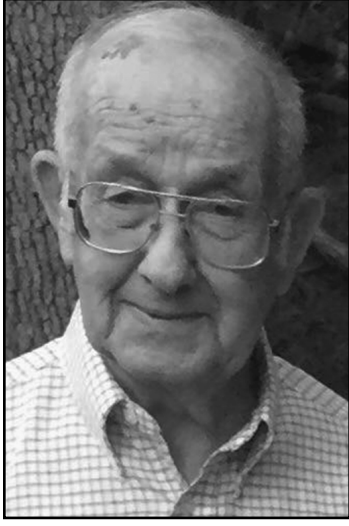


Obituaries

MITCHELL SMITH of Huntington

MITCHELL SMITH, 89, of Huntington, W.Va., went to be with the Lord Saturday, July 29, 2017, at the Emogene Dolin Jones Hospice House in Huntington, W.Va. He was born November 12, 1927 at Wayne, W.Va., a son of the late Wayne and Sadie Matthews Smith. He was a former employee of the West Virginia Society for the Blind and Severely Disabled and was a member and deacon of the Salem United Baptist Church for 65 years. He was also a member of the "Breakfast Club" of the McDonald's on Hal Greer Boulevard. He was also preceded in death by brothers John, Jesse, Charley, Paul, Leo, Dencil, Frank and Wayne Smith Jr. Survivors include his loving wife of 65 years, Frankie Napier Smith; a daughter, Sue Scott of California, Ky.; a son, Stanley Smith of Racine, W.Va.; a sister, Effie Darby of Wayne, W.Va.; five grandchildren, Billy Joe Smith, Bridgette Laraye Smith, Kendal Tharp (Darrell), Kerin Scott and Kathryn Rose (Zachary); and four great-grandchildren. Funeral services will be 11 a.m. Wednesday, August 2, 2017, at Morris Funeral Home Chapel, Wayne, W.Va., with Brothers Ray Williamson, Clifford Napier, James Clark, Bruce Finley and Tony Clay officiating. Burial will follow at Community Memorial Gardens, Wayne. Visitation will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, August 1, 2017, at Morris Funeral Home with a brief evening service beginning at 7 p.m., led by Elder Roger Maynard. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Huntington or the Salem United Baptist Church. The family wishes to express thanks to the caring staff at Wyngate at River's Edge and the Emogene Dolin Jones Hospice House.



CLIFFORD RAY NELSON of Huntington

CLIFFORD RAY NELSON, 68, of Huntington, WV, died Thursday, July 27, 2017 at Huntington Health and Rehabilitation. Funeral services will be conducted 2:00 pm Tuesday, August 1, 2017 at Morris Funeral Home Chapel by Elder Dolphus Perry. Burial will follow at Community Memorial Gardens, Wayne, WV. He was born October 12, 1948 in Huntington, WV, a son of the late Jesse and Ethel Barker Nelson. Clifford was a photographer and graphic arts designer for Ashland Oil. Also preceding him in death were his grandparents, Oscar and Letha Maynard Barker, Millard and Malinda Nelson; along with a sisters-in-law, Debbie Nelson. Survivors include a daughter, Karen Nelson; a son, Eric Nelson; a brother, Gary Nelson all of Huntington, WV; four grandchildren, Brandon Nelson, Bryanna Eckert, Clarissa Nelson and Kierston Nelson; several close friends including the DeFoe and Bowen Families. Friends may call from noon until service time at Morris Funeral Home, Wayne, WV. The family would like to thank the Doctors and staff at Huntington Health and Rehab.



CATHERINE LOUISE JOHNSON of Kenova

CATHERINE LOUISE JOHNSON, 70, of Kenova, WV went to be with her Lord and Savior on July 31, 2017 at St. Mary's Medical Center. She was born on June 10, 1947 in Huntington, WV to the late Roy M. Capehart and Jeanne (Body) Capehart. Catherine is preceded in death by her sister, Ella Faye Miller; her niece, Susan Capehart. She had a long career as a teacher in Wayne County touching many lives with the majority of her time at Kellogg Elementary. She was a member of Ebenezer Baptist Church and Alpha Delta Kappa, International Honorary Organization for Women Educators. She leaves behind to mourn her loss; her loving and devoted husband, Ronald Paul Johnson; her sons, Roy Dwane Johnson(Lisa) and Roderick Neil Johnson(Kim); "Nana's angels" as she would call her grandchildren, Alyson Nicole Johnson, Jared Michael Johnson and Zachary Paul Johnson. Also surviving is her mother-in-law, Gertrude Ridgeway; her sister-in-law's, Ronda Southwood, Sue Scurry, and Janice Welch; her brother-in-law's, Bill Miller and Huey Ridgeway; a host of nephews and nieces; a great-niece, Charlotte Capehart; her Aunt Edna; numerous cousins ; and her church family that she loved dearly. Visitation will be on Thursday August 3 from 5-8 pm and the funeral service will be conducted on Friday August 4 at 12 noon at Ceredo-Kenova Funeral Home. Burial will Follow at Woodmere Memorial Park.



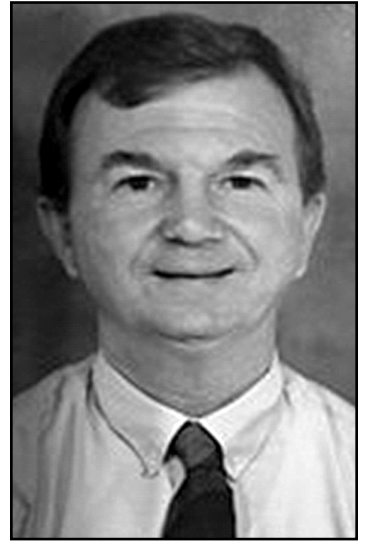
CARLA FAYE MARCUM KIRK of Ashland

CARLA FAYE MARCUM KIRK, 66 of Ashland passed away Tuesday July 25, 2017 at her home with her family at her side. Carla was born May 12, 1951 in Kenova, WV to the late James W. and Della Mae Johnson Marcum. She was a graduate of Boyd County High School and State Dorational Technical School. Carla was a retired Social Worker, her hobbies included needlepoint and piano. Survivors include her son Bradley Dean Kirk and his wife Naomi of Ashland, two brothers Jerry Lee Marcum of Keniwick, WA and Randy Marcum of Catlettsburg, and one sister Sylvia Marcum Kirk of Ashland. Additional survivors include nieces and nephews Paula (Randy), Tina (Eric), Tony, and Jay, five great nieces and nephews, and many cousins and friends. A Graveside service for Ms. Kirk will be at 1:00pm Tuesday August 1, 2017 at the Marcum section of the Stevens Cemetery, Johnsons Fork, Catlettsburg. Bro. Joshua Sparks will officiate. Visitation will be from 11:30am until 12:30pm Tuesday at the Kilgore & Collier Funeral Home, 2702 Panola Street, Catlettsburg. Condolences may be left at: kilgorecollierfuneralhome.com.



MICKEY RAY KNOWLES of Lavalette

MICKEY RAY KNOWLES, 67, of Lavalette, W.Va., passed away on Saturday, July 29, 2017, at St. Mary's Medical Center. He was born in Columbus, Ga., on September 10, 1949, the son of the late Rev. William Hollis and Thelma Deese Knowles. Mickey was a retired Wayne County, W.Va., schoolteacher. He was a Marshall University graduate and had a Masters Degree in Education. He was an Air Force veteran who served in Abilene, Texas and Karamursel, Turkey. Mickey was a member of Locust Grove Baptist Church. In addition to his parents, Mickey was preceded in death by one brother, Jerry Milton Knowles. Survivors include his wife of 45 years, Karen Plymale Knowles; two sons and a daughter-in-law, Brian (Kristin) Knowles, Kevin Knowles and special friend Eric McComas. He is also survived by two brothers and a sister-in-law, Drs. William Durwood (Julie) Knowles of Webb, Ala.; Dr. William Archie "Bill" (Diana) Knowles of Graceville, Fla., and Linda (James) Sims of Columbia, Ala.; a brother-in-law and sister-in-law Rick (Susan) Plymale; as well as many beloved nephews, nieces, great-nephews, great-nieces, cousins, aunts and uncles.



CLETIS R. PRITCHARD SR. of Wilkinson

CLETIS R. PRITCHARD SR., 74, of Wilkinson, W.Va., husband of Barbara Pritchard, died July 30 in Logan (W.Va.) Regional Medical Center. He was a retired truck driver. Services will be 2 p.m. Wednesday, Church of God of Prophecy, Logan, W.Va. Evans Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Chapmanville, W.Va., is assisting the family.

LOWRY from Page 5A

months. Worse is yet to come. Lacking legitimacy and representing only a fraction of the populace, the Maduro regime will rely on the final backstop of violent suppression. It is now the worst crisis in a major country in the Western Hemisphere since the heights of the Colombian civil war in the 1990s and 2000s. There is no easy remedy to Venezuela's agony. If meditation were the solution, the country never would have gotten to this pass. Endless negotiations between the government and the opposition have gone nowhere -- the organized crime syndicate that has seized power under the banner of revolution knows it has no option but to retain its hold on power by any means necessary. The U.S. needs to use every economic and diplomatic lever to undermine the regime and build an international coalition against it. We should impose more sanctions on specific officials and on the state-run oil company; we should advertise what we know about the details of how Chavezistas park their ill-gotten gains abroad; we should nudge our allies to further isolate the Venezuelan government by pulling ambassadors and breaking diplomatic relations. The hope is that with enough pressure, the regime will crack, and high-level officials will break with Maduro, weakening his position and making a negotiated restoration of democratic rule possible. In the meantime, the Bolivarian Revolution is proceeding according to its sick logic -- and there will be blood.

STUMBLING from Page 5A

Standard editor Bill Kristol dubbed Trump's strange remark about Sessions as "a nice, post-modern touch." Post modernism has sometimes been spoken of as a way of saying completely opposite things about the same issue and pretending that both make sense. Much earlier, one of America's leading conservative voices, columnist George Will, tagged Trump in print as "a bloviating ignoramus." Other conservative pundits who either were never on board the Trump bandwagon or have in recent months jumped off include Glenn Beck, Jennifer Rubin, Charles Krauthammer and Kathleen Parker, and former Republican party chairman Michael Steele. Congress itself has recently dealt the Trump standard another blow in voting, by overwhelming margins, new and tougher sanctions against Vladimir Putin's Russia as a stern rebuke for Russian meddling in the 2016 election. And that's meddling Trump still insists he's not sure ever happened.

John Patrick Grace, a former Associated Press reporter, editor and foreign correspondent, now edits and publishes books and teaches the Life Writing Class in Huntington and nearby towns.

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SONYA LYNN SPENCE of Genoa

SONYA LYNN SPENCE, 48, of Genoa, W.Va., passed away Friday, July 28, 2017, at Cabell Huntington Hospital, Huntington, W.Va. Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Thursday, August 3, 2017, at Morris Funeral Home Chapel, Wayne, W.Va. Burial will follow at Community Memorial Gardens, Wayne. She was born April 4, 1968, at Paintsville, Ky., a daughter of Marie Sloan Crum of Paintsville and the late Ellis Crum. Survivors include her husband Nolan Spence; a daughter, Robin Lynn Spence of Genoa, W.Va.; three sons, Ryan Spence of Paintsville, Ky., Tyler Harvey and William Harvey, both of Genoa, W.Va.; a sister, Rita Baldridge of Paintsville, Ky.; a brother, William Keith Fairchild, also of Paintsville, Ky. Visitation will be from 1 p.m. until service time on Thursday at Morris Funeral Home.

OBIT POLICY – It is the policy of The Wayne County News to run obituaries FREE. However there are a few guidelines. All obituaries must come from a funeral home and be the 'official' obituary. We do not take submissions directly from the families. This is to avoid any conflict between factions of families. If you would like to run an obituary from out of state please contact the funeral home that handled the arrangements and have them send it to us via email to editor@waynecountynews.com.

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VINA JENNINGS PRESTON of Louisa

VINA JENNINGS PRESTON, 93 of Louisa, KY passed away Monday July 31, 2017 at Three Rivers Medical Center following a brief illness. Vina was born in Johnson County KY on Nov. 6, 1923 to the late Elbert and Mary Preston Jennings. She enjoyed sewing and had made many quilts for her family. She also loved country music and was a fan of Conway Twitty. She loved the Lord. She is preceded in death by the love of her life and husband of 69 years George F. Preston, a son Fredrick Preston, a daughter Celia Preston Layne, two grandchildren and a great grandson. Survivors include four sons Danny Preston and wife Sharon of Titusville, FL, George Lynn Preston and wife Melissa of Pulaski, TN, James Preston and wife Karen of Louisa, and Ricky Preston also of Louisa; four daughters Judy Petzo and husband Dave of Grove Port, OH, Betty Blair of Nicholasville, KY, Willia May and husband Freddie of Louisa, and Charlotte McIntosh and husband Paul of Radcliff, KY; 20 grandchildren, 37 great grandchildren, and 9 great great grandchildren. Vina also had many nieces and nephews that she loved dearly. Funeral services will be held on Thursday August 3rd at 10:00 am at the Wilson Funeral Home with Rev. Willie Gene Hayes and Rev. Doug Kelly officiating. Burial will follow in the Greenlawn Cemetery Louisa, KY. Friends may visit the family on Wednesday from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Wilson Funeral Home. Care has been entrusted to Wilson Funeral Home.



HANKINS from Page 5A

homogeneous group is acceptable for all other homogeneous groups. As human beings "made of one blood," we are in fact one huge homogeneous humanity. Liberals welcome immigrants and believe our nation has achieved greatness because it is a melting pot of languages and cultures. Liberals, in general, disapprove of despotism, bigotry and bullying; that is, one individual "lording over" or implying that he or she is innately better than others because of his/her social, political or financial status. I am writing this column to suggest that part of the discontinuity that proscribes ("rejects as dangerous") and separates political parties (liberals, independents, conservatives) is a lack of understanding of the basic values of opposite points of view. But, also, a lack of understanding of the basic value of diversity. One might get the impression from reading some opinion pieces that liberals are bad people - that they are people who have purposely set out to destroy everything that is good and right in America. Nothing could be further from the truth!

INTERNET from Page 5A

naturally coming along before 2015. This back-and-forth action by the FCC has created long-term uncertainty for broadband internet providers. Understanding that these same utility-style regulations can come back into play after the next election, investment may continue to be slow because the size of the infrastructure to be developed means projects can take years to complete -well beyond one administration to another. The regulations were put in place in 2015 to keep the Internet open to those using it. The argument by some of the largest users (including the video streaming and pornography industries) was that without the utility-style regulation, the internet would become slower. In fact, the Internet got faster and faster while more infrastructure was developed leading up until that point. The solution is for Congress to step in with bipartisan legislation that will solve the issue once and for all. Providers have publicly stated they support an open Internet - so all sides can agree that it should be written into law. By doing so, it will protect users and consumers while giving stability to providers so they can invest in bringing broadband Internet to rural areas like West Virginia. Our great state is beyond the precipice of a new economy. Without smart policies, broadband will become like highways and other infrastructure that came too little and too late to Appalachia. And then, not only will the promise of the internet not be fulfilled - but we will continue to see yet another generation leave our wonderful state to live in places where they can be connected.

Geary Weir is the executive director of the Webster County Economic Development Authority in West Virginia.