

# Monroe County Schools

## Peterstown 8th Graders “Get a Life”



Students are first given a red card with a job title, family size, and monthly income. The red cards only have jobs available in West Virginia without any post-secondary education (like college or a trade school).

After the students buy a car, house, insurance, groceries, furniture, and gas, they trade in their red card for a green one, but not before the Green Reaper stops by. The Green Reaper hands out “accident” cards. Sometimes a student will get a puppy, other times they get a flat tire, but either way they spend money.

Continued on Page 7 ...

8th grade students at Peterstown Middle School were afforded the opportunity to participate in the “Get A Life” program. Familiar faces from the community stepped up to help bring the activity to life. Students learned the importance of furthering their education and managing their money.

The “GetaLife” program was developed by Fairmont State University for State Treasurer John Perdue’s NetWorth program. The goal of this program is to teach West Virginia students about managing personal finances through a fairly fun budget simulation.



# Drug Dog Presentation at Mountain View School

On Tuesday, October 23, 2018, Mountain View School was excited to meet Corporal Bud Ware (Monroe County Sherriff's Office) and his K-9 partner, Barrett along with Corporal Phillip Wickline (Monroe County Sherriff's Office and MVS PRO Officer). The students were able to hear the Deputies discuss the importance of staying drug free, which was our message for Red Ribbon Week. After Corporal Ware and Corporal Wickline spoke to the students, Corporal Ware talked about Barrett. He explained to the children how they train the dogs to sniff for drugs and said that for the dogs, they try to make it a game. If they can find the scent that they want them to, they will give them a treat or a toy, and the dog is always trying to get that treat or toy.

It is important for the students to know the type of dog that the police are working with, and for them to know that they are not pets but working dogs to help the police.

The presentation ended with Corporal Ware demonstrating Barrett's ability to search for narcotics. The students absolutely loved the demonstration and we thank our Sherriff's department for taking time to visit MVS.

This is one of the activities for drug awareness during Red Ribbon Week. Throughout the week, students and staff wore red clothing, decorated doors, etc. to symbolize a drug-free lifestyle.



## FAFSA Workshop

Mr. August Kafer, Outreach Counselor with the College Foundation of West Virginia held a FAFSA completion workshop for seniors and their parents on Friday, October 9th from 11 am to 5 pm. Seniors and parents who registered for the event got one of the essential things done that seniors must accomplish: completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Mr. Kafer has over 30 years of experience in financial aid, and was most informative to seniors and their parents as they completed the FAFSA. Mr. Kafer emphasized that even though students may not qualify for financial aid through a Pell Grant, many college (institutional) scholarships and even local scholarships require students to complete the FAFSA and use their SAR (Student Aid Report) to secure these funds. An example of this would be the WV PROMISE

scholarship, a merit based scholarship, which requires a student to complete the FAFSA to be deemed PROMISE eligible.

For more information, contact school counselors Megan Jones and Tracy Dransfield, or go to [FAFSA.gov](http://FAFSA.gov) to begin the process.

Around 20 parents and their seniors participated on October 5th. If interests demands, James Monroe may schedule a subsequent workshop. If interested call the high school at 304.753.5182.



## NHS Trip

The James Monroe High School Honor Society traveled to Lewisburg to visit the North House Museum on October the 25th 2018. The group was treated to small group tours of exciting exhibits illustrating our colorful history of the area. Exhibits such as unmasking an ancient globe, learning



about African American businesses in the early nineteen hundreds, and seeing prints of turkeys being herded down Main Street Lewisburg added excitement to the day! The tour ended with a scavenger hunt in the cemeteries where students learned facts about Civil War soldiers. The group then traveled to Jim's Drive-In to enjoy hamburgers and milkshakes.

## Pumpkin Decorating

On October 30th, student members of the JMHS National Honor Society Nursing Home Committee decorated pumpkins with residents for Halloween. The students and residents had a terrific time!



*Chylyn Fox poses with resident, David Cox*

## Prosecuting Attorney Visits Mountain View



On Friday, October 26, 2018, Mountain View School was visited by Prosecuting Attorney Justin St. Clair, along with MVS PRO officer Deputy Phillip Wickline. Prosecuting Attorney St. Clair and Corporal Wickline discussed with our 7th and 8th grade students the importance of remaining drug free. Mr. St. Clair also discussed the issue of vaping in school and the legal as well as medical concerns related to the habit. The 7th and 8th grade students were also able to have a question and answer session with Corporal Wickline and Mr. St. Clair following the presentation.

## Intro to Careers Course a Big Hit With Freshmen

Monroe County Technical Center added a new course to their schedule this year, Introduction to Careers. The course is offered to all JMHS/MCTC freshmen during 4th period. The students rotate through 8 unique career clusters for 4 ½ weeks each. The class gives students the opportunity to investigate and experience career choices in a variety of areas; production agriculture, animal processing, carpentry, business, JROTC, health sciences, early childhood education, law and public safety. Currently, MCTC offers 14 career pathways within these 8 career clusters.

The tech center had long-desired to offer such a course, and the inspiration to make it a reality came during the freshmen orientation night in 2017. CTE Director Tricia King explains, “The first group of freshmen to tour our facilities that evening was led by a JMHS senior. When I greeted the group at our door, she quietly confided that she had never even been in our building and did not know where the classes were located. My initial reaction was to think ‘shame on her for not taking advantage of our programs,’ but that quickly changed to ‘shame on US for not making sure she embraced the opportunities at MCTC!’” During the 2017-18 school year, the staff at MCTC investigated possibilities for offering a course to all freshmen. With the support of their LSIC, central office, and the board of education, the course is now in its pilot year.

“Initial reactions were mixed, but now, all I hear are positive comments,” says King. “Parents and students, staff members, all seem to appreciate that the course really opens the eyes of students. They discover interests and possibilities that they may have never otherwise realized. It is only natural for students to enjoy some of the career areas more than others, but in the end, they gain a better understanding of even the areas they least enjoy, and, I believe, a greater appreciation for those careers and those employees.” One goal of the program is to help students choose a career pathway to pursue beginning in their sophomore year. The program variety offered at MCTC, and the proximity of the high school right next door to the tech center, gives Monroe County students unparalleled opportunities to gain college and career prep courses, while completing their secondary education requirements at JMHS.

Introduction to Careers, another example of MCTC – Making Connections and Taking Charge!



# Maverick Art Students Tour Radford

Students in Mrs. Porterfield's art classes at JMHS traveled to Radford, Virginia to visit Radford University this past Thursday. While there, students toured



the art department, campus, and two art galleries located on campus.



## Cutting Up In Third Grade



Muffin is our class pet. She is pictured with the scissors on the teacher's desk. Muffin is in Ms. Jhanna's class, in Room 304. She is a Golden Hamster.

She is also cute and funny. Students named Muffin by voting. We had a data chart to keep track of the voting. Other names that were considered were Rockstar and Apple. Next, we are reading a book titled School Days. According to Humphrey, by Betty G. Birney. Humphrey is a Golden Hamster who lives in Room 26 and has a best friend frog named Og. We think Muffin is listening to the story too! Finally, thank you to Mrs. Worth for getting the grant and helping secure the paperwork for everyone to help care for Muffin. We love our class pet a lot! Written by: Gregory, Rheanna, Alexis, and Carleigh

# Rock, The Diabetes Alert Dog Visits MVS

Ernie Atkins is a second grade student at Mountain View Elementary School. Ernie has Type 1 diabetes. Ernie has to check his blood sugar levels at Lunch and snack times as well as any other time that he does not feel well. If his blood sugar level is low, then Ernie is given something to bring up his blood sugar level. Then, the nurse rechecks his levels in fifteen minutes until his levels are where they should be.

Ernie got a service dog named Rock in June of 2017 from Purposefull Paws in Martinsburg, WV. Rock is a Diabetes Alert Dog. Diabetic Alert Dogs are assistance dogs trained to alert diabetic owners in advance of low or high blood sugar events before they become dangerous. That way their handlers can take steps to get their blood sugar level back to normal.

Rock was trained for 18 months, 1 ½ years, to become a Diabetic

Alert Dog. Rock was properly trained to identify the scent and to alert Ernie when his levels are low or high. Rock is an English Labrador. Rock will even check on Ernie when Ernie is asleep. Ernie's parents are training Rock to ring a doorbell at night that will awaken them so that they can respond to Ernie's blood sugar level.

In class, they demonstrated what happens when Rock checks Ernie. Rock went over to Ernie and smelled him. Rock detected that Ernie's level was not where it should be. Then, Rock



pawed at Ernie to let him know that his level was not where it should be. Mrs. Atkins let Ernie check his blood sugar level at that time. All of the students watched what Ernie has to do to check his blood sugar level. Ernie's blood sugar level was high. That is amazing!

Rock wears a vest that has "Service Dog" and "Working Dog Do Not Pet" on it. Rock's picture is also on the vest.

Rock gets depressed and sad when Ernie goes to school. Rock needs to rest while Ernie is at school so he can do a good job when Ernie is at home. Ernie and Rock are best friends. Ernie is responsible for feeding, brushing and bathing Rock. Rock gets fed once every day.

This was a great learning experience for the students!



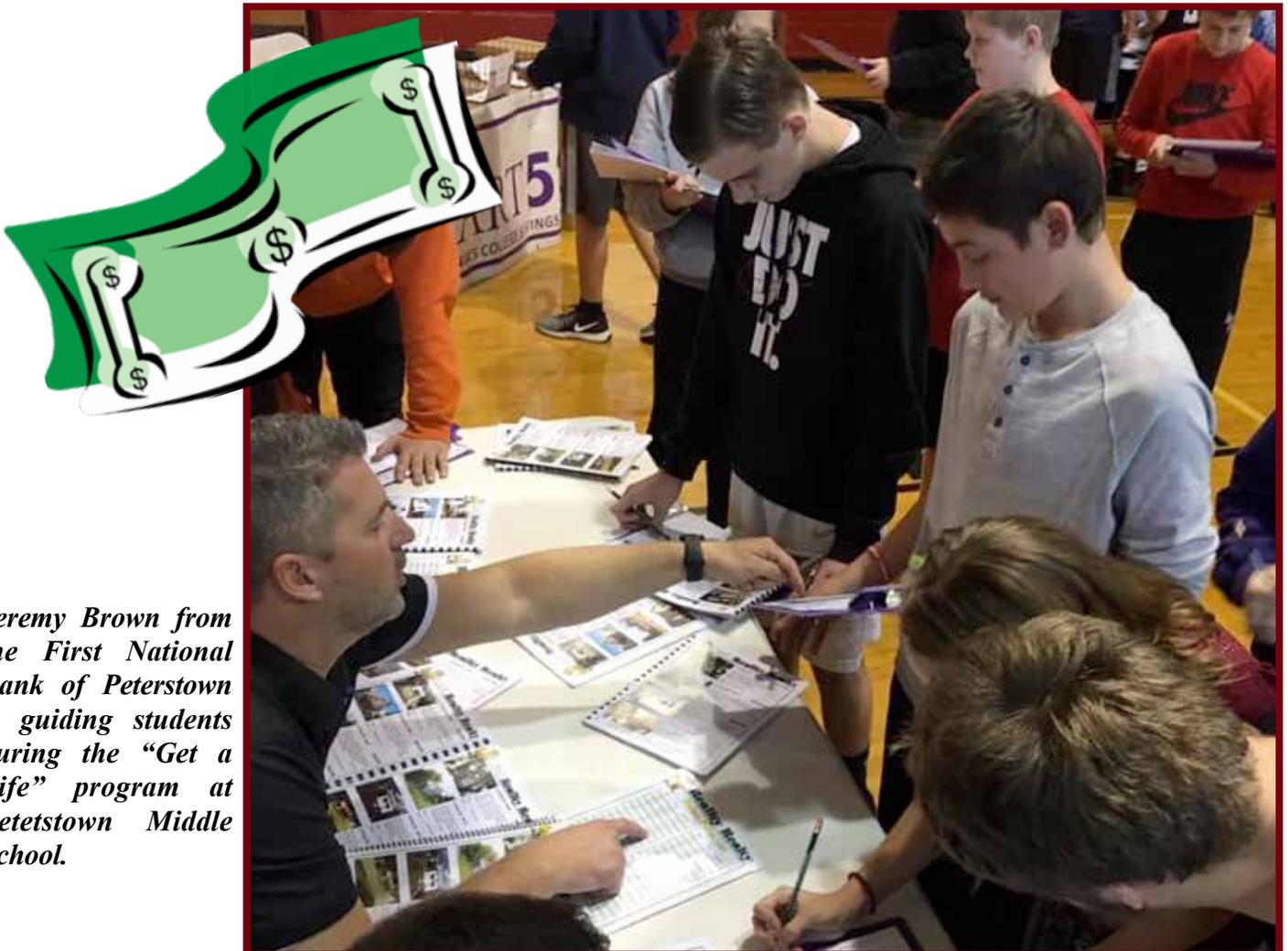
# Cash & Coats Donation

Peterstown Elementary School staff and students would like to express their sincere gratitude to the employees of the Precision Pipeline, who chose to give a very generous donation of \$1,550.00 and 15 winter coats during the month of October. Photographed receiving the donation are: Mike Perry, Leigh W. Boggess, and Greg Sigman.



“Get a Life” continued from page 1...

By now, the students are usually in debt, prompting the trade to a green card. The green cards give the students a better job, one only acquired through post-secondary education. When they finish with their green card, they usually have money left over. By demonstrating money management by allowing the students to see how easy it is to fall into debt without personal finance skills, they are better able to comprehend the importance of post-secondary education.



*Jeremy Brown from the First National Bank of Peterstown is guiding students during the “Get a Life” program at Petetstown Middle School.*



# Employee Recognition



## Peterstown Middle School

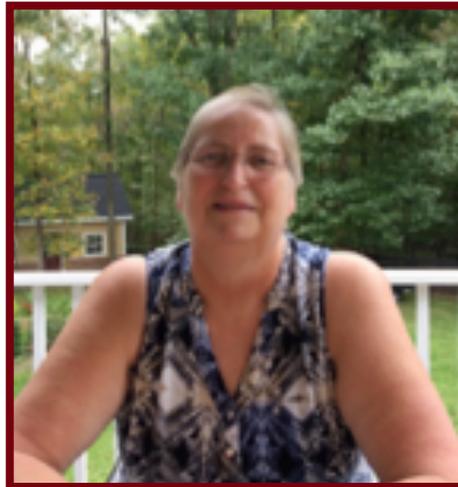
We've got talent! At Peterstown Middle School our October teacher of the month possesses the ability to not only teach students everything they need to know about WV history, but can do so while simultaneously scheduling all our athletic events, making sure we have coaches and referees, ensuring paperwork is completed in a timely fashion and maintaining athletic order. Linda Coffman is the lady who makes all this happen. In addition, she also serves as the faculty senate chair for PMS and an unofficial mentor to us all. Craig Riffe shared that "Linda cares about the culture of the school and we all value her opinion." Mrs. Coffman, it is a pleasure to work with you and we value your experience and all that you offer to the faculty, staff and students of Peterstown Middle School!

Hey, hey good lookin'. Whatcha' got cookin'? Not sure... go ask our service personnel employee of the month, Naomi Walker. Naomi serves up not only delicious dishes here at Peterstown Middle School, but does so with a smile and sense of humor that is unparalleled. She is outgoing and loves to participate in any extra-curricular activities that the school has planned, particularly if it involves dressing up. Naomi is always willing to go the extra mile to help those in need and does so with a positive attitude. Naomi, we love you and

your cooking! Thanks for making our cafeteria inviting and yummy.

## James Monroe High School

Debbie Crislip has been a custodian for Monroe County Schools for over 14 years. Before working for the school system Mrs. Crislip had different jobs including working for Home Care Plus, Census, Home Healthcare, and

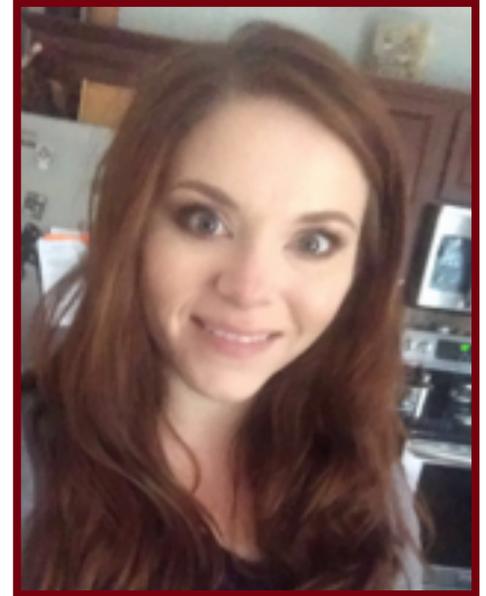


working with Alzheimers patients. Her advice to students is stay in school and get a good education. Thank you Mrs. Crislip for your hard work and effort in keeping our schools as clean and beautiful as you do!

This month we are highlighting Mrs. Dunbar, U.S History teacher. The James Monroe graduate taught "Options" here for four years and now teaches history. Here is what she had to say...

How long have you been teaching? 10 years

Have you always been a teacher? I was a waitress, not very fun, at the Trout



House, DJ's, and worked at a doctor's office during school.

Have you taught at other schools? Eastern Greenbrier County Middle School, I taught 7th grade geography.

How was the transition from options to the History teacher? I like both, but it is nice teaching History. I do miss celebrating the kids passing and being finished with Options, though.

Favorite memory? Watching my Options kids walk across the stage for graduation and hearing all of Marvin Dixon's lectures for four years through the thin wall!!

What advice would you give to students? Get out and see the world; there is more to the world than Monroe County. The more you see the more you understand.



# Employee Recognition



## Monroe County Technical Center

Monroe County Technical Center is pleased to have new staff member JROTC Instructor Major Todd Longanacre. MAJ Longanacre was previously the Park Ranger at Moncove Lake State Park where he still serves on the Moncove Lake State Park Foundation Board. A retired Army officer, combat fire support officer, and a former Army paratrooper, Major Longanacre brings 29 years of military experience, including a total of six overseas combat operational deployments, to our Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) department.

Todd's teaching philosophy incorporates a hands on approach, facilitates student led experiments and debate, encourages objective free thought, and provides leadership counselling and mentoring with regard to the JROTC cadets. For hobbies, the Major enjoys music and outdoor activities. He holds a Master of Science Degree in Organizational Behavior and Leadership, is a graduate of the United States Army Command and General Staff College, and is the Author of the book *One Soldier's Somber Flight; Finding Inspiration in the Darkest of Places*. As a fun fact, Todd is also the drummer in the regional classic rock & roll tribute band Stockyard Parade.

Todd resides in the Caldwell/Harts Run area with his wife, Sabrina and his son, Yelsy.

## Mountain View Elementary/Middle School

Ms. Vickey Reed is the MVS service employee of the month for October. She graduated from Peterstown High School in 1980. She began her career as a school cook for one year and then became a Special Education Aide. Five years ago, she came to Mountain View School as a Kindergarten Aide. Ms. Reed has been in the school system.

Some of Ms. Reed's favorite things are roses, violets, trinket boxes, milk chocolate, GOOD pizza, diet Mt. Dew, a good book. She is well rounded and always enjoys children!

Ms. Reed loves to read and clean. Her favorite pastime is playing with all of her grandchildren. She has nine grandchildren ranging from ages 2 to 12. She, also, has 12 siblings!!! Lots of fun!

Mrs. Reed enjoys working with children because she has always been around lots of children. She loves seeing the expression on their faces when they discover something new. One of her best memories of teaching is when she had a student that came from a dysfunctional family. He had been beaten by his stepfather and taken to a shelter. A week later (not knowing where he had been), he returned to school and came running to Ms. Reed. It was then that Ms. Reed knew that the student felt safe with her!

Mrs. Rebecca Wikle is the professional employee of the month for October. Rebecca graduated from Concord University majoring in Social Studies (5-Adult), Elementary Education K-6, and a Masters in Curriculum and Instruction with a Reading English 5-Adult Endorsement. She began her teaching career at Hinton Area Elementary School in January of 2014. She taught 3.5 years there in first grade. Now, she is so happy to be teaching at Mountain View School!

Mrs. Wikle loves reading to her children and helping her husband on the farm. Some of her favorite things are her son, Jack -age 2; her daughter, Everly,-8 months of age, pizza, gardening, and reading.

Rebecca loves to learn and she is always looking for ways to improve in everything that she does. Mrs. Wikle often times researches things and comes up with solutions to various problems in and out of the classroom.

Mrs. Wikle enjoys working with children because she loves watching the lightbulb come on, hearing them laugh, and watching them make progress.

Her best memories are feeling the students' little arms wrap around her and the little voices saying, "I love you!"



# Employee Recognition



## Peterstown Elementary School

A special thank you to our Title I Team for their efforts in building our Leader of the Month recognitions! Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Fowler, and Mrs. Worth have imbedded the Leader in Me model into a “Spotlight on the Leader of the Month.” Our Faculty selects a student that reflects Leadership characteristics each month, whom are recognized in front of the school population during a red carpet presentation. The students

are presented with a certificate and a medallion for their outstanding Leadership by Mrs. Spencer, their classroom Teacher, and Ms. Boggess. They were elated, as their classmates cheered them on.

(Photo sent separately)

Thank you to Linda Terry, our PES Pre K aide, for organizing our participation in a Global Community Project. Peterstown Elementary School is a “Leader in Me” school that integrates

a culture of character and leadership in all endeavors. Our students will be focusing on a global service project to help adults and children in Guatemala. Children and parents are encouraged to be a part of the empathetic and proactive steps that include: selecting the shoes, paying for the shoes, and envisioning the children who will be wearing the shoes. Please refer to the flyer sent home or call the school if you would like to participate!

