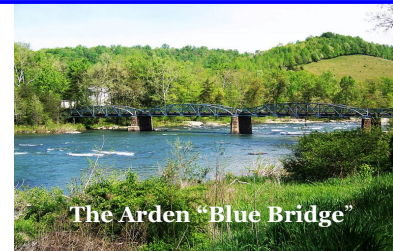


The Bridge



Volume 3, Issue 7

April, 2012



Important Dates

April 20	Out of School Environment Day: No School
April 23	ISE Day: No School Tutoring Is Available
April 23	PEIS Wellness Clinic PBHS; 7 to 10 a.m.
April 23	Board of Education Meets: BOE @ 6 p.m.
May 7	Board of Education Meets: BOE @ 6 p.m.
May 8	Primary Election Day: No School
May 12	GED Examinations: CTEC @ 8:00 a.m.
May 14-18	WESTEST 2 Window for Barbour County
May 25	Out of School Environment Day: No School
May 28	Memorial Day Holiday No School
June 1	Last Day of School for Students
June 2	PBHS Commencement Fairgrounds; 2:00 p.m.
June 4	ISE Day: No School Tutoring Is Available
June 5	Preparation Day for Closing of School
June 6	Out of School Environment Day: No School

Hi Folks,

After an extremely mild Winter, Spring is here! Easter break was timely. Our sports teams are in action almost every day and we look forward to many exciting events in the schools these last couple of months before we are out for the summer.

I hope everyone was able to take a couple of days and enjoy the Easter break with family and friends. If you are like me that meant the proverbial "Honey Do" jar of things needing done. It was all worth it though; among the items on the list in the jar, the lawn got mowed and a couple of shrubs were replaced.

Our students continue to excel. This past month I was privileged to attend awards programs for Math Field Day and Young Writers. We truly have some very talented students. If your schedules will allow, I hope you'll take time to enjoy the All County Music Concert on Friday, April 13th. Again you will see first-hand the talents of our students and the hours of dedication from our staff in working with those students in preparation for the concert.

As always, if you are in the neighborhood, please take time to say hello.

Respectfully,

Dr. Joe Super, Superintendent

County Student Art Talent Will Be On Display in April



Barbour County Schools' annual celebration of the fine arts highlights the visual arts in April as the 2012 Art Show is conducted on the campus of A-B College on May 17 at 7:00 p.m. Artwork will be displayed in the Daywood Gallery and the ceremony will take place at Wilcox Chapel. BC schools will also participate in Philippi's Main Street Art Stroll on April 26 from 5-8 p.m.

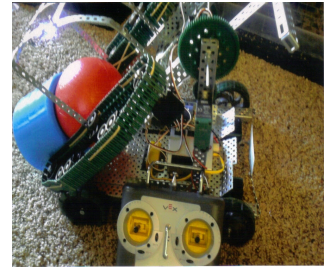
KMS Students Receive Glenn Righman Science Awards



The annual Glenn Righman Science Awards were established to honor the late Barbour County educator, who spent many years teaching science at Philippi Middle School. Glenn was known as a passionate instructor who was successful in getting students excited about learning. Their participation in annual school and regional science fairs was one of his favorite ways of helping students to showcase their ideas and findings in the field.

The Glenn Righman Science Fair Scholarship was established in his memory. The purpose of the commemorative program is to encourage youngsters to remain inquisitive and to always do their best. In the forms of gift cards, the scholarships go to first, second and third place winners who advance to the regional science fair. Pictured above, from left to right are: scholarship coordinator, Sharon Righman, and winning students, Casandra Triplett (third place), Corrine McDaniel (first), Shannon McDaniel (third), Cara Kirk (second), and Gavin Wolfe (third).

CTEC Students to Represent WV at National "VEX ROBOT" Contest in June



Barbour County will have the honor of representing the Mountain State at the 2012 VEX ROBOT competition in Nashville, TN, from June 21 to 25. The local chapter of the Technology Student Association captured first place for its robot design, shown above, in the recent West Virginia event at Ripley. The Barbour County team, consisting of CTEC students, Katie Daugherty, Drew Daugherty, Jarred Moats and Shaun Cross, will be accompanied by their teacher and TSA advisor, Rick Daugherty on the trip to the national competition in Tennessee.



The 2012 All-County Music Concert:
Friday, April 13, 7:00 p.m.
at the PBHS gymnasium



Do Your Best on the Test! Tips and Techniques

When students ask why it is so important to give a good effort on the WESTEST 2 (or any other standardized instrument), here are some reasons and/or discussion starters...

- *It is generally good practice to always give your best effort on anything you do. It becomes ingrained and a part of your character, and others will notice.*
- *While it is true that the WESTEST results will not affect your classroom grades, report card or promotion status, these scores become part of your official school records and, as such, will be available to future schools and employers.*
- *In addition to the importance of your individual scores, the overall grade level and school scores will be used to compare our school with other schools around the county, state and nation. We want to show how sharp our students are! The results will also be used by the school staff to improve the curriculum as it analyzes strengths and weaknesses.*

Note: The teacher's attitude toward the testing process is critical because students are by nature intuitive. Also, be aware of the fine line between preparation and over-preparation. There exists a point of diminishing returns where students may become overwhelmed by the whole process and begin tuning out.

Before the Test:

- *Get a full night of rest before each of the testing dates so that you are fresh and alert the following mornings. Test sessions are usually limited to the morning hours to avoid fatigue and burnout.*
- *Eat a good breakfast either at school or at home to provide fuel for the day's activities.*
- *Dress comfortably so that you are not distracted by clothing too warm, not warm enough, too tight, etc.*
- *When feeling nervous before the test, close your eyes and take several slow, deep breaths; spend a few moments completely relaxing your mind as necessary.*
- *Do not try to study for the WESTEST. Think of it as a non-threatening opportunity to show what you've learned over the past several years.*

General Test-Taking Tips:

- *As the test begins, quickly scan all questions in the section. This will help you see what the test covers and how many questions you will need to answer.*

- *The WESTEST is untimed. Don't agonize over any one question. Work at a comfortable pace, marking any items that you need to return to, and use available time at the end of each section to review your answers.*

- *Answer all questions. All multiple-choice items are weighted equally. You are not penalized for incorrect responses. Your score will be determined by the number of answers that are correct. Do not leave any answers blank.*

- *All tests have some hard questions. Don't skip them. It's much better to take a good guess. Use the process of elimination to reduce the number of choices and then make your best guess.*

- *Read all directions through twice. Never begin to answer questions before reading all directions.*

- *Mark the multiple-choice answers by filling in the circle completely with a dark pencil mark. If a mistake is made, erase it thoroughly and then fill in the new answer circle.*

- *Stop at the STOP sign or the end of the test section or when time is up. If time remains, use it to go back and work on any questions that were skipped or marked for review. Make sure that an answer has been bubbled for every item. You may then begin a quiet activity at your desk (e.g. reading a book, working a puzzle, etc.) until the rest of the class is finished.*

- *Look for key words that tell what kind of computation is needed in mathematics sections; for example, less than, greatest, between, nearest, least and so on.*

- *Use the provided scratch paper for mathematics calculations or notations.*

- *Try out all answer choices until finding one that is correct. Sometimes the correct answer is not given. Then follow the directions for marking the none of the above choice. Similarly, sometimes the first three answers are all correct. Then mark all of the above as your choice.*

- *Watch carefully for negative words in directions, such as NOT or OPPOSITE. These words tell exactly which answer to look for. Such key words often appear in bold or italic type or all capital letters.*



— Odds 'N' Ends —

➤ **Retirement Planning Seminars Set:** The Consolidated Public Retirement Board (CPRB) will sponsor its annual regional Retirement Planning Seminars for West Virginia members from April 30 to May 16, 2012. The event nearest Barbour County will be held at the Bridgeport Conference Center on Monday, May 7, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Registration is not necessary and the programs are open to all members and their beneficiaries. For more information about dates & locations, contact the Finance Office or visit www.wvretirement.com and click the "Retirement Planning Seminars" link under *NEWS*.

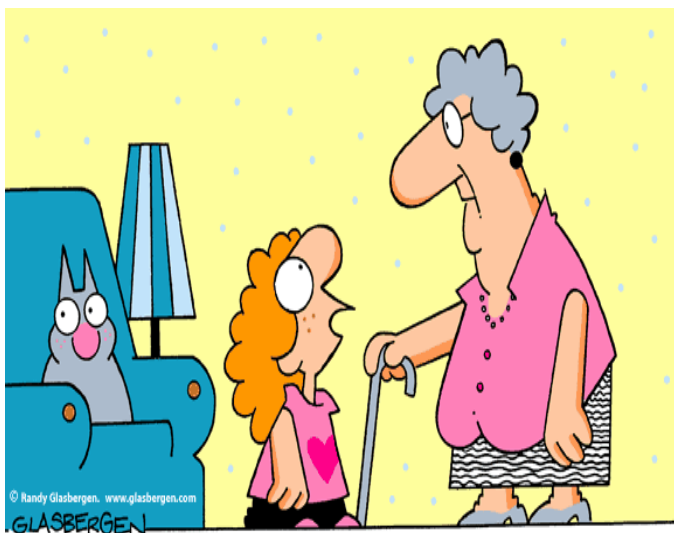
➤ **PEIA Enrollment Notes:** The Finance Office would like to remind all personnel that the 2012 Open Enrollment Period for PEIA will end on April 30. Employees who anticipate any coverage changes for next year (additions, terminations, etc.) should request a transfer form from PEIA at 888-680-7342. If you have questions about the enrollment process, you may contact Amanda Huff, Barbour County's new Coordinator of Services for Payroll, Benefits and Insurance at 457-3030 (ext. 136). Welcome to Barbour County Schools, Amanda!

ING Running Grant Opportunity Is Announced for Public Schools

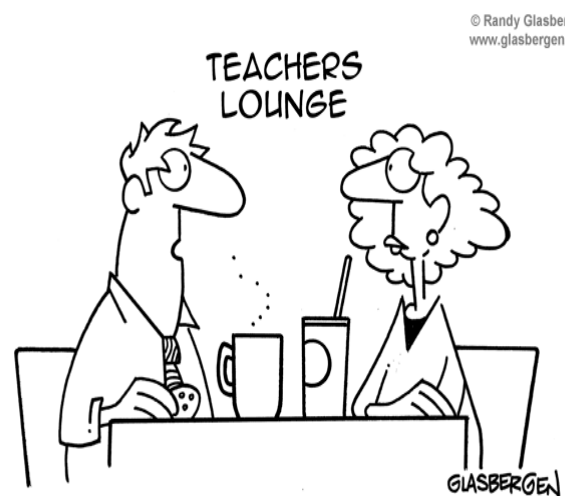


Local schools may wish to apply for the *2012 ING Run For Something Better Grant* to receive up to \$2,500 to start a new running program or expand an existing one. NASPE and ING want to help all students build and maintain a healthy and active lifestyle and this program is the way to do it. Last year, fifty (50) schools received this grant and are now running for something better. Running is one of the simplest, most effective, and enjoyable forms of physical activity. Coordinators do not have to be runners to implement this program. NASPE and ING can help!

Empower your students to fight obesity before it begins by submitting your easy to use online application today. Visit NASPE's ING Grant Page to learn more about the program and gain access to many quality resources that will help get your students moving in school such as lesson plans, physical activity logs, and much more! The deadline to apply is May 15, 2012.



"My teacher says little girls can grow up to be anything they choose! Why did you choose to be an old lady?"



"The kids don't listen, so I have to repeat myself. I'm always repeating myself. You know, always saying the same thing more than once. I say it once, and then they make me say it again..."

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