

The Messenger

Spring 2019

Zion Presbyterian Church, Helvetia
Pickens Presbyterian Church

Spring is on its way!! The tiny sprouts of tulips and daffodils are letting us know. The early morning chirps of the birds are letting us know, and it won't be long until the air is filled with that lovely fragrance only a spring morning can hold. The awesomeness of new life is amazing. Sometimes it can be hard to wiggle enough time into our busy schedules to enjoy the freshness of a new day, or the beauty of SPRING, but I hope everyone can find a little time to relax and enjoy the sights, sounds, and scents of God's incredible creations. It is so good for one's soul!

Again, I remind everyone to continue to send news articles so that they can be included in the next MESSENGER. It is good to hear from friends near and far.

Many thanks to Lawrence Metzner, Ellen Stefanisn, Alice Stankus, Tonya and Phil Penrose, Carol Tarr, and Alan and Joanne Exline for their financial donations to THE MESSENGER. These donations pay for the costs of printing and postage of each newsletter. Many thanks to Jerianne Davis at the Helvetia Public Library for printing the newsletter. THE MESSENGER would not be possible without the help of so many people.

Any news or community organization event information can be sent to me ANYTIME.

Thank you so much!! HAPPY SPRING!!

Diane M. Betler

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ZION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Worship services continue each Sunday at the beautiful church in Helvetia. At the annual congregational meeting, the church session recommended that another Elder be installed. Ordination and Installation as Ruling Elder was held on February 24, for Betty Biggs. Much appreciation to Betty for her dedication and service to the church and community. Also, many thanks to Joe McInroy for his continued efforts in finding a pastor to lead

worship service each week. With the coming of warmer weather, we will also continue to have Children's Sunday school twice a month. For information on dates of Sunday school, please contact Diane (304-924-5593). All children are welcome. We always start at 9:15 and are finished in time for the regular worship service at 10:00. If anyone has plans to visit the area, please feel welcome to include attending church. Regular services start at 10:00 each Sunday. Everyone is ALWAYS welcome.

FROM OUR FRIENDS

Our friend **Ellen Stefanisn** writes: "As a girl my only vacations were to Nutter Fort or Helvetia to visit our Swiss relatives. I remember playing in the hay at the cousin's Burky farm with Alice and I met her sister Irene later in Ohio where we all lived. So I certainly related to Alice's letter in the Summer 2018 issue of THE MESSENGER. My great grandparents, Gottfried and Marianna, lived on the Helvetia/Pickens Road and the Burky's had a farm in the back of us. Also, my other great grandfather was Rev. Daniel F. Schroth, who was pastor when the Helvetia church was built. He later came back and preached there until he died in 1898. He is buried in the Helvetia Cemetery.

I have a grandson, Jasen Ratajezak, who is now training in Germany. He is 27 years old, an engineer, and works for General Tire in Hanover, Germany. He loves to travel and I hope he can visit some of our family in our ancestor village. If anyone has connections in Switzerland, please let me know." Thank you,

Ellen Stefanisn, 1413 E. Holiday Drive; Casa Granda, Arizona. 85122. (440)785-2635

Ellen, thank you for writing. It is always good to keep in touch with friends.

News from an article in the *Northern Virginia Daily*, by Donald Lambert, from **Henrietta Sanders**.

The women of the Buckton Presbyterian Church have sought a way to help keep the homeless in Warren County, Virginia warm this winter. The group meets two Wednesdays a month, and has been working since spring to prepare various items such as quilts, blankets, and toiletries to distribute to the homeless. One of the volunteers of this group is Henrietta Betler Sanders. Many of the volunteers became involved with the project because of the camaraderie. Linda Allen, another volunteer, is glad to be part of the project, joyful spirits, and inspiring work. Andra Logan has worked

with the group for five years. She says that women from various parts of Shenandoah Valley have come together for the cause. It doesn't matter where the volunteer is from or what denomination they are, it is all about people doing something for someone else. The group of 15 women helped out with this year's project. Henrietta Sanders has been involved with the church's efforts since the beginning. She is glad to be part of a wonderful group where everyone helps, and fits right in. Part of the job Henrietta does is preparing these homemade items for distribution at the Front Royal Thermal Shelter. Within the past year, the group has managed to get 20 quilts, sleeping bags, and other projects completed and donated to those in need. Thank you, Henrietta Sanders for this article and for all you do.

ORGANIZATIONS AND NEWS

2018-2019 Pickens School Archery Team

This year's archery team has 18 members. There are 7 elementary archers, 5 middle school archers, 5 high school archers, and 1 assistant. The team had plans to host an archery tournament at Pickens School on Friday, February 1st. This tournament had to be rescheduled into two separate tournaments due to weather and meeting the availability of the other teams. One tournament was held with the Upshur County Home School Team attending and the other with Elkins Middle and High School, Marlinton Middle School, and Pocahontas County High School attending. Concessions and a silent auction were available during both tournaments. Items from the silent auction were donated by businesses and individuals from the surrounding areas. The tournaments were successful and help the team with the purchasing of equipment and with costs associated with attending tournaments throughout the season. The team attended various tournaments throughout the season with individuals from the team bringing home several awards. The largest tournament the archers competed in was the virtual tournament for the state tournament. This tournament included 1,369 participants from 79 schools. Upon the conclusion of the virtual tournament, the team had 5 members qualify to shoot at the state tournament on Saturday, March 30th. Pickens will have 3 elementary archers competing who are Emma McNeal, Jenell Winters, and Hannah Tiffner. They will also have 2 high school archers competing, who

are Ceirra Kelley and Chad Tiffner. If these archers place in the top 10 individual spots for their divisions at the state tournament, then they will go on to compete at the national competition in Louisville, Kentucky in May.

Thank you, **Tonia Tiffner**, for all you and the other coaches and parents and community do for the archery team; and for letting us know about the archery team. Our community is so proud of all of the students!

2019 FOLLOW YOUR BLISS MUSIC FESTIVAL

In June, the Follow Your Bliss Music Festival will be held. On the weekend of June 21-23, 2019, you can find great music and various vendors in the Meadow. It is always a weekend of fun with friends and family. Proceeds from the event go to various community organizations and Hospice Care. Pictures from previous Follow Your Bliss Festivals, and information on the event can be found on Facebook at : Follow Your Bliss Festival.

HELVETIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Helvetia Public Library welcomed new director, Jerianne Davis in August of 2018. Along with this change many new initiatives have been undertaken to improve the service of the library to the community. A variety of activities have been and are planned for the community to take part in; movies for children and adults, reading activities, and crafting for kids of all ages. The previous director, Mr. Doug Davis is now teaching at Pickens School and still works closely with the library in coordinating reading materials for the Pickens School students. Stay tuned for fun summer vacation reading programs and activities. We continue to offer new book releases each month and recently started a small business section! Please keep updated with our current activity list on the Helvetia Public Library Facebook page. As we look to find ways to better serve the community we still rely on your support, please stop by and "check out" YOUR library!

HELVETIA ARCHIVES AND RESTORATION

HELVETIA is 150 years old this year!

In honor of the founding of Helvetia, a Vintage Quilt - circa 1880 – made from period cotton materials, hand quilted, and backed with unbleached muslin has been donated by a longtime friend and Helvetia enthusiast. The Quilt's pattern is called Mothers Delight and is pieced in red, white and blue colors. This beautiful quilt is being chanced off to

raise funds for the Helvetia Archives and Restoration.

Chances are \$5 each or five chances for \$20. The drawing for the winner will be held during the Helvetia Day celebration on October 20th.

If you would like to support the fundraising effort, please make a check payable to Helvetia Restoration for the amount you wish to contribute and mail to: Anna Chandler, 1118 Wasco St. Morgantown, WV. 26508 Make sure your contact information is easily readable (Name, address, telephone, and email if you would like). We will not share your information with others.

Chances will be available until the drawing on October 20th 2019 when we celebrate the official founding of Helvetia.

Many thanks to **Anna Chandler** and **Eleanor Betler** for their many hours of volunteer work with the Helvetia archives and history. Everyone, please plan to visit Helvetia on Sunday, October 20, HELVETIA DAY!!

PICKENS MAPLE SYRUP FESTIVAL

WV Maple Syrup Festival #35 - Pickens WV has come and gone, and once again was a huge success! So many wonderful people to thank and way too many to try to mention! A huge thanks to all those who volunteered your time and helped us out and made it happen! We are forever grateful! Thank you to all the festival goers. Thank you so much for traveling from "here, there, and yonder" to come all the way to Pickens to attend our festival! You are all so much appreciated! We are tired and worn out and probably don't want to see another pancake, buckwheat cake, sausage or dirty pots, pans and dishes for a long time, but we are filled with gratitude, thanksgiving and pride!

A total of 2107 pancake meals served at the American Legion Hall and Pickens School for the weekend and 116 Ham & Bean dinners served on Saturday evening! The food vendors did well, and the Maple Cotton Candy was a huge hit this year! Over 300 bags sold! It was wonderful to have a sunny day and have so many people come out to help us celebrate."

The younger set were all excited to get to meet some of their favorite characters, a new attraction for this year's festival. Children gathered to meet life-size Paw Patrol, Troll and Scooby Doo characters. Another new and very popular attraction this year was axe throwing with Morgantown's Appalachian Axe Company.

"It all began in 1985, when Mike Richter, who has the maple syrup now, asked why we couldn't have an event like a maple syrup festival. He said we can have a pancake feed – which would promote his product and would also help the community. We started out and picked the third weekend in March. For the first festival, the high hope was to serve 500 people the whole weekend. So we planned a pancake and buckwheat feed and a ham and bean dinner for that evening. We had a pretty weekend. Before the end of the day on Saturday that first year, we had already served more than 500 people and were running out of everything. We had to send folks to Buckhannon to get more supplies. The festival has continued each year. Money raised from the Maple Syrup Festival goes right back into the community. The community organization now owns several of the buildings where people have moved out such as The Quilt House and also the Pickens Train Depot. The organization pays for the mowing in Pickens every summer and that accounts for about \$5,000 a season."

If you are planning ahead, next year's Maple Syrup Festival will be on March 21 and 22, 2020.

Many thanks to **Debby Morgan** and all of her family and many volunteers who help make the festival possible. Thank you, Debby, for the information in this article...thirty-five years of pancakes!! That's a lot of batter!!!

PICKENS SCHOOL BOOK FAIR

One favorite springtime activity at Pickens School is the annual book fair. For a week, the colorful and fun book displays are set up in the school gym for the students, parents, and community members to enjoy and to purchase books. The wonderful books are a delight to the readers, but also so important to the school library. For many years, the book fair is the way that the library acquires new books for the students. The school gets points for book purchases, and in turn gets free books for the library. The book fair will be set up in the gym March 25- March 29 from 12:30-2:30 pm. Books can be purchased online at

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/pickens-school1>. The online ordering can be done through April 2, 2019. All orders benefit the school library. Many thanks to **Velda Booth**, the coordinator of the book fair, and to all the volunteers who assist her with this project.

OBITUARIES

Carol Ann Williams Lanham, age 78, of Buckhannon, WV died Wednesday, May 23, 2018, at her home surrounded by her loving family and care givers. She was born February 23, 1940, in Buckhannon, a daughter of the late Everette L. and Ina Lee Grimm Williams. On February 2, 1973, she married Cash Lanham who preceded her in death on March 1, 2012. She is survived by one daughter, Christine M. Hull and husband Brian of Buckhannon and one grandson, Zach Hull of Buckhannon. Mrs. Lanham was a loving mother and grandmother. She was member of the First United Methodist Church in Buckhannon, a secretary and a homemaker. A Celebration of Life was held 7 PM on Wednesday, June 20, 2018 at her home. In honoring Mrs. Lanham's wishes, she will be cremated. Poling-St. Clair Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Dennis Arnold Cogar, age 56, of the Selbyville community died at his home on Sunday, November 11, 2018. He was born in Upshur County on February 20, 1962, a son of the late Donald Ray and Mary Jane Humphrey Cogar. In addition to his father and mother, he was also preceded in death by four brothers: Gerald Humphrey, James Humphrey, Herbert K. Cogar, and Stanley Cogar; and two sisters: Lila Cogar and Anita Cutright. He is survived by his companion Ginger Tenney; four daughters: Kelly, Mattie, and Lila Cogar, all at home, and Mandy Ware of Buckhannon; one son Greg Tenney at home; one granddaughter Kenzie Ware; four brothers: Harold Cogar of Charleston, Donald Cogar of Buckhannon, Ernie Cogar and wife Kim of French Creek, and Charles Cogar and wife Donna of Selbyville; four sisters: Ruby and husband Gary Reed of Buckhannon, Opal Woodson of Selbyville, Connie Cogar of Buckhannon, and Lois Cogar of Queens; and several nieces and nephews.

Mr. Cogar was a member of the NRA and was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed fishing and hunting. Friends were received at the Pleasant Dale Community Church on November 13, 2018, from 10-11:00 AM, the funeral hour, with Pastor Terry Gower officiating. Interment followed in the Pleasant Dale Cemetery.

Wilma Jean Simmons Woody, age 84, of Foster Street, Buckhannon, died Sunday, November 11, 2018, at her home. She was born on July 16, 1934, a daughter of Gilsie Russell Tenney, who survives. On May 6, 1951, she was united in marriage to Fred E.

Woody, who survives. In addition to her mother and husband, she is also survived by three sons: Ronnie Woody and wife Shirley of French Creek, Kenneth Woody and wife Marie of Buckhannon, and Gary Woody and wife Suzanne of Buckhannon; eleven grandchildren; eleven great grandchildren; three sisters: Patricia and husband Doyle Gillum of French Creek, Mary Ann and husband Larry Coe of Buckhannon, and Charlotte Peck of Alexander, WV; and several nieces and nephews. She was also preceded in death by her father Oral Simmons and three siblings: George, Annabelle, and Donnie. Mrs. Woody was a member of the Light Chapel Church, and was a faithful and devoted Christian who loved the Lord. She enjoyed fishing, feeding the birds, tending her flower gardens, reading, and working crossword puzzles.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt appreciation to the many hospice nurses that cared for Wilma over the past three years.

The family received friends on November 13, 2018, at the Heavner and Cutright Funeral Chapel. The funeral was held on November 14, 2018, at the funeral chapel with Pastor Brandon Kelley officiating. Interment followed in the Pleasant Dale Cemetery.

Mary Ellen Smith Bosley, age 77, of Buckhannon, WV, died Monday, November 26, 2018 at Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown, WV. She was born June 25, 1941 in Pickens, WV, a daughter of the late Stewart and Margaret Ann Swint Smith. On September 15, 1963 she married Vance Ronald Bosley who preceded her in death on May 1, 1976. She is survived by two daughters, Marilyn Utter and husband John of Buckhannon and Julia Hyman and husband David of Clarksburg, WV; seven granddaughters, Elaine Runyon and husband Josh of Baltimore, MD, Kimberly Hyman, Amanda Eubank and Megan Vedyt and husband Adam all of Clarksburg, Danielle Corley and husband Joshua of Salem, WV, Maria McClain of Buckhannon and Marissa Utter of Jane Lew, WV; five great-granddaughters, Katelyn Swigger of NC, Jaclyn Corley, Loraina Lloyd and Abby Lloyd all of Salem and Keira Livingston of West Milford, WV; three great-grandsons, Dru Jackson of Fairmont, WV, Gabriel and Aiden Livingston both of West Milford; five sisters, Rosemary Nelson and husband Arnie, Loretta Reeves and husband Arden and Margaret Ann Smith all of NC, Caroline White of UT and Cathy Hamrick of Webster Springs, WV; four brothers, Stuart Smith and wife Jessie of Buckhannon, Mike Smith and wife Serina of Pickens and Matthew "Pat" Smith and wife

Dale all of Pickens and Lawrence Smith of NC and several nieces and nephews. Mrs. Bosley was a Registered Nurse at the Louis A. Johnson VA Medical Center in Clarksburg, WV. She loved donating to charitable organizations, especially the St. Jude's Children's Hospital. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to the St. Jude's Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105

Patty Jean Hawkins Johnston, age 70, of French Creek, WV, departed this life to be with her Lord and Savior on Saturday, November 17, 2018, in the comfort of her home under the compassionate care of WV Hospice, after a nearly 5 year battle with cancer. She was born in Alexander, WV, on November 29, 1947, to the late Artie C. and Lola Crawford Hawkins.

Patty was a retired instructional aide with the Upshur County Board of Education with 29 years of service, attended Kanawha Run Church, member of the Central Upshur Lions Club and Upshur County Retired Educators, volunteered countless hours to the Banks District Fire Department and Rock Cave Elementary School library. She was a devoted and loving wife, mother, and grandmother whom will be missed dearly by all who knew her.

Patty married the love of her life Roger Johnston on February 20, 1965 and celebrated over 53 years of marriage; also, surviving her is one son, Kevin Johnston and wife Eileen of Buckhannon, WV; daughter, Tammy Selman and husband Jim of Fredericksburg, VA; two grandchildren, Damon Johnston of Philippi, WV, and Jennifer Selman of Fredericksburg, VA; two sisters, Connie Roth and husband Ronnie of Buckhannon, WV, and Bonnie Woody of Selbyville, WV; mother-in-law, Kathleen Johnston of Brooks Hill, WV.

In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her two brothers, Norman and Denver Hawkins; three sisters, Betty Roy, Helen Alderman, and Sharon Hawkins

Cremation has been honored per Patty's request and there will be no services. Memorial contributions may be made to the Davis Foundation P.O. Box 1188 Elkins, WV 26241 or Banks District Fire Department P.O. Box 158 Rock Cave, WV 26234.

Leonard M. Sutton, age 79 years, a resident of Gallipolis, OH, passed away December 3, 2018 at his home after a hard-fought battle with cancer. He was born February 11, 1939 at Helvetia, WV a son of the late Armeda and Bill Sutton. He is survived by his partner, Kris Knotts Moore of Gallipolis, OH; great

granddaughter, Breanna King, Albany, OR; sisters, Jessie Summerfield, Rawlings, MD and Rosie Dulaney of Pickens, WV.

Also surviving are daughters, Dianna Bailey, Granite Bay, CA, Donna Randal of Albany, OR and Tracy Langford of Delaware, OH; son, Travis Moore, Columbus, OH and many dearly loved grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Also preceding him in death were brothers, Joe Sutton, George, Sutton and Frank Sutton and sisters, Jeanne Williams, Bette Hicks, Anna Louise Sutton and Evelyn Virginia Sutton. . Mr. Sutton was employed by Rockwell International in Columbus, OH prior to his retirement. His proudest accomplishment was leading a team of technicians building the B-1 Bomber. He had a love of airplanes which always remained with him. Mr. Sutton was proud to serve in the United States Marine Corp. He enjoyed boating and four-wheeling. Above all else, He cherished time spent with family and friends.

A memorial service was held at 11:00 am Saturday, December 15, 2018 at the Pickens Baptist Church. Pastor Jeff Swecker officiated and interment followed in the Pickens Cemetery. Presentation of the American Flag was made at the gravesite. Memorial contributions may be made to the Pickens Cemetery, c/o Rosie Dulaney, PO Box 123, Pickens, WV 26230 in memory of Mr. Sutton.

Annette Yvonne (Brothers) "Bonnie" Moore, 82, wife of Ernest George "Ernie" Moore of 1838 "D" Springhill Road, went home to be with her Lord, on Sunday, December 16, 2018 at her home in Staunton.

Mrs. Moore was born on December 1, 1936 in Beverly, West Virginia, daughter of the late Junior and Margaret (Champ) Biller.

"Bonnie" received her BSN Degree from Davis Elkins College. She was employed as a Registered Nurse and Supervisor with Roanoke Memorial Hospital, and King's Daughters Hospital in Staunton. In 1996, Mrs. Moore retired from Augusta Medical Center / Augusta Health as a Registered Nurse with forty-four years of service. She was a member of Fort Lewis Baptist Church in Salem, Virginia, attended Laurel Hill Baptist Church in Verona and was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, Grand Chapter of Roanoke, Virginia. She enjoyed spending time with her family, taking rides in the country, watching wildlife, old Westerns on television and spending quality time with her pet dogs, "Padraic", "Peaches", "Gabby", and "Missy".

In addition to her parents, Mrs. Moore was preceded in death by her brother, Donnie Brothers.

Mrs. Moore was the last surviving member of her immediate family.

Surviving in addition to her husband of fifty-eight years, are three sons, Gary Wayne Moore and his wife Pat of Charlotte, N.C., Clayton Hartsell of Richmond and Mark Ray Moore and his wife Suzette of Staunton; a daughter, Margaret (Moore) Crouch and her husband Bobby of Salem; seven grandchildren, Jordan Moore, Matt Moore and his wife Michelle, Mike Moore, Brittany Abraham and her husband Ben, John Moore and his partner Steven Sharif, Kirsten Crouch, and Ryan Crouch; and two great-grandchildren, Charlie Moore and Cassidee Moore.

The family received friends on Wednesday, December 19, 2018 in the Coffman Funeral Home and Crematory. A Celebration of life was conducted on December 20, 2018 in the Coffman Funeral Home Chapel by Rev. Brenda Rowe.

Burial followed in Oaklawn Memory Gardens.

Active pallbearers were two of her sons, Gary and Mark Moore; Matt Moore, Mike Moore, John Moore, Bobby Crouch, and Ben Abraham.

It is suggested that those desiring make memorial contributions to the Augusta Health Foundation Hospice of the Shenandoah, Post Office Box 1000, Fishersville, Virginia 22939.

Marie Anne Olsen Booth, age 82, formerly of Pickens, died Wednesday, January 2, 2019, at the United Hospital Center at Bridgeport. She was born November 6, 1936, at River, Michigan, a daughter of the late Wilbert and Roselma Omans Olsen. She was united in marriage on August 13, 1976, to Elmer R. Booth, who survives. Also surviving are one daughter Sheila of Ohio; one stepdaughter Joyce and husband Rick Morgan of Buckhannon; two stepsons: Steve Booth and wife Cari of Florida and Matt Booth and wife Virginia of Buckhannon; four grandchildren; seven step grandchildren; two great grandchildren; ten step great grandchildren; and one half brother Ted and wife Betty of Washington. In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by her stepmother Minnie Olsen and one sister Beverly O'Neill.

The body was cremated and a memorial service will be held at a later date.

Ozella D. Metzner Brewer Smith, age 95, of Roanoke, WV, and formerly of Pickens, WV, died Saturday, January 19, 2019, at her home. She was

born on April 12, 1923, a daughter of the late Arnold and Della M. Vogel Metzner. She was united in marriage on August 30, 1968, to Stewart J. Smith, who preceded her in death on February 13, 2004. In addition to her parents and husband, she was also preceded in death by two sisters: Louise Skinner and Arlyne Zickefoose; and one brother Howard Metzner. She is survived by four daughters: Cassandra Fashano of East Stroudsburg, PA, Marcia A. Bowyer of Roanoke, WV, Carla Keene of St. Albans, WV, and Susanna Echols of Fairbanks, Alaska; seven grandchildren: Brian Fisher, Laura Masel, Daniel Boyles, Yvonne Boyles, Tamera Wooten, Carriann Smith, Tanya Bledsoe, and Carrie Bentley; 23 great grandchildren: Eileen Summerfield, Stephanie Fisher, Olivia Miller, Nathan Elswick, Joshua Elswick, Coty Bledsoe, Mara Bledsoe, Zander Elswick, Makenna Bledsoe, Andrew Bonhomme, Abby Masel, Clayton Wooten, Layla Wooten, Carver Wooten, Griffin Bates, Teagan Boyles, Logan Boyles, Zackery Summerfield, Dillon Summerfield, Ben Wooten, Megan Wooten, Erin Bentley, and Laikwan Wilder; three great-great grandchildren: Emma Wooten, Allie Wooten, and Aubrie Elswick; and one brother Lawrence Metzner of Clarksburg. Mrs. Smith served on the Helvetia Clinic Board and Library Board, was a member of the C&O Club of Pickens, and the Pickens Historical Society. She was also a member of the Helvetia Zion Church.

The family would like to extend a special thanks to Terri Ryder, Ozella's longtime friend and caregiver, as well as hospice for their love and support. The body was cremated. Private services will be held at a later date.

Cecil James Shears, 57 of Fairmont, passed away Sunday, January 27, 2019. He was born in Fairmont on March 30, 1961, son of Ruth Tommi Dulaney and the late Robert William Shears. Cecil is survived by his son, Cecil Robert Robbie Shears and his girlfriend Angelica Michaels of Fairmont; grandchildren, Baylie and Bryle Shears; stepchildren, Randa Taylor, Jesse Childress, and Alisa Taylor; his brother, Robert Shears and his wife Sue of Ohio; and his sisters, Linda Roy and her husband Butch of Parsons, WV, Mary Shears and husband John Owens of Fairmont, and Jeanie Wilfong and her husband Mark of Fairmont. He is also survived by several niece and nephews, great nieces and nephews, and great great nieces and nephews. He was formerly employed by Morgans Auto Parts. He was loved and will be missed by his family and friends.

At his request, Cecil has donated his body to the West Virginia Human Gift Registry. A memorial service in honor of Cecil was held on Saturday, February 2, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. at the V.F.W. on Morgantown Avenue.

John Paul Hudak, age 49, of Buckhannon, WV, died Saturday, February 2, 2019, at his home. He was born November 1, 1969, in Swickley, PA, a son of Shirley Hudak of Buckhannon and the late Richard Hudak. In addition to his mother he is survived by four special friends, Darl Boyles of French Creek, WV and Brenda Rowan, Delbert Boyles and Betty Phillips all of Buckhannon and numerous other friends. Mr. Hudak loved to hunt, fish, and talk on the CB Radio where he went by Snowman. He will be loved and truly missed by all his family and friends. Friends were received Tuesday, February 5, 2019, from 11 AM to 1 PM at the Poling-St. Clair Funeral Home. The funeral service followed at 1 PM at the funeral home with the Rev. Wease Day officiating. Burial followed in the Pleasant Dale Church Cemetery in Selbyville, WV.

Ruth Mae "Tommi Lou" Shears, 85, of Fairmont, passed away Friday, March 15, 2019. She was born in Pickens, WV on March 16, 1933, daughter of the late Cecil Charles Dulaney and Anna Elsie Frieda Betler Dulaney. Tommi Lou retired from the Holiday Inn after 21 years as the Head Housekeeper. She is survived by her children, Robert and Sue Shears of Ohio, Mary Jo Shears and John Owens of Fairmont, Jeanie and Mark Wilfong of Fairmont, and Linda and Butch Roy of Parsons; grandchildren, Gina Jo Lenhart, Bobbie Jo Mayer, Marisa Wilfong, Cecil Robert "Rob" Shears, Christina Tolle, Jade Brewer, Lynette Helmick, Bo Owens, and Tom Owens; 21 great grandchildren, 2 great great grandchildren; and her siblings, Freida "Weesie" Drummond and Edward Dulaney.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Robert William Shears who passed away March 28, 1998; a son Cecil Shears who passed away January 27, 2019; her siblings, Cecil Dulaney, Charles Dulaney, William "Bill" Dulaney, Margaret Ann Haught; and a great granddaughter, Aaliyah Grace Owens.

The family received friends at Domico Funeral Home, in Fairmont, on Sunday, March 17, 2019 from 2:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. and at the Pickens Baptist Church in Pickens, WV on Monday, March 18, 2019 from 11:00 a.m. until Noon. The funeral service was

held at the church on Monday at Noon. Interment followed at the I.O.O.F. Cemetery in Pickens.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 25-29, 2019 Pickens School Book Fair Online ordering through April 2, 2019

March 30, 2019. WV State. Archery Tournament

Saturday, April 20. Pickens Ramp Supper. Ramps, ham, cornbread, beans, fried potatoes, applesauce, coleslaw, and dessert. 2:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. American Legion Hall. \$15 for adults, \$5 for children under 12. 304-924-5813. Sponsored by Pickens Post 122 American Legion.

Saturday, April 27. Helvetia Ramp Supper. Enjoy ramps, ham, fried potatoes, soup beans, coleslaw, applesauce, and cornbread with desserts and beverages. \$15 adult, \$7 ages 5 - 12, 4 and under are free. Starts at 2 p.m. A square dance with music by the Helvetia Star Band follows 8:00 - 11:00. \$5. Community Hall.

Saturday May 11, 2019. Pickens School Alumni/Senior Banquet. 6:00 PM. Pickens School Gymnasium

Sunday June 9, 2019. Helvetia Cemetery Decoration.

Sunday, June 16, 2019. Pickens Cemetery Decoration

June 21 and 22, 2019 Follow Your Bliss Music Festival

Helvetia Fair. Second full weekend in September. September 14-15, 2019.

Helvetia Mountain Run. Sunday of Fair Weekend. September 15, 2019.

Sunday, October 20, 2019. Helvetia's Sesquicentennial (150th) Birthday. More details coming soon!!

Helvetia Town Meeting November 2, 2019. 2:00 p.m. Helvetia Community Hall

Helvetia Thanksgiving Dinner November 28, 2019 Helvetia Community Hall. Everyone welcome!

Saint Nicholas Day. December 7, 2019 Helvetia
Community Hall