Putnam County Bank for over twenty years. Adults \$15.00 and Students free.

Democratic Women to Meet

The Putnam County Democratic Women's Club will be holding their monthly luncheon meeting at noon on Saturday, April 18, at Sleepy Hollow Golf Club in Hurricane. The club has invited candidates for the races of the US Senate, Judge of the Appeals Court, Putnam County candidates and Non-Partisan BOE.

The cost for the luncheon is \$22 per person. RSVP by calling 304-727-2218.

Come for good food and conversation. Connect with others, share updates, and discuss ideas that matter to the community.

Diamond Electric Hiring Event

Looking for a new job opportunity? Express Employment can help! Come to Diamond Electric, 62 Eleanor Industrial Park, Eleanor, on Thursday, April 23rd, for an exclusive hiring event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Diamond Electric has immediate openings for multiple shifts and various positions. There are 60+ job openings available! There will be on-site interviews and you can potentially get working right away. For more details, call 304-746-8888 and ask for William.

Emmy Herdman Named to Alaska Dean's List

Emmy Herdman of Eleanor has been named to the fall 2025 deans' list at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Students receiving a 3.9 grade point average or higher are placed on the chancellor's list, while those receiving a grade point average of between 3.5 and 3.89 are named to the deans' list. The lists recognize students' outstanding academic achievements.

UAF is a Land, Sea and Space Grant institution and is the leading doctoral degree-granting institution in the state of Alaska. Since it was founded in 1917, UAF has been internationally recognized for research relating to the Arctic and sub-Arctic in areas such as biology, geophysics, engineering, natural resources and climate.

Former Hurricane Teacher Receives R.E.B. Leadership Award



Mark Beckett, the principal at Chickahominy Middle School (CMS) of Mechanicsville, Virginia, is the Hanover County Public Schools winner of the 2025-26 R.E.B. Award for Distinguished Educational Leadership by The Community Foundation. As a recipient, Mr. Beckett will receive a \$30,000 grant – a \$10,000 unrestricted cash grant and \$20,000 to be used for school initiatives.

One principal from each school division in the counties of Hanover, Henrico, and Chesterfield, as well as the City of Richmond, receives the award annually. It serves to recognize principals who "go beyond the day-to-day demands of their position to create an exceptional educational environment." The school community and the public submit the nominations.

"I am honored to share this recognition with the entire CMS staff and community. My role and accomplishments would not be possible

Fraziers Bottom Clean-Up

There will be a Fraziers Bottom area-wide clean-up on Saturday, April 18, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. beside Boltz Lawn Care, 2000 Winfield Road, Fraziers Bottom.


Excluded Items: Tires; Car/Truck batteries; items containing freon (refrigerators, AC units; household hazardous waste; oversized stumps, logs, rocks, concrete; any item that may cause damage to or cannot be properly loaded into one of the bins.

Available Pets at the Putnam County Animal Shelter

These is 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



Pooh Bear loves cuddles and wants a forever home. Come meet your new favorite cuddle buddy.



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