



Summers County Humane Society Appeal for Assistance Draws Rapid Response

SUMMERS COUNTY W.Va. (Hinton News) - Extreme cold weather and an ongoing parvovirus outbreak have forced a shutdown of the Summers County Sheriff Department's temporary holding facility for neglected, abused and surrendered dogs. Help is needed while County Commissioners, the sheriff's department and humane society members huddle to address necessary changes.

Hinton native Jeff Mann was among the first to respond to a recent appeal for assistance on a new Summers County Humane Society/ACWP social media post. Volunteer Steve Lilly presented Mann with a Certificate of Appreciation which reads, "On behalf of the ACWP volunteer team, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your generosity. Every dollar donated to our organization goes directly to the animals and their care, and we have had several complex and heartbreaking medical cases lately. Caring, giving community members like you make it possible for us to continue to answer the calls and needs in the community." Mann is an author and creative writing teacher at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, and Lilly, a neighbor, says, "He thanks us often for caring for what Jeff refers to as the "wolfies" we have fostered this past year. He has been very supportive of our efforts as foster volunteers with ACWP. His moral support has been unwavering."

Mann's neighbors have helped foster rescued strays and surrendered dogs through the humane society's efforts since Summers County Sheriff and County Commissioners opened a temporary shelter in Hinton. "Our neighbor has been a major source of moral support as our family signed on with nearly a dozen other foster volunteer families, doing as much as we can and as rapidly as we can to bring dogs into warm and loving families as we keep them safe and healthy awaiting adoption or transfer to rescues devoted to securing forever homes for Summers County dogs." Lilly's home opens its doors to mostly pregnant dogs in animal control or brought into the foster program through ACWP, and assists with whelping, nurturing, socializing and weaning puppies until they are vaccinated and spayed or neutered and ready to be adopted or transferred.

Fundraising efforts are ongoing in Hinton and Summers County, through dog walks and parades, presence at fairs and festivals and, of late, an increasing number of adoption parties. Mann's donation has added to many more small, medium and larger donations throughout the year, through grants to spay and neuter, trap and release for cats, online and in-person, to address specific needs or emergencies. This year parvovirus has caused many dogs to become ill, receive treatment and, in several cases, dogs have died. His recent generosity came in response to the newest ACWP social media post: "We are excited to share our 2023 LIFESAVING ACCOMPLISHMENTS! "Thanks to our dedicated team of unpaid volunteers, we have been able to save 245 lives by placing these pets in permanent homes. We have also covered the cost of 656 spay and neuter surgeries for Summers County dogs and cats. Spaying and neutering is the KEY to preventing pet overpopulation in our community. Thank you to our donors, volunteers, supporters, and adopters for your support of our efforts in 2023. Now it's time to continue to save lives in 2024! Any and all donations to our cause are appreciated!"

"We find ourselves in need of community support for a permanent Animal Control facility, which will be comfortable for animals in custody of the Sheriff's Dept and easily sanitized between residents," according to Christina Cochran. "We issued a plea for donations," Cochran continues, "so that construction on this project can begin sooner rather than later. We can say that Summers County government has partnered with ACWP to plan for a permanent facility, and we need the community's help to make it happen." The parvovirus and extreme cold forced the closure of the animal control temporary shelter facility last week.

According to Cochran, "ACWP has been able to continue our services to the community for so many years because of the dedicated volunteers and generous members of the Summers County community who come together to make our life-saving work possible. Without community donors, we would not have been able to save 245 lives in 2023. In March 2023 when the Summers Co Sheriffs Dept hired a full-time Animal Control Officer, ACWP began working in concert with county representatives on a permanent solution for a home for animal control. It is now time to put that plan into motion."

For more information or to make donations contact www.acwp-wv.org and follow updates on Facebook at Summers County Humane Society/ACWP. Donations of \$25 or more can request a thank you copy of the recently published "Just for Pets" or a CD recording of "Old Dogs & Young ups" by local musicians.



Steve Lilly with a donation check and Jeff Mann with his certificate of appreciation from Summers County Humane Society/ACWP. Photo provided by Summers County Humane Society/ACWP

From Oven to Heart: The Bake House Redefines Culinary Excellence in Hinton

Lisa Abshire

BELLPOINTE W.Va. (Hinton news) - Jessica Meadows Harbert started the Bake House after years of making her kids' birthday cakes and her little brother's wedding cake in 2010. She says she can trace her cake baking back to 1996 and that she has somewhat of an artistic background that fuels her love of cake decorating. Harbert said she picked up baking regularly in 2021 during the height of COVID-19 with her husband's 40th birthday cake. Harbert said she received so much positive feedback on it, and at the same time, she noticed people were starting to sell the products they produced from their hobbies. It got her thinking about why she had never tried to sell her cakes.

Fortunately, in 2019, Gov-

ernor Justice passed Senate Bill 285, the cottage food law, in February 2019, allowing individuals to sell homemade, potentially non-hazardous food items made in a private residence. Harbert went on to state that was all the reassurance she needed to feel comfortable enough to put herself out there.

Harbert noted that baking is fun for her and that the patience and concentration it takes to decorate is almost like her therapy. She went on to say she's also a full-time registered nurse and that we often don't take care of our own mental health. Having a hobby you love is important to your mental wellness in Harbert's opinion. January is Mental Wellness Awareness month so she thinks it's fitting to mention taking care of your mental wellness now.

Harbert feels like the most unique thing she's ever made was a realistic tree stump cake. Her biggest seller is custom birthday cakes. Customers send her inspiration photos of what they want, and she creates her rendition of the cake. She says she occasionally gets orders for cookies or dessert cakes.

Harbert is running a Valentine's Day special called the Bake House Big Box. It's \$30 and includes a jar cake and homemade chocolates.

Harbert says her largest orders are wedding cakes because they're huge and include a lot of cupcakes. She also notes that there's no order too small, so give Harbert a call for all your bakery needs.

For more information, reach out to The Bake House on Facebook, at 204 Miller Ave Bellpoint WV or by phone at 304-362-4327.

Spyro's Quest for a New Tank: Dive into the Adventure of Library Lizard Fundraising

HINTON NEWS W.Va. (Hinton News) - Join the Friends of the Library to raise \$900 for a new tank for Spyro, the community's favorite library mascot.

The Friends of the Summers County Public Library would like to outfit him in something brand new, a little larger than what he has now, and with storage for his supplies. The estimated cost for this new tank is \$900.

Recently, the group released the following tips to help raise the money:

"Teachers—here's your chance to encourage the kiddos to support the library. Every cent counts, so try a Silver for Spyro jar in your classroom.

"Friends—Try your own family fundraisers. For one



Spyro officially requests your assistance

day, give up that Dunkin Donuts coffee, and donate that \$5 to the library. Or empty out that change jar on your desk for a family Silver for Spyro donation!

"Drop your jars or coin rolls off at the library. "Let's see if we can reach \$900 by March 31 and celebrate spring with a new home for Spyro."

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Alderson Store to be featured in “The Many Lives of Martha Stewart”

Annette Slonaker

ALDERSON W.Va. (Hinton News) - In June of 2023, CNN visited Alderson, West Virginia, to begin filming a documentary about Martha Stewart, and her time spent in the federal prison there. The project is called “The Many Lives of Martha Stewart,” a four-part CNN Original Series that will air over two consecutive weekends, which began with two episodes on Sunday, Jan. 28 at 9 p.m. and 10 p.m. ET/PT on CNN. The final two episodes will air on Feb. 4 at 9 p.m. and 10 p.m. ET/PT. Sarah Alderson, fourth-generation owner of Alderson’s Store, will be featured in the series.

A few words from the CNN press release are as follows: “At a time when women were finding the courage to leave their do-

mestic roles to seek careers in male-dominated fields, Martha built her empire in the home, redefining what it meant to be a feminist in the modern era,” said Amy Entelis, executive vice president of talent and content development for CNN Worldwide. “Whether you love her or hate her, we are betting audiences will continue to be fascinated by The Many Lives of Martha Stewart.”

“The Many Lives of Martha Stewart is executive produced by Eric Johnson. Amy Entelis and Katie Hinman are executive producers for CNN Studios. Senior producers for the series are Ashley Santoro, Emily Taguchi, and Asaf Kastner. Kinga Janik is the director of production.”

“The Many Lives of Martha Stewart will stream live for pay TV subscribers via

CNN.com, CNN-connected TV, and mobile apps on Sunday, Jan. 28. The first two episodes will also be available on demand beginning Monday, Jan. 29 to pay TV subscribers via CNN.com, CNN-connected TV and mobile apps, and Cable Operator Platforms.”

Sarah Alderson will be featured in interview style in the mini-series, as she regales tales from her mother, Betty Alderson, and the deep history of their town and store. Her mother’s stories were of interest to Alice Yu, producer of the series, prompting her to stop in the store where she met Sarah Alderson. Betty Alderson immediately went viral after the initial interview, landing her spots on TV shows like The Tonight Show, morning shows, news outlets across America and articles

in The Associated Press. Sarah was happy to entertain and supply help to the media team, who showed up a week early before filming, which had Alderson buzzing with tourists and business. Sarah was then prompted to make T-shirts for the deluge of visitors, with one saying, “West Virginia. It’s a great place to spend time!” Many of Martha’s friends and family were in town to visit her, and Martha told them to “go visit Alderson’s Store,” sign the guest book, buy t-shirts and enjoy the timeless, beautiful town. A few years ago, Sarah received a phone call from Martha herself, desperately seeking the ceramics person who held classes at the prison, in which Martha made a nativity scene that is now part of her sales line. Sarah is overjoyed to be featured



Cameras and crew inside Alderson Store

in the mini-series and is son, WV.

readying her store for another wash of tourists and visitors after it airs.

You may visit Alderson’s Store at 320 Monroe Street South P.O. Box 239, Alder-

For more information about the store, call 304-445-2851 or email alder- sonsstore@gmail.com. You can also find them on Face- book.

Sweet Springs Resort Park accepted into Stewards Individual Placements - WV Ready program

SWEET SPRINGS W.Va (WVDN) - Sweet Springs Resort Park Foundation Inc. a 501 C3 nonprofit charitable organization is moving right along even in the cold weather. The park is proud to announce it has been accepted in the Stewards Individual Placements - WV Ready program for a worker to be employed for a Trail Maintenance and

Beautification Project. The park is very excited to be a part of helping others willing to help the park.

This program works with AmeriCorps, one of the projects foundation officials have listed as a “to do” for a park project. They will continue this program annually and request more workers each year. The AmeriCorp worker will be working

closely with Zen Clements, Trail Designer/Director for both SS Turnpike Trail and Mountain Biking Trail, and Ashby Berkley, Project Executive Director on the beautification of the Trailhead and surrounding areas.

The Mountain Biking Trail is in the process of being designed, hikers are using the Historic Sweet

Springs Turnpike Trail (hats off to these wonderful folks), and still clearing on Phase II of the trail.

In February, a trip to Charleston is planned for the HUB’s Community Development Day, and in March, Berkley, Arietta DuPre (Executive Director of Operations), and Roseanna Sacco (Volunteer, Assistant Director of Trail,

and assists with History) will be making a trip to Washington DC for Lobby Days and to discuss the Historic Turnpike Trail.

Things are going well and the park hopes this continues. Keeping the Andrew S. Rowan Memorial Farm is the key to the success of this very important project. Without the farm, the trail is gone and the entire project

will die. This will not only hurt Monroe County but the state as well. Officials noted their major problem is the WV Department of Agriculture attempting to break the Park’s 30-year lease on the Andrew S. Rowan Memorial Farm which is the recreational land including the Historic Sweet Springs Turnpike Trail and the Mountain Biking Trail.

Letter to the Editor: John T Osbron - Good Samaritans

Dear Editor,
On Jan. 15, at about 2 p.m., I was returning from Charleston Airport during the big snow. Coming down the last steep hill just north of Brooks, on Rt 20 from I-64, I hit a very icy and slick section in the road. I very quickly lost control and ended up in the ditch between the pavement and the guard-rail.

As I came to a stop in a very helpless condition, two men in a white truck head-

ing north, stopped and said, we’ll pull over and come back and help. They pulled over a ways up the hill and walked back with a shovel and push broom and began to clear away snow and ice. As we jockeyed back and forth, they continued to clear and then push on the blue Subaru Forester and very shortly I was out and safely on my way down the icy hill.

I so regret not getting their names, shaking their hands and giving them a real heart-

felt thank you for their kindness. Because of the unsafe conditions, I was only able to yell a loud “Thank you!” as we slowly went on down the hill. Other vehicles were slipping and sliding, some sideways so it would not have been safe to stop and jaw a little.

I hope they see this letter and know how thankful an old man and two ladies are that they stopped and bailed us out of a cold situation.

“Yes, Virginia, there still are Good Samaritans among us!”

John T. Osbron
Alderson

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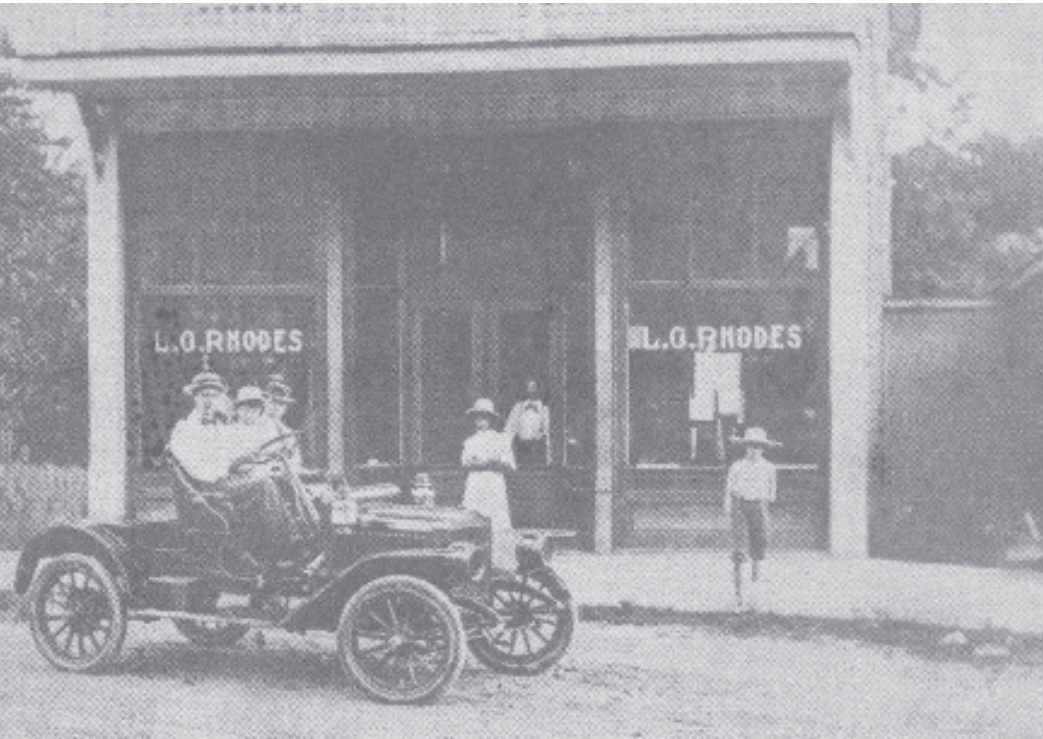
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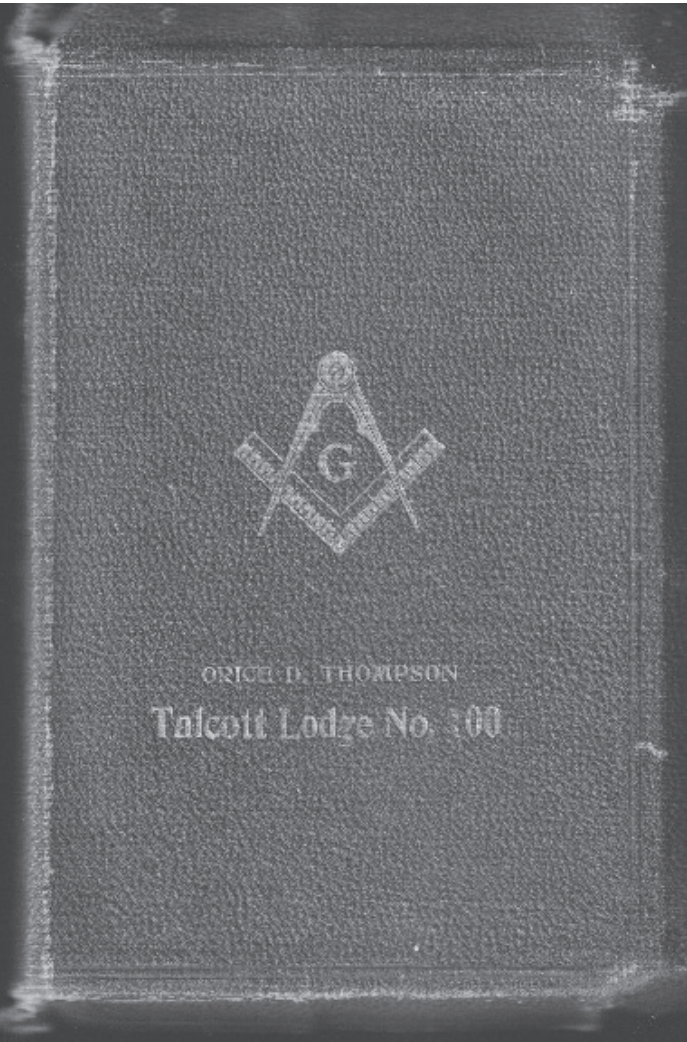
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A Peek into Summers County’s Past: Talcott Masonic Lodge



L. G. Rhodes’ store and Model T. Photo provided by William Jones



O.D. Thompson’s 1925 Masoin Bible. Photo provided by William Jones

William Jones

TALCOTT W.Va. (WVDN) - Editor’s Note: Each week, local history collector William Jones discusses items from his collection and their historical significance. In this edition of A Peek into Summers County’s Past, Jones is detailing photos of the Masonic Lodge that was once in Talcott.

This is a photo from the Masonic Lodge in Talcott that was formerly known as “Talcott Lodge No. 100.” The second story of the John Henry Museum was the Masonic Lodge and Eastern Star meet-

ing place back in the day. How it came about is quite a happenstance. L.G. Rhodes was getting ready to construct a new store in Talcott around the turn of the century. His original plan was for a single-story structure. The Freemasons approached Rhodes and propositioned him to add a second story to his already existing plan for his store.

Their idea for doing this was to have a regular meeting place for their Talcott Lodge. Rhodes agreed and added the second story. It is a very large

open space the full size of the store building. The Masons and Eastern Star utilized this space for over 50 years.

The photo you see of the store with the Model T in front of the two-story building was L.G. Rhodes’ new store with the second-floor meeting hall. L.G. was the first person to have a car in Talcott and can be seen in the photo with his new car in front of his store. The photo of the 34 people was taken upstairs in the store at a lodge meeting in 1952. The names left to right are as follows; W.R. Billy Boyd, Robert E. Bennett, Delbert Miller, Marion Kesler, Lossie Rhodes, Benson Sowers, John Wallace, H.J “Mac” Bartgis, Earl Rudisill, Marion F. Bennett.

P.M. “Pat” Boyd, George Rudisill, Melvin Thompson, Dr. Albert Holmes, Caleb Talbott, Estil Ballengee, Alvie Turner, Frank Kesler, William Perdue, Tom Ballengee, Melvin Loudermilk, Russell Honaker, Frank Rudisill, Ashby Huffman, Lester Lively, Earl Nelson, Jack Wallace, Jennings Garten, Roy Richmond, Emmett Shirey, Mack No-land, Clarence Mann, Harry Long and Warren Bennett.

I have never found a date of when the Masonic Lodge stopped having meetings in Talcott. L.G. built his new store in 1905 and several accounts have said it was used as the



Members of the Talcott Masonic Lodge. Photo provided by William Jones

meeting hall for over 50 years. Add the fact my father, David Jones, has a memory of going with his father, David Jones, to a Masonic lodge meeting there and sitting in the truck while Grandpa Jones went upstairs for the meeting.

It can be deduced that because of my father’s memory and the various statements I have read about it, it stopped being used as a masonic hall in the early 1960s. Some of the men in this photo were more than likely the last members of the lodge who saw it out to the end.

The photo of the green book is my Great-grandfather, O.D. Thompson’s, 1925 masonic bible. It says on the cover “Orice D. Thompson Talcott Lodge No. 100.” His father, L.W. Thompson, whom I have mentioned in a few of my prior pieces, was also a member until he passed

in 1949.

My Great-grandmother, Gladys Thompson, O.D’s wife, was a member of the Eastern Star for decades as well. Not Summers County history but it is worth the mention, my grandfather, David Jones, who attended at least one meeting in this building

I found Grandpa Jones’s 1942 Odd Fellows membership card while cleaning out Grandma’s house three years ago. He had

been a member while living in Greenville, West Virginia during his 20s. I always find it very interesting that businessmen of that time went by their initials only. Such as “L.G. Rhodes,” “L.W.,” “O.D. Thompson” and others. For whatever reason “W.G. Jones” (William Gary Jones) doesn’t quite have the same feel to it.

This is the end of another edition of A Peek into Summers County’s Past. If you have a story from Summers County’s history to share, send an email to news@hintonnews.com.



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What Hinders Me?

(Part 3)

by David Padfield

(Last week we saw how family may hinder one from conversion. Today we will look at some other possible hindrances.)

Hypocrites

It is a sad thing, but true: not everyone who claims to be a Christian lives up to their obligations in Christ. There is no question that there are people who claim to be Christians who will lie, cheat, steal and even commit adultery.

Hypocrites are a great hindrance to others obeying the gospel of Jesus Christ. Sometimes it is the hypocrite at school or work who drinks and everyone there knows it. Sometimes it is the hypocrite in the pew—people can see they don’t even come to Bible class and then pay no attention to the sermon and yet sing, “More About Jesus,” or, “Tell Me The Story Of Jesus.” They sing “Jesus Keep Me Near The Cross” and then talk and pass notes during the Lord’s Supper. There are people who will sing “Purer In Heart Help Me To Be,” and then be the biggest gossip in the country.

It is bad enough that hypocrites will be lost, but they are going to take others with them! Hypocrites in religion have always been a problem (Matt. 23:13-15). Hypocrites will get their “reward”—either here or in eternity. “Some men’s sins are clearly evident, preceding them to judgment, but those of some men follow later” (1 Tim. 5:24).

But is this really the reason for not obeying, or just an excuse? Hypocrites are pretty small individuals, and if you can hide behind them you must be smaller yet. I have gone to a lot of professional sporting events and have never seen anyone get up and leave because of all the hypocrites. There is a lot of counterfeit currency in circulation, but I’ve never seen anyone refuse money because they might get a counterfeit bill.

Pride

There were those in the first century who allowed the pride of life to get in the way of acknowledging Christ (John 12:42-43).

The humility of the Ethiopian was shown by his reading the Scriptures on the road and by admitting he did not understand what he was reading. Imagine the humility it must have taken for the treasurer of Ethiopia to command his driver to stop the chariot so he could be baptized!

Saul of Tarsus, later known as Paul, cast everything aside that he might gain Christ (Phil. 3:3-8).

The message of the cross is foolishness to many, “to us who are being saved it is the power of God” (1 Cor. 1:18-24).

Paul’s only glory was in the cross. He told the Galatian Christians, “God forbid that I should glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world” (Gal. 6:14).

Uncertainty

Some people want to obey the gospel, but say, “I am not sure I can remain faithful.” This at least shows a proper respect for the fact that God requires faithfulness on the part of His people. Every Christian knows that every Christian sins (1 John 1:6—2:2). When we sin we can ask God to forgive us (1 John 2:1).

Simon, an erring Christian, was told: “Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you” (Acts 8:22).

We can take comfort in knowing there is no sin that we have to commit. “No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it” (1 Cor. 10:13).

Conclusion

King Agrippa was “almost persuaded” to become a Christian (Acts 26:24-29). Felix was waiting for a “convenient time” to obey (Acts 24:24-25). There is never going to be a “convenient time” to leave sin. Will you not leave it now? Angels in heaven would rejoice over one sinner who comes to repentance.

(Next week we will begin a two-part article concerning the Power of Conversion.)

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SUMMERS COUNTY PRE-K ENROLLMENT FOR NEXT YEAR!

Please check the school below where you would like your child to attend. If a site fills up before we get your enrollment form, we will contact you for a second choice. Summers County offers universal Pre-K classrooms at five sites throughout the county. Our Pre-K Program is a collaboration with CASE WV Head Start and Summers County Schools. Classrooms located within the county schools have WVDE certified teachers and aides hired by Summers County Schools and the classroom at the Head Start Center has a teacher and aide that have authorization endorsed for community programs through the WVDE. This year, we are excited to offer classrooms at Talcott Elementary School, Jumping Branch Elementary School, Hinton Area Elementary, and WV CASE Head Start Center.

<input type="checkbox"/> Head Start Center 304-466-6016	<input type="checkbox"/> Hinton Area 304-466-6024	<input type="checkbox"/> Jumping Branch 304-466-6005	<input type="checkbox"/> Talcott 304-466-6029
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Children who will be four years old prior to July 1, 2024, are eligible to enroll. It is very important that all children planning to attend Pre-K next year pre-enroll. We know it is early, but we need this information so we will know how many teachers are needed for Pre-K classes next year. **Please fill out completely.**

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Date of Birth: _____ ☐ boy ☐ girl

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____

Work/Cell/Home Number: _____

Important enrollment materials you need to be working on:

(1) Your child must have a **certified birth certificate** from the Division of Vital Statistics Bureau.

(2) Immunizations should be up-to-date.

If you have any questions concerning enrollment, please call Mrs. Crystal Richmond, Pre-K Specialist, at 304-466-6024.

The tentative date for our Pre-K enrollment is March 25, 2024. We will be contacting you to make an appointment for your child. If you know of a family with a child who would be eligible to enroll, please pass this information to them.

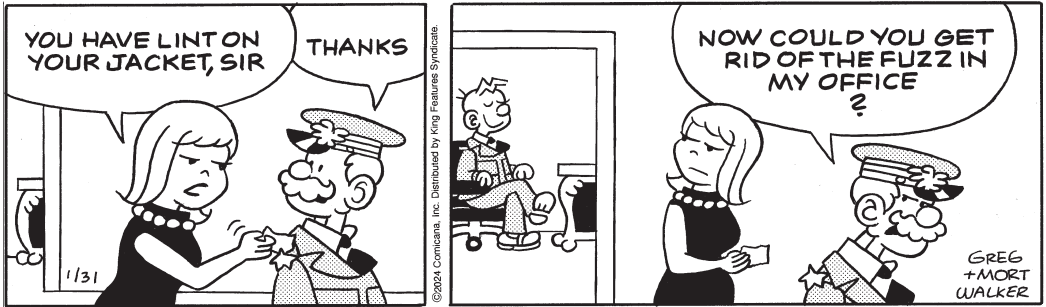
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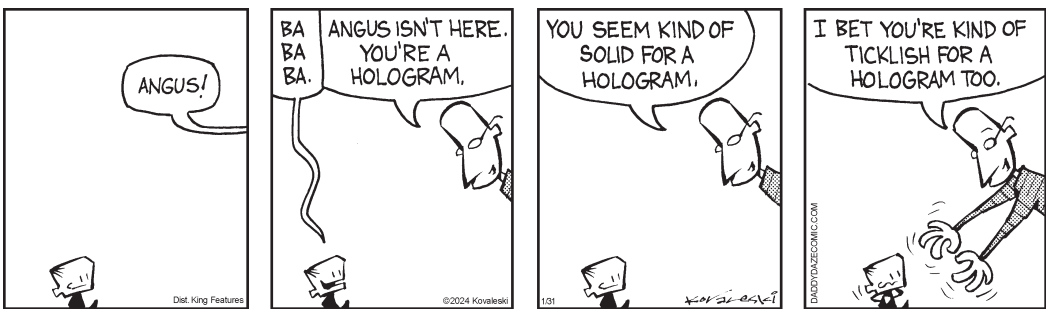
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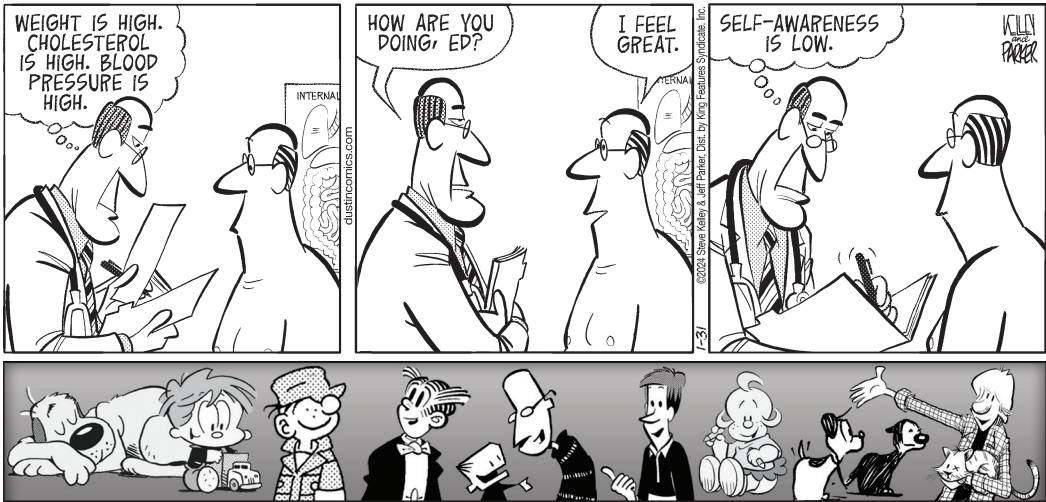
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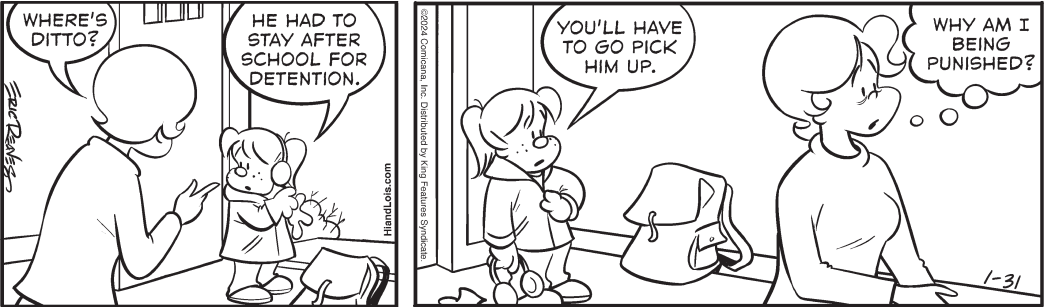
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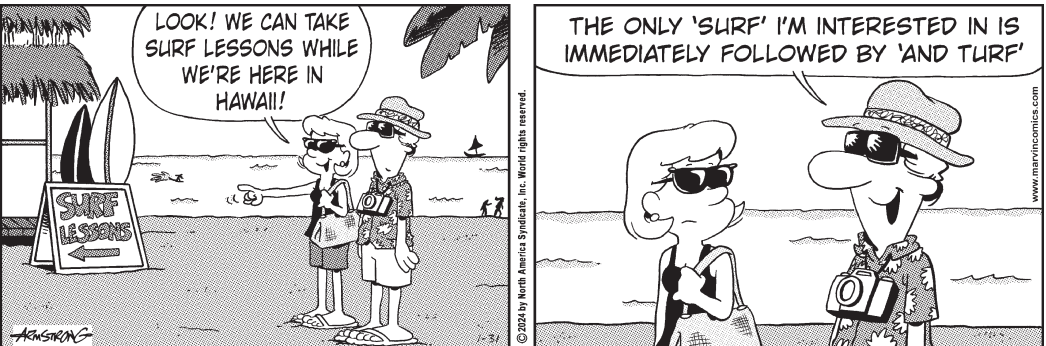
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ROYAL STARS HOROSCOPE

BY GEORGIA NICOLS

MOON ALERT: There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Libra.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024:

You are strong-willed and original. You're also imaginative, inventive and dramatic; however, you like to be respected and noticed for your talents. Simplicity is the key to your life this year. Take charge of your health. Physical exercise will be important. Stay grounded and levelheaded.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
3★ Tread carefully, because conversations with partners, spouses, close friends and even members of the general public might be prickly today. Knowing this ahead of time, why not cut others some slack? If "what goes around comes around" is true (and I think it is), others will cut you some slack as well. Tonight: Listen.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
4★ Be patient with co-workers, because people are a bit aggressive today. You might encounter this at work or when dealing with people related to your health or even something to do with your pet. Hey, you can be part of the

problem or part of the solution. Tonight: Compromise.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
4★ Parents need to be patient with kids today because there is an element of angst in the air with many people. You might feel this in sports situations or perhaps when socializing with others. The trick is to think before you react or speak. Your objective is to have a pleasant day. Tonight: Stay chill.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
3★ Family disagreements or arguments might arise today because of irritable feelings between family members. Do what you can to keep the peace, because family harmo-

ny is so supportive to everyone. And the reverse is also true. Family fighting can bring everyone down, including you. Tonight: Patience.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
3★ You might have a heated discussion with a sibling, relative or someone in your everyday world today. For your own good, take a moment and remind yourself that you don't have to be right. Not this time. You don't have to win this argument. What you want is to have a happy day! Tonight: Observe.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
3★ Money squabbles might occur today. They could relate to social outings, the cost of taking care of or educating kids, or something related to vacations or the arts. Why not take a beat and table these discussions until Friday when everyone is more amicable? Tonight: Check your belongings.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
3★ Today the Moon is in your sign for the second day, but now it is at odds with fiery Mars, which can create petty disputes and irritability with others. If you need to speak up, you will. You might attract

people to you who want to criticize or attack you. Be careful. Tonight: Stay calm.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
4★ Seek out solitude if you can do so today. This will be a relief from everyday squabbles that many people are undergoing. Focus on home and family. You might be involved with a parent today. Do your best to get along. Tonight: Privacy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
4★ Sports and any competition involving physical activity will be highly charged today. Likewise, you might get involved in an argument with a friend or a member of a group. Ask yourself if it's worth it. Sometimes you have to just let things go to keep the peace. Tonight: Be congenial.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan 19)
3★ Steer clear of nasty entanglements with authority figures today -- parents, bosses, teachers and the police. If you challenge these people, you might quickly regret it because everyone is ready to argue today! Why destroy your peace of mind? Tonight: Show respect.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
3★ Avoid controversial subjects like politics, religion, racial issues and challenges in society. These will quickly mushroom into arguments and nasty encounters. Some days it's excellent to have these discussions, but today is not one of those days. Mums the word. Tonight: Stay cool.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
3★ You might encounter difficulties with a partner or close friend about shared property, inheritances, taxes, debt or issues with shared responsibilities. Boundaries might not be clearly defined. Do others know what you expect from them? Do you know what they expect from you? Tonight: Be helpful.

BORN TODAY
Singer, actor Justin Timberlake (1981), actress Kerry Washington (1977), actor Jonathan Banks (1947)

Find more Georgia Nicols horoscopes at georgianicols.com.

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SHEFFER CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Stir-fry vessel

4 \$ dispensers

8 Rights org.

12 Swelled head

13 Othello's betrayer

14 Furnace fuel

15 Louvre collection

16 "The Night Watch" painter

18 Meat and veggies on a skewer

20 Pouch

21 "Little Women" sister

24 Merriment

28 Fixes

32 Mystique

33 World Cup cheer

34 Musical transition

36 Bit of physics

37 Yoga class pads

39 Fabric leftovers

41 Un-adorned

DOWN

1 Feeble

2 Folklore monster

3 "Today" anchor

5 — '80s TV

5 — kwon do

6 "High Society" studio

7 Weeps

8 Source of gum

9 Swindle

10 Young bloke

11 Last (Abbr.)

17 Ewe's mate

19 Actor

22 Wedding cake layer

23 German philosopher

25 Botch up

26 Jog

27 — Christian Andersen

28 Cavort

29 Israeli airline

30 Transcending (Pref.)

31 Wrestling style

35 Web search tools

38 Protective house exterior

40 Venomous viper

42 Dijon denial

45 Waffle brand

47 Oil cartel

48 Ten-cent piece

49 Go

50 Tease

51 Punk rock offshoot

52 Scratch the surface

53 Smidgen

54 Vintage

Solution time: 23 mins.

DOTS
PAPA SELES
PIVEN TRASHY
QUICK QUESTION
RSS AUNTS NDA
ERIK ANEW
BUNDT MERYL
BEND BECK
RAS NEATO SHA
ONEWORDANSWER
SARTRE OHARE
TIMOR TIME
TEL YAP

Last Wednesday's Answer
(Answers Next Wednesday)

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NDUPO

GHITT

NLLEYO

LIOWWL

THE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

What do you say?
What do you know?
I found out that the trench is deeper than Mt. Everest is tall.
There's that.

TO LEARN ABOUT THE MARIANA TRENCH, YOU CAN GO ONLINE TO ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

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(Today's Answers Next Wednesday)

Last Wednesday's Answers
Jumbles: BLURT PRIMP CANNON GOVERN
Answer: Sometimes Jumble wordplay is so "stinky" that it's — PUNGENT

SUDOKU PUZZLE

King Classic Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9. That means that no number is repeated in any row, column, or box.
(Today's Answers Next Wednesday)

Answer To Last Wednesday's Puzzle:

Difficulty: ★★★

1/31

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2	5	6	3	8	7	4	9	1
9	4	8	1	6	5	7	2	3
3	1	7	4	2	9	6	8	5
7	9	1	2	5	3	8	6	4
4	3	5	8	7	6	9	1	2
6	8	2	9	1	4	5	3	7
1	7	4	6	9	2	3	5	8
5	2	9	7	3	8	1	4	6
8	6	3	5	4	1	2	7	9



LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

Cert No. 45827
Summers County
To: , MATTIE LEFTRIDGE, 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 HINTON CORP MAP 5 PARCEL 0260 0000

You will take notice that City of Hinton Building Commission, the purchaser of the following real estate, Certification No. 45827, located in HINTON CORP District, 1 LOT 72 1/2 X 42 1/2 STATE STREET, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of LEFTRIDGE MATTIE B "EST", and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of Summers County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on 12/06/2022. City of Hinton Building Commission requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after 3/15/2024, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before 3/15/2024 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to 3/15/2024..... \$455.41
Amount of taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to 3/15/2024 . \$0.00

Amount paid for Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest to 3/15/2024..... \$782.61

Additional Statutory Fees with Interest to 3/15/2024 . \$0.00

Total Amount Payable to Sheriff - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check must be made payable to **The Honorable Justin Faris, Sheriff of Summers County**..... **\$1238.02**

You may redeem at any time before 3/15/2024 by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

Given under my hand 1/8/2024.

G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.
G. Russell Rollyson Jr.
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of SUMMERS County, State of West Virginia (31ja7,14fe)

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

Cert No. 45857
Summers County
To: , RAYMOND STEPHEN ENRIGHT, 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 HINTON CORP MAP 4 PARCEL 0154 0000

You will take notice that City of Hinton Building Commission, the purchaser of the following real estate, Certification No. 45857, located in HINTON CORP District, BLOCK 9 LOT 1 11TH AVE, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of ENRIGHT MATHEW F, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of Summers County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on 12/06/2022. City of Hinton Building Commission requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after 3/15/2024, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before 3/15/2024 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to 3/15/2024.....\$535.55

Amount of taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to 3/15/2024\$0.00

Amount paid for Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest to 3/15/2024 \$1415.53

Additional Statutory Fees with Interest to 3/15/2024..... \$0.00

Total Amount Payable to Sheriff - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check must be made payable to **The Honorable Justin Faris, Sheriff of Summers County**.....**\$1951.08**

You may redeem at any time before 3/15/2024 by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

Given under my hand 1/8/2024.

G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.
G. Russell Rollyson Jr.
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of SUMMERS County, State of West Virginia (31ja7,14fe)

REQUEST FOR BIDS

Summers County Commission is accepting sealed bids for a 2010 Dodge Grand Caravan, VIN No.

2D4RN4DE0AR139710.

This vehicle is being sold "AS IS" and considered non-running. Sealed bids may be submitted to the Summers County Commission at 120 Ballengee Street, Suite 203, Hinton, WV or presented to the Summers County Clerk.

Bids must be received in the office by the end of business on February 9, 2024 regardless of

postmark. Sealed bids will be opened by the Summers County Commission in the Regular Session on Wednesday, February 14, 2024.

Terms of payment: Payment shall be made in full within five business days by certified check made payable to the Sheriff of Summers County before possession can be taken. Vehicle must be removed within five business days of receipt of title by appointment. In the event that the bid fails to meet statutory requirements, the Commission will reject all bids and refer the said vehicle to auction.

To inspect the vehicle, contact Jerry Grimmertt at (304) 890-8431 for appointment.

Summers County Commission Charles W. Saunders, President (31ja)

REQUEST FOR BIDS

Summers County Commission is accepting sealed bids for a 2006 DODGE UT (Durango), VIN No.

1D4HB38N56F105821.

This vehicle is being sold "AS IS" and considered non-running. Sealed bids may be submitted to the Summers County Commission at 120 Ballengee Street, Suite 203, Hinton, WV or presented to the Summers County Clerk.

Bids must be received in the office by the end of business on February 9, 2024 regardless of postmark. Sealed bids will be opened by the Summers County Commission in the Regular Session on Wednesday, February 14, 2024.

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To inspect the vehicle, contact Jerry Grimmertt at (304) 890-8431 for appointment. Summers County Commission Charles W. Saunders, President (31ja)

NOTICE

The City of Hinton is now accepting civil service applications for entry level firefighters. Those interested in applying can pick up an application from City Hall at 322 Summers Street in Hinton during regular business hours.

In accordance with state code only those aged 18-35 at the time of application will be considered. Additionally, veterans should present a copy of their D-214 upon application to be considered for the veteran's preference points. Applications will be accepted until March 1, 2024. (31ja7fe)

American Heritage Music Hall future unclear

RONCEVERTE W.Va (Hinton News) - Tensions regarding the American Heritage Music Hall have ramped up in Ronceverte over the last few weeks.

AHMH president Bill Evans says he was shocked when he showed up at the building down on Island Park a couple of weeks ago and there were posters on the door that read "City Property, No Trespassing or Tampering: Violators will be Prosecuted" and "Contact City Hall to Schedule Entry."

A lot of back-and-forth has been seen via social media regarding this issue. Various claims and rumors are circulating, some hold a measure of fact while others do not.

Evans recently spoke about the situation saying he was blindsided by the whole ordeal. The topic then turned to a colleague of his.

"[The board director] went behind my back and signed it over to the city. I didn't know it until recently," Evans stated.

Evans stressed that giving the AHMH building to the city had been discussed before, but Evans was waiting to have a board meeting with the other members so they could discuss the exact plan.

Then, a few months ago, Evans reportedly got a

letter in the mail from the city.

"Without permission of other American Heritage Music Hall board members, he [board director] gave them the building. He had told me one day back in late September or October that he had the necessary paperwork filled out, but when he told me that, he had already delivered it to the city," Evans said.

Allegedly, Evans showed up at AHMH one day—he could not remember the exact date—and there were two men there installing cameras that hooked up to the power within the building. Evans told the city that stuff like that could not be done because they did not own the building, to which the city allegedly responded, "yes we do."

Finally, last summer, the board director had reportedly asked Evans for a key in case he ever needed to run down to the AHMH building for any reason. Evans said he understood that and gave him one but found out he had allegedly given it to the city for some unknown reason.

Evans then reportedly changed the locks because, according to him, there is around \$30,000 worth of stuff inside that AHMH owns.

Unfortunately, the story

does not end there.

"I went back down there and the lock I had put on had been cut off with what looked like a saw, and they [the city] had put their own lock on," Evans said.

Evans reports searching for a lawyer and he hopes the Music Hall can stay a good place for people to go.

"It's a fun place to go," Evans said. "There's no smoking, drinking or doping."

Evans had one last thing to add.

"After all that, to make a long story short, it comes down to [board director] not having authority to give the building away. He went against the board members of the Music Hall," Evans concluded.

The West Virginia Daily News reached out to the City of Ronceverte; however, officials declined to comment and directed WVDN to speak with Grady Ford at the Ford Law Firm. Ford has agreed to provide information and a statement. Unfortunately, staff did not receive the statement before the publishing deadline. WVDN will provide a follow-up article as soon as possible.

Editor's Note: This article originally appeared on The West Virginia Daily News, a sister paper to The Hinton News.

A.A. meetings in Hinton

HINTON W.Va. (Hinton News) - The Hinton Alcoholics Anonymous group holds two weekly meetings on Wednesdays at noon and Fridays at 8 p.m. in the lower level of Ascension Episcopal Church. Both are open meetings.

The entrance to the meeting area is through the rear of the church, which is located at the corner of Temple Street and 5th Avenue (222 5th Avenue). The format of the meeting will be an open discussion of a weekly topic related to alcohol use/abuse.

For more information, please call 304-660-7073

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HINTON NEWS

FOR THE INFORMED SUMMERS COUNTYAN SINCE 1927

Gingerbread Day at War Ridge Free Will Baptist Church



The start of the “This or That” game with Brooke Fox (holding the ball of yarn), Makenna Mann, Grant Fox, Ayden McNicholas (back to camera), Jayson Little (back to camera), Jayden Little, Lavana Shamblen, Hailey Matney, Isabel Marks and Makenzie Marks.



The kids’ favorite game “Who Wrapped This?” where a cling wrap ball containing candy and small toys was unwrapped while wearing oven mitts.

WAR RIDGE W.Va. (Hinton News) - On Friday, Dec. 22, 2023, the War Ridge Free Will Baptist Church held a Gingerbread Day for the kids in the Kids Club. Their day started at 10 a.m. with a game of “This or That” where the kids tied themselves in knots over whether they liked one item better than another. Although the adults were tempted to leave them tied up for the rest of the day there were too many fun things planned and they relented. The kids decorated a pine cone Christmas tree, played another game and then enjoyed walking

tacos for lunch. The afternoon consisted of two more crafts, the building and decorating of gingerbread houses, each child iced a half dozen sugar cookies and the whole group played another eight games. Mid-afternoon saw them enjoying hot chocolate and eating oven-cooked s’mores. The mostly happy (a few complained of stomach aches, probably from eating way too much candy and icing) kids were picked up at 4:30 p.m. by parents glad that someone else entertained them on their first day of Christmas break.



Makenna Mann showing off her iced sugar cookies.



Hailey Matney with her completed gingerbread house along with the pine cone Christmas tree she decorated.

New River CTC Spring Rolling Start is Enrolling

WEST VIRGINIA (Hinton News) - In a world that’s constantly evolving, educational opportunities should be flexible and accessible to everyone. That’s why New River Community and Technical College offers its Rolling Start class options, ensuring that it is never too late to embark on a journey of knowledge and personal growth.

With Rolling Start Classes, you can start later, at a time that is convenient

for you. The continuous enrollment model proves it is never too late to start working towards your goal. New River CTC understands that different timelines work for different students. If a student misses the enrollment deadline for the spring 2024 semester, New River CTC offers this later enrollment date with access to accelerated courses completely online.

Rolling Start empowers students to start or continue their education in a way

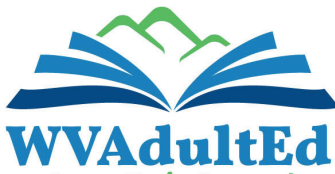
that fits seamlessly into their lives.

You can register for classes through Feb. 23, as part of the convenient Rolling Start Class options. Classes begin Feb. 26. New River Community and Technical College’s Admissions and Student Success Coaches remain available to provide guidance and information.

It’s not too late to sign up! Visit <https://www.newriver.edu/rolling-start/> to take the first step toward

a brighter future. Don’t miss out on the chance to start, enroll today.

Prospective students can reach out to 866-349-3739 or admissions@newriver.edu, or visit newriver.edu to explore programs, discuss requirements, and embark on their educational journey with confidence.



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