

# The Bridge



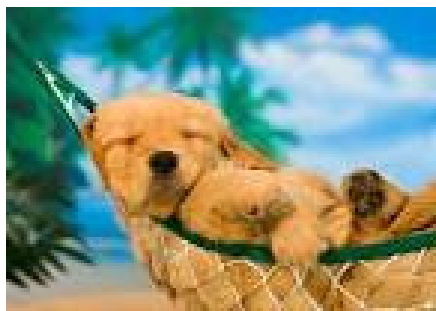
Rare 1899 Photo of the Covered Bridge

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## *Important Dates*



- June 9** Board of Education  
Meets: BOE @ 6 p.m.
- June 11** Final Instructional  
Day; Report Cards
- June 12** ISE Day—No School  
(Tutoring Available)
- June 13** Closing of School Day  
– No School
- June 30** Board of Education  
Meets: BOE @ 6 p.m.
- July 7** Board of Education  
Meets: BOE @ 6 p.m.
- July 21** Board of Education  
Meets: BOE @ 6 p.m.
- August 11** Continuing Ed. Day:  
New Term Opens
- August 12** Preparation Day:  
Faculty Senates Meet
- August 13** First Instructional Day  
of 2014-15 Term

Hi Folks,

The END is here ... at least for another year.

WESTEST is over, the high school awards assembly was unbelievable in terms of the scholarship money our kids were awarded, Baccalaureate and Commencement were great, and so closes the chapter on another senior class.

Several changes will be facing us next year from the WVDE but, for now, I just want to thank everyone for all of your hard work for our students. We all know that winter was interesting in that, for whatever reason, it wouldn't let go, but it is over... and spring is here, with summer just around the corner.

My summer will be packed with meetings, etc., but I will steal whatever time I can for relaxing. As always, take time for family and friends but, most of all, take time just for you.

Maybe the rain will hold off and let me stay ahead of the lawn. Take care and enjoy the sunshine. As always, if you are in the neighborhood, please take time to say hello.

Again my thanks for all you do!!

Respectfully,

**Dr. Joe Super**  
**Superintendent**  
**Barbour County Schools**



## Thanks for the Memories!... County Retirees to Be Recognized

The Barbour County Board of Education will officially recognize a group of 14 professional and service personnel who have retired from the school system between July of 2013 and June of 2014. These staff members will be honored with a special ceremony and refreshments at the beginning of the June 9th board meeting. This group represents about 450 years of service to the children of Barbour County and, while congratulations are in

order, they will be sorely missed. Sincere gratitude and best wishes for a happy and healthy retirement are extended (alphabetically) to the following personnel:



- Kathleen Chitester (BES)
- Jodi Devores (BES)
- Janna Duckworth (BES)
- Linda Eddy (PES)
- Donna Endler (BES)
- Noble Fitzwater (PBHS)
- Connie Harshberger (Itinerant)
- Rick Kennedy (BMS)
- Sandy Kennedy (PES)
- Lynn Luvara (BES)
- Susan Marsh (VCES & MVES)
- Sharon Poe (PES)
- Sarah Shipman-Kuntz (PBHS)
- Danny Wagner (PBHS)



### Sun Shade Structure Grant Awarded to Kasson School

Kasson Elementary/Middle School has received word that its 2014 grant project for a permanent sun shade structure has been approved for funding by the American Academy of Dermatology. The \$8000 proposal was prepared by the KEMS PTO, with support from Barbour County Schools.

The large pavilion will be strategically placed on the school's 2.5 acre playground and will provide a cooling stations for students during recesses, physical education classes and community events.

The Kasson staff & PTO realize that overexposure to ultraviolet radiation from the sun is a serious health hazard, and look forward to providing the shelter to help protect its children from skin cancer & other heat-related health problems. Construction is anticipated during the summer of 2014.

The school met the grant guidelines regarding sun-safety/skin cancer awareness programming by supplementing its health lessons with the EPA's SunWize curriculum, special events & guest speakers, a Relay for Life sun safety station, and related materials from the American Cancer Society.

### "Hair-Razing" Experience at PBHS



Since being diagnosed with cancer in November, PB library-media specialist, Julie Scott, has experienced many ups and downs, thoughts and prayers, gifts and kind words from students, staff members and others. During May, she helped to return the kindnesses by sponsoring a "Hair-Razing" fundraiser to benefit the media center and high school students. Some of the best examples of shaved heads can be seen above surrounding Mrs. Scott. A related event invited girls to cut their long hair to donate to the Locks of Love organization.

Julie expressed deep gratitude to those who contributed to the sick leave bank and provided material and moral support along the way. She commented, "None of us knows what's in store for our futures, but I have learned through this experience that as long as I have God, every need will be met by blessings too numerous to count and too precious to comprehend. I thank each of you for your prayers and for everything you've done to help me win this fight. I'll never be able to express just how special all of you are to me!"

## Certification Fee Increase Announced

In order to better serve the educators and administrators in West Virginia, the Office of Professional Preparation (OPP) continues to streamline the certification process and protocols. As we strive to provide the highest quality of service, we find the need to increase our certification application fees.

It is important to note that our processing fees have remained unchanged since 2008. Additionally, our state continues to require one of the lowest certification fees for the teaching profession. We assure that we have carefully looked at all options and worked diligently to avoid any unnecessary or unreasonable financial burden for our applicants. However, due to legislative and policy changes, a number of new applications and processes will be in effect on July, 1, 2014.

Beginning July 1, 2014, the processing fees will increase from \$25 to \$35 for in-state applicants and \$100 for out-of-state (initial) applicants. In addition, those applications requiring detailed document analysis will carry a \$15 document analysis fee. Therefore, the total fee for some types will be \$50.



For the purpose of application, an ***in-state applicant*** is considered to be an individual who completes an educator preparation program at one of the twenty (20) educator preparation programs in WV, or one who is applying for a permit or certificate requiring employment in a WV County public school regardless of residency. An ***out-of-state applicant*** is considered to be an individual who is completing a preparation program at an institution located outside of WV, but who is applying for an initial license in our state. This out-of-state designation refers to the institution, not the applicant.

For your convenience, the fee structure and its corresponding applications are described at the OPP website. Again, the new fees will be effective beginning **July 1, 2014**.

Should you have questions regarding the fee increase structure, please contact Elaine Benson at the Board of Education Office or Robert Hagerman in the OPP at [rhagerma@access.k12.wv.us](mailto:rhagerma@access.k12.wv.us).

## Professional Development Changes Explained

Barbour County Schools will be implementing a new web-based professional development tool that will be of great value to our professional teaching staff, administrators, and aides. "PD 360" has many features that will prove beneficial to teachers. These benefits include:

- A professional development schedule that is developed by the county and will include not only PD 360 courses, but WVDE, RESA, and WVCPCD opportunities as well;
- PD 360 courses will feature various subject areas, e.g. classroom management, common core standards, formative assessments, etc., many of which are taught by the foremost experts in the education field today;
- Every common core standard is addressed in PD 360. Teachers will view video clips on how the standards can be taught and developed, and can therefore use this site to develop high quality lesson plans;
- Professional Learning Communities will find useful communication tools located within PD 360 and the ability to conduct action research;
- Teachers will have the ability to track their own professional development in personal portfolios and eliminate the need for CE Logs;
- Most importantly, teachers will have the abilities to personalize their professional development and align their professional development to their specific needs.

PD 360 will replace Barbour County's current professional development website as the method by which professional development opportunities are communicated to teachers and aides. Service personnel, however (with the exception of aides), will still utilize the old professional development website to receive professional development updates.

Principals will receive a training overview on the website on June 5<sup>th</sup>. Teachers and aides will receive an overview training on June 12<sup>th</sup> during the IS Day. More extensive training on the features of the website will be scheduled during the 2014-2015 school year.

An announcement will be made via email to each principal when the PD 360 site may be available to teachers to begin exploring and checking the professional development schedule for the county that will be included on the PD 360 site. This professional development schedule will be inclusive of all county professional development offerings as well as WVDE, RESA, and WVCPCD sponsored courses.



## Junior Elementary Students Conduct Successful Science Fair

Junior Elementary held a competitive Science Fair on April 14-15. The event was organized by 5th grade teacher Derrick Helzer; special education teacher, Charla Reger; and pre-kindergarten teacher, Christy Weese. Following the judging, Mr. Derrick Helzer, formerly a chef at The Greenbrier Resort, treated the participants and judges to a barbecue-inspired lunch. Appreciation was extended to the judges, who included: Whitney Reger, science and biology New Tech teacher at PBHS, Dan Johnson of the Department of Environmental Protection and Jess White of NASA.

The top grade five award winners included: Grand Champion Experiment: Andrew Kittle; Grand Champion Demonstration: Alex Wilson; first place overall: Cole Hutzler; second place: Payton Gregory; and third place: Hannah Corley.



Other ribbon winners included:  
Peer's Choice Awards (Pre-K through 2nd): Iesha Taylor and Shantelle Pritt;  
Peer's Choice Awards (3rd and 4th): Alex Wilson;  
Principal's Choice Award: Andrew Kittle;  
Teacher's Choice Award: Trevor Schoonover;  
Best Display: Kaylee Fox;  
Best Presentation: Andrew Kittle;  
Best Interactive Display: Alex Wilson;  
Best Data Presentation: Jerimiah Welch;  
Best Research: Christian Shomo;  
Best Photographic Display: Nick Hamrick;  
Most Attractive Display: Cole Hutzler;  
Best Electromagnetic Project: Mercedes Weaver;  
Best Appearance/Self-Presentation: Payton Gregory;  
Best Speaking Voice/Speaker: Payton Gregory;  
Best Response to Judges: Austin Bolyard;  
Most Complete Data Notebook: Hannah Corley;  
Most Informative Display: Porsha Weaver;  
Most Creative Display: Nick Hamrick;  
Most Creative Topic: Trevor Schoonover;  
Most Inspirational: Austin Bolyard.

## County Art Show Merit Award Winners Recognized on May 15

A total of twenty young artists received special recognition during the 2014 Barbour County Art Show on the evening of Thursday, May 15, at Wilcox Chapel on the campus of Alderson Broaddus University. The merit award winners were selected by independent judge, Grant Johnson, veteran art professor at ABU. The honorees included:



*Bold Color* – Stephanie Barker “Glowing Insect” 1<sup>st</sup> PES  
*Color in Nature*– John Barkley “Red Bird” 3<sup>rd</sup> MVES  
*Proud Animal* – Brett Frey “Red Fox” 8<sup>th</sup> PMS  
*Imposing* – Dalton Reel – “Scrap Puppet” 8<sup>th</sup> BMS  
*Majestic Animal* – Autumn McClung “Freedom of the Stallion” 8<sup>th</sup> BMS  
*Dynamic Composition* – Jessica Melvin “Pretty Bird” 8<sup>th</sup> KEMS  
*Bright Animal* – Bailey Nestor “Bob the Seahorse” 7<sup>th</sup> KEMS  
*Strong Light* – Gage Poling “Dishware” 7<sup>th</sup> KEMS  
*Mystical Nature* – Hannah Welch “Sunset Pines” 1<sup>st</sup> KEMS  
*Magical Being* – Katelyn Cooper “Mama Scarecrow” 1<sup>st</sup> BES  
*Terrifying Vision* – Garrett Conniff “The Demon Within” 8<sup>th</sup> BMS  
*Balanced Composition* – Maggie Phillips “Two Bodies, One, Whole” 12<sup>th</sup>  
*Knowledgeable Homage* – Viola Donegia “Beauty (Ode to Georgia O’Keefe)” 11<sup>th</sup>  
*Confident Use of Materials* – Sierra Haller “Colorful Squares” 12<sup>th</sup>  
*Mystical Animal* – Tanner Corder “Howling Wolf” 5<sup>th</sup> VCES  
*Abstract Energy* – Gracelynn Nicholson 1<sup>st</sup> JES  
*Informative Detail* – Aden Upton “Forest Ecosystem” 4<sup>th</sup> PES  
*Spatial Complexity* – Shayna Rexrode “On the Other Side” 9<sup>th</sup>  
*Surreal vision* – Cierra Robinson “Twisting Lies” 12<sup>th</sup>  
*Sweet and Simple* – Lydia Mace “Pond Paradise” 5<sup>th</sup> VCES

## — Odds 'N' Ends —

➤ **National Champs Again!** Barbour County's 4-H team continued a remarkable streak of success at the 2014 National 4-H Land, Range and Homesite Evaluation Competition in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Coached by Roger Nestor and Josh Peplowski, the team claimed first place honors in the Land Judging and Homesite Evaluation events. The multiple wins mark the fifth time that Barbour County has accomplished the feat. No other chapter in the nation has ever done it more than once. The student members of the championship team included: Kelton Miller, Chloe Mouser, Nathan Yocum and Mikhela Freeman.

➤ **GED Becomes TASC in Barbour County:** The new state high school equivalency instrument, Test Assessing Secondary Completion, or TASC, was successfully administered for the first time in Barbour County during May. The first three TASC "graduates" were produced during the session. Having replaced the previous GED model, the team implementing the new process includes: ABE instructor, Shelly Gainer; TASC examiner, Angie Harris; and Adult Ed. administrator, Tonya Ferguson.

➤ **Barbour Accessibility Grant Approved:** For the second straight year, two local schools will benefit from a \$10,000 Polling Place Accessibility Grant from the Secretary of State's office. Written by Barbour County Schools and administered by the county commission, the award will fund the purchase and installation of push-button operated "handicap door openers" at both Junior Elementary and Kasson Elementary/Middle Schools. The new equipment, scheduled for installation this summer, will be integrated into the existing electronic opener hardware at the schools. JES and KEMS join Philippi Middle School and Belington Elementary School as recent recipients.

## Summer Pay Dates Announced

Dates for the summer distributions of paychecks for Barbour County school personnel have been set. Employees may pick up their checks at the Board of Education office between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on each of the pay dates. Any checks not picked up in person will be mailed that day prior to 4:00 p.m. Check information for those personnel who are enrolled in direct deposit will be processed the previous business day. To enroll in direct deposit, employees are invited to contact the finance office. The 2014 summer pay dates include:

- **Friday, June 13**
- **Thursday, June 26**
- **Tuesday, July 15**
- **Monday, July 28**
- **Friday, August 15 (at work sites)**



## 51st Philip Barbour Commencement Held at Fairgrounds on May 31

The Philip Barbour High School Class of 2014 bid farewell to their alma mater on Saturday, May 31 as some 150 graduates received their diplomas during the 51st Commencement Exercises. The event, held at the Barbour County Fairgrounds, attracted a large crowd of supporters and featured speeches by student leaders, Celeste Kelly, Morgan Stemler and Kaitlen Dickenson. The ceremony was further highlighted by comments from school administrators, and Superintendent Dr. Joe Super. Board President Rev. Robert Wilkins presented the diplomas, and a vocal performance by Amber Generally followed. The class now disperses to pursue its motto of "If you can imagine it, you can achieve it; if you can dream it, you can become it."