

## Aging system likely at root of water woes

BY ASHLEY SPINKS  
Staff

PSA seeking repair funds, looking to expand services

Water spilled out onto East Main Street in Floyd on Saturday, Aug. 3, as the town dealt with its second line break of the summer.

A break in June on the same road had necessitated a boil advisory.

Town Council member Bruce

Turner, who serves as chair of the Public Service Authority, suspects the most recent water main break was caused by water pressure building up in “an aging system” that couldn’t handle the strain.

Turner said the county was draining water off the main

tank on Aug. 2 and had opened a hydrant at the high school to help get the water out. A town employee, Turner said, saw the opened hydrant and assumed it should be closed.

“When they closed it ... it put that pressure back on the system and caused the issue that we

had,” Turner explained.

Ultimately, however, continued issues with the water lines in Floyd can be attributed to the pipes themselves, Turner said.

“We’ve got an aging system that’s been in place for several years,” he said. “We’ve started updating some of the system but

we’ve had numerous breaks ... all of it’s just an aging system.”

The Aug. 3 break was repaired relatively quickly—according to Turner, the hydrant was likely closed around 2 a.m. on Saturday.

Businesses on East Main Street began noticing a lack of water service around 9 a.m., judging

See **WATER**, Page A2

### Schools

## Renovation, construction plans move forward

BY ASHLEY SPINKS  
Staff

At Monday night’s School Board meeting, Superintendent Dr. John Wheeler told officials that “everything we do is very purposeful”—and in the case of his efforts to construct a new Collaboration and Career Development Center for Floyd students, the purpose is to meet the demands of a changing job market.

The 2019-2020 school year represents the third in a six-year vision that Wheeler has established for the district, and progress on making the new facility a reality has been slow but steady during the past couple years. This week, following approvals by both the school board and the Board of Supervisors, the project made an important leap forward.

The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved applications for loans from the Literary Fund of Virginia to support renovations at the existing Career and Technical Education building at Floyd County High School, as well as the construction of the collaboration center. The School Board had approved resolutions to the same effect at its own meeting.

The Literary Fund is a public school fund established by the Virginia state constitution. It offers low-interest loans for school construction. Floyd County is applying for two loans—the first, for renovations, in the amount of \$7 million and the second, for construction of the new facility, in the amount of \$7.5 million. The supervisors also approved a memorandum of understanding from Thompson & Litton, a Radford-based architecture and engineering firm, authorizing the firm to create designs and schematics for the two projects.

Wheeler, speaking at the Board of Supervisors meeting, assured the Board that the square footage for the instructional areas in the new collaboration center, as well as the “bottom dollar” for the total project, are set.

“The most important thing is the instructional areas,” Wheeler said, referring to the dedicated space for instruction in welding, culinary arts and healthcare. “I’m going to be working with

See **PLANS**, Page A2

## BACK TO SCHOOL



Floyd High students get off the bus for the first day of school.

DOUG THOMPSON/FOR THE FLOYD PRESS



WANDA COMBS/FOR THE FLOYD PRESS

(Top) McKenna Chaffin goes through the breakfast line with help from teacher Virginia Allen (left) and cafeteria manager Judy Duncan (right). Also pictured in the background is Alison Huff, cook. (Above) Volunteer Colleen Johnson paints Montgomery McPeak’s hand for an art project. (Right) Indian Valley kindergartners follow directions in a song.



Class is back in session in Floyd County. Students at all the schools dressed up in their first-day-of-school clothes, put away the summer free time and got their noses back to the grindstone. Here are some shots from the first day.



Teacher Virginia Allen reacts to a page from Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten.

WANDA COMBS/FOR THE FLOYD PRESS



Floyd Elementary students make their way to class.

DOUG THOMPSON/FOR THE FLOYD PRESS



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**FARMER DENIED BOND » A3**

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## Obituaries

### Lucinda Agee Harmon

Lucinda Agee Harmon, 89, of Floyd, passed away on Thursday, August 8, 2019.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Sharon Elaine Harmon; parents, William Guy and Mandy Compton Agee; husband, June Benjamin Harmon; and siblings, Abron Agee, Geneva Thomas, Ralph Agee,

Laura Huff, and Henry Agee.

She is survived by her children, Dennis Harmon (Donna), Clifford Harmon, Judy Ayers (Phillip), and Rodney Harmon; six grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and sister-in-law, Vivian Weeks.

Funeral services were held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, August 11, 2019, at the Maberry Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Roy Turpin and Pastor Mike Bowman officiating. Interment followed in the Lee Cemetery. The family received friends from 6 until 8 p.m. on Saturday, August 10, 2019 at the funeral home.

Online condolences may be sent by visiting [www.maberryfuneralhome.com](http://www.maberryfuneralhome.com).



Maberry Funeral Home



### Wendell Wilkey Sutphin

Wendell Wilkey Sutphin, 77, of Willis, passed away on Saturday, August 10, 2019. He was preceded in death by his wife, Shirley Huff Sutphin.

He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Jerry and Kim Sutphin; daughter and son-in-law, Mary and David Blankenship; grandchildren, Caleb and Cortney Blankenship, Lydia Blankenship, and Emma Blankenship; great-grandson, Mattis Liam Blankenship; brother and sister-in-law, Brown and Ellen Sutphin; and sister, Frances Thompson.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, August 17, 2019, at the Maberry Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Jeff Dalton officiating. Interment will follow in the Harris Cemetery. Family will receive friends from 12 until 2 p.m. prior to the service at the funeral home.

Online condolences may be sent by visiting [www.maberryfuneralhome.com](http://www.maberryfuneralhome.com).



Maberry Funeral Home

### Clinton Moles

Clinton Moles, 98, of Galax, Virginia, passed away on Saturday, August 10, 2019.

Mr. Moles was born in Floyd County, to the late Mack Moles and Addie Nester Moles. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Goldie Newman Moles; two sons, Ricky Moles and Roger Moles; and several siblings.

Survivors include his granddaughter, Shanna Moles of Jonesboro, Georgia; and one daughter-in-law, Donna Moles of Jonesboro, Georgia.

Mr. Moles was in World War II and was stationed in the Pacific theatre in Tokyo Bay when the peace treaty was signed with Japan on D-Day. He served in the Navy from November 5, 1943 until January 6, 1946. When he was discharged, he was a Gunner's Mate (3/CCT) single, and 25 years of age.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, August 14, 2019, at 11 a.m. at Buffalo Mountain Presbyterian Church with the Rev. S.G. Bolt officiating. Burial followed in the Buffalo Mountain Cemetery. The family received friends at the funeral home from 6 until 8 p.m. on Tuesday, August 13, 2019. Vaughan-Guynn-McGrady Chapel is serving the Moles family.

### Johnny Michael McCarty

Johnny Michael McCarty, 82, of Meadows of Dan, Virginia, passed away on Tuesday, August 6, 2019. Mr. McCarty was born in West Virginia to the late George McCarty and Elaine Hicks McCarty.

Survivors include wife, Patsy L. McCarty of the home; his sons, ISG Retired Johnny Michael McCarty Jr. of Tazwell and David S. McCarty of Meadows of Dan. Also surviving are three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Funeral Services were held on Saturday, August 10, 2019, at 11 a.m. at Vaughan-Guynn-McGrady Chapel with Pastor Jeff Pickett officiating. Burial followed in the Wilkinson Cemetery. The family received friends from 10 to 11 a.m. prior to the funeral service. Vaughan-Guynn-McGrady Chapel is serving the McCarty family.

## Land Transfers

These land transfers were recorded during the month of May 2019 in the Floyd County Circuit Court office.

This information is a matter of public record and is accessible to any citizen. The money is either assessment or consideration amount.

Listings may be incomplete; only the first name listed as grantor or grantee is published. Other unlisted parties may be involved in the transaction. Complete

records may be reviewed at the circuit court clerk's office during business hours. As a matter of fairness and consistency, the Floyd Press will not omit or amend any listing.

Amy L. Adams to Anna L. Sheppard, Courthouse District, 5 acres, \$12,500.

Josephine H. Alderman to Sharon A. Reedy, Courthouse District, no acreage or money

See **LAND**, Page A3

## Water

From Page A1

by several Facebook posts made by Cocoa Mia, Circle K EZ Stop and Skyline National Bank. Other businesses also reportedly lost water for a period of time.

The break was repaired by around 2 p.m. and water was restored to customers soon after.

According to Town Manager Kayla Cox, town residents can sign up online for the Floyd County Citizen Alert notification system, which will provide participants with critical information in the event of severe weather, unexpected road closures, missing persons, building evacuations and the like.

Cox said a notification was sent following the water main break on Aug. 2. In some cases, though, notifications are only sent

to a certain "radius" of affected residents.

The normal response procedure for a water main break is "whomever's on call would come out and see what the problem is, and try to start shutting valves off to try to contain [the break] to a specific area, so it doesn't affect the whole town," Turner said.

That might not always work, though, Turner said.

"The valves are getting kind of old too, so some may or may not be working."

A Public Service Authority employee said compared to the magnitude of repairs that the water system likely needs, the budget of the authority is "very small."

The authority is funded primarily from payment of water and sewer bills. The system, though, "only has like 400-500 customers," Turner said.

Meanwhile estimates

to repair the ailing water system are in the millions. Turner said the authority's board of directors is exploring other potential revenue streams.

"We're looking at grants that we might be able to apply for that would kind of help do some of the replacement stuff through the town," Turner said.

He said the authority might work with the town or county to come up with matching funds or other ways "to offset some of the costs."

The authority operates independently; however, there are Town Council members and county Supervisors on the panel.

The authority is currently exploring grants for which it may qualify, from entities such as the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Authority or the health department, Turner said.

It's a balancing act for the authority to determine on what to spend money and when, Turner explained.

"We have to determine whether or not we can

come up with funds to do [the replacement] all at one time or if we have to do it in cycles."

While attempting to supplement its funding with a combination of grants and loans, the authority also has "to make sure that we're able to keep our operating budget without cutting into that ... and we have to keep a certain amount of money on-hand" to pay back existing loans, Turner said.

Long term, the authority hopes to expand its customer base.

"We're working on a 10-year plan" to extend services past town limits.

"It's going to take time," Turner said.

### CLARIFICATION

In last week's story "Community effort brings blood drive to Floyd," Donald Williams was quoted as saying he "grew up in a big city." In fact, Williams was born and raised in Floyd, but often traveled for work. He also clarified that he didn't receive four hours off work for donating blood, but maybe an hour and a half.

## Plans

From Page A1

[the architects] every step of the way ... we'll have quotes before they dig the first shovel-full." He also said he had solicited and would continue to solicit design feedback from the teachers in these subject areas.

Before the supervisors' vote, Wheeler emphasized the importance of the construction projects.

"Right now, we can't meet the graduation requirements and can't get these kids ready for the jobs that are out there," Wheeler said. Little River District Board Member Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch said, "I understand how important it is that we stay ahead of the curve." Per the agreement with Thompson & Litton, the firm has three months to complete the first phase of its work, creating design schematics.

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# Water line break again plagues downtown businesses, residents

BY ASHLEY SPINKS  
Staff

Last Friday, Oct. 4, water outages again plagued local residents and businesses in downtown Floyd following a line break at the intersection of Harris Street and West Main. According to Town Council member and Public Service Authority board member Bruce Turner, these line breaks likely represent the new normal in Floyd, as costly repairs will take years to complete. "It's an old system, so we're going to have breaks," Turner explained. "There's probably going

to be several more before we're able to get the entire system fixed," he said. Turner estimated that the repairs could take "several years," unless a major source of funding is identified. However, some progress to improve the water system and prevent future line breaks is being made, Turner said. "We have a couple of projects we're already working on, replacing water lines," Turner said. Asked for specific locations, Turner indicated that the next planned repair will "run down West Oxford Street, down by the (county) administrative

building and Food Lion." He added that this new line will go "all the way down to the PSA building (while) picking up some additional customers." This part of town was prioritized for repair because, "We've had several breakages on that stretch of line," Turner explained. "It's not the oldest, but that seemed to be where we were having the most issues." Turner said the PSA is also implementing new software that can help authority employees track water line issues, how each line runs, where meters are located, and how many houses will be involved,

among other metrics. Turner said employees will travel with laptops so they have remote access to this data, rather than consulting paper records and maps of the water system. "Hopefully it cuts down on how long it takes to repair it," Turner said. On Oct. 5, Board of Supervisors Little River District representative Linda Devito Kuchenbuch shared a statement on Facebook, praising the public service authority for its quick work fixing the line break. "The PSA crew, assisted by local contractors, worked from the time water started appearing in

the road until past 10 p.m. last night," Kuchenbuch wrote. "Crews worked very diligently for just under eight hours to identify and repair the leak." Turner said the authority is working with Hurt & Proffitt, an engineering firm that surveys the water system and offers repair

options to the PSA board. The firm has also helped the authority obtain grant funding and loans to fund the next stage of repairs. Turner said these grants come from sources such as the Department of Environmental Quality and the Virginia Department of Health.

## Calendar

From Page A9  
On Oct. 10, a Dig Pink volleyball event to benefit Jonathan Harman and his son Elijah will take place at the high school's new gymnasium. JV games will begin at 5:30 p.m., with varsity to follow. Raffle items will be called throughout the games—come early to increase chance to win. Concessions will be available for purchase. Anyone interested in donating items for the raffle can contact Gary Bradshaw at (540) 520-5524.


### Pancake Days

The Meadows of Dan Ruritan Club and Fire Department will host the 54th annual Pancake Days Fundraiser on Sunday, Oct. 20 and Oct. 27 from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. at the Meadows of Dan Community Building, 2858 Jeb Stuart Highway. Featuring an all-you-can-eat menu of plain pancakes, buckwheat pancakes,

sausage, gravy, and all the fixins'; prices are \$10 for adults, \$5 for ages five to 12, and free for children under five. To-Go orders welcome and freshly ground sausage, seasoned just right, will be available for sale, too. Call (276) 952-2744. Commemorative tee shirts will be available for purchase. Proceeds benefit a variety of community causes and organizations.

### Spaghetti Dinner

VFW Post 7854 will hold a spaghetti dinner—take-out, eat-in or walk-in—on Oct. 19 from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$4 for children. VFW Auxilliary fundraising benefits programs for the servicemen of this country. For more information, call Cathy Battle at (540) 651-8477. The post will also hold a shooting match on Oct. 5—registration starts at 10:30 a.m. and the event starts at noon. Food will be available.



## We Are Blessed

*Lamentations 3: 22-23 "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning, great is thy faithfulness."*

One thing you have to remember, whether you are a Christians or not. You may not even believe the Bible is real. Every breath we breathe is given to us by the Almighty God. If God took the oxygen out of the air, we would all be dead. It is by the mercy of God we have seen October 2019. We owe a debt to our maker for every day we live.


We had better accept the Lord Jesus Christ, believe His word and rightly divide it. There is a great spirit of violence filling our world. We are not safe in any building, street, county or church. It is dangerous for policeman and everyone trying to make our world safe.

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**Thought for the Week:**  
*Let's seek the Lord!!*

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## Local Programming

### Citizens Channel 20

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7:00 AM	Community Show	Community Show	Community Show	Community Show	Community Show	Community Show	Community Show
7:30 AM	Real Virginia	Real Virginia	Real Virginia	Real Virginia	Real Virginia	Real Virginia	Real Virginia
8:00 AM	Bever Creek Church of the Brethren Service	Tai Chi	Tai Chi	Tai Chi	Tai Chi	Tai Chi	Tai Chi
8:30 AM	Church Service	MS Volleyball	JV Volleyball	MS Football	JV Football	Varsity Volleyball	Beaver Creek Church of the Brethren Church Service
9:00 AM	Faith Baptist Church Service	The Stampede	The Stampede	The Stampede	The Stampede	The Stampede	The Stampede
9:30 AM	Church Service	The Stampede	The Stampede	The Stampede	The Stampede	The Stampede	Mountainview Seventh Day Adventist Church Service
11:00 AM	Qigong	Blue Ridge Story Space	Qigong	Blue Ridge Story Space	Qigong	Blue Ridge Story Space	Blue Ridge Story Space
1:30 PM	Community Show	Community Show	Community Show	Community Show	Community Show	Community Show	Community Show
2:00 PM	Harvestwood Covenant Presbyterian Church Service	Vintage Television	Vintage Television	Vintage Television	Vintage Television	Vintage Television	Harvestwood Covenant Presbyterian Church Service
4:00 PM	Faith Baptist Church Service	Rose of The Wind Travel Show	Graceful Aging, Human Interest Programming and More	Graceful Aging, Human Interest Programming and More	Graceful Aging, Human Interest Programming and More	Rose of The Wind Travel Show	Graceful Aging, Human Interest Programming and More
5:00 PM	Mountainview Seventh Day Adventist Church Service	Yoga for Health and Joy	Yoga for Health and Joy	Yoga for Health and Joy	Yoga for Health and Joy	Yoga for Health and Joy	Yoga for Health and Joy
5:30 PM	Church Service	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith
6:30 PM	Shawsville Congregational Holiness Church Service	Graceful Aging, Human Interest Programming and More	Graceful Aging, Human Interest Programming and More	Graceful Aging, Human Interest Programming and More	Graceful Aging, Human Interest Programming and More	Graceful Aging, Human Interest Programming and More	Graceful Aging, Human Interest Programming and More
7:00 PM	Community Show	Community Show	Community Show	Community Show	Community Show	Community Show	Community Show
8:00 PM	Varsity Volleyball	MS Volleyball	JV Volleyball	MS Football	JF Football	Varsity Football	Varsity Volleyball
9:00 PM	The Stampede	The Stampede	The Stampede	The Stampede	The Stampede	The Stampede	The Stampede
12:00 AM	Bonanza	Bonanza	Bonanza	Bonanza	Bonanza	Bonanza	Bonanza
1:00 AM	Bonanza	Bonanza	Bonanza	Bonanza	Bonanza	Bonanza	Bonanza
5:00 AM	Local Yoga	Local Yoga	Local Yoga	Local Yoga	Local Yoga	Local Yoga	Local Yoga



Mayor Will Griffin presents Paul Lacoste with a painting in recognition of his contributions to the Town of Floyd. PHOTO BY KAYLA COX/TOWN OF FLOYD

## Council honors Lacoste, LeMay

BY ASHLEY SPINKS  
Staff

In its last meeting of the year, members of the Town Council took time to recognize both Paul Lacoste and Councilman Paul LeMay for their contributions to the town over the last several years.

Lacoste was nominated by Vice-Mayor Mike Patton to be recognized as part of the Council's Community Recognition Program. According to Town Manager Kayla Cox, "We started (the program) a few years ago and basically, the Town wanted to start a recognition program that would recognize people in our community who have done good things for the Town, or given back in some way." Lacoste becomes the latest person recognized by this initiative, which Cox said tries to award at least two people per year, if not every quarter. Previous honorees include high school football coach Winfred Beale, local entrepreneur Woody Crenshaw, town attorney Jim Shortt, and others.

Lacoste is the founder of the Tour de Floyd bike ride, which was established thirteen years ago and has raised more than \$40,000 for the community and local Floyd Rescue Squad.

Mayor Will Griffin noted during the recognition ceremony that, "We don't do this very often," and said he hoped the award would be as meaningful to Lacoste as it was to the Council. Griffin read aloud a proclamation that said Lacoste had "unselfishly devoted his time and personal resources" to the Tour de Floyd, and that the Council wanted to "show gratitude and respect."

In accepting the award, Lacoste said it would be shared with his wife, as "she's the one who really makes it happen." He said over the course of 13 years, she had baked more than 7,000 cookies for the bike ride participants. Lacoste also thanked the event's many sponsors and Chantilly Farm for being the host venue.

Later in the meeting, Griffin also read a proclamation honoring Councilman Paul LeMay, whose term will end as David Whitaker takes his seat on the Council, and presented LeMay with a plaque. "I've been the mayor ... I'm starting my 11th year in January, and during that time we've said goodbye to three Council members," Griffin said. "It's kind of weird in today's world (but) we all get along great, and that's something we can all be proud of." Griffin thanked LeMay, who has served on the Council since 2013 and previously held the title of vice-mayor, for his years of service and said he would be very missed.

In response, LeMay said, "I can't say thank you enough. I plan on coming to meetings and being a citizen activist." LeMay added that the November election "woke me up to something...people should come to town meetings. When it comes to the voting, I'm almost ashamed of this town," he said. He clarified that his disappointment wasn't in the election's result, but in the fact that less than one-third of eligible voters in the town voted in the Council race. "Either we (the Council) are doing something wrong, or there is something wrong," LeMay said.

In town business, Cox offered a progress report on the town's park use policy. A survey had been circulated to members of the Council and Griffin noted that their individual priorities "lined up pretty closely." Cox noted that she had received guidance from the town's insurance company on necessary coverage for public events in the

See **COUNCIL**, Page A7

# Water system repairs continue

BY ASHLEY SPINKS  
Staff

About four years ago, Floyd County's Public Service Authority, which operates local water and sewer systems, sought to identify the areas of greatest risk in the county's water lines.

According to PSA board member Mike Maslany, the two areas rated most in need of improvement were West Oxford Street in the town of Floyd, and a 2,400-foot section along Rte. 221. The post-bid conference for the work on West Oxford was held Dec. 11, and after a public hearing Dec. 12, the latter project is moving forward as well.

Three years ago, the cost of completing both high-priority projects was estimated at \$400,000, which the Floyd County Board of Supervisors loaned to the PSA at a 1% interest rate. However, according to Maslany, acquiring the appropriate easements took longer than expected—it took two years to get the easements for West Oxford alone. In the meantime, the expected cost of the project increased significantly enough that \$400,000 wouldn't be sufficient to replace water lines at both locations.

To secure additional funding, the PSA began exploring grant opportunities. On Dec. 12, Maslany, along with Community and Economic Development Director Lydeana Martin and County Planner Karla Turman, held a public hearing at Jessie Peterman Memorial Library, to solicit public input on their draft Community Development Block Grant proposal to be submitted to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development for the Rte. 221 water

line replacement project.

Nobody from the community attended the public hearing, but Martin said several county residents will be impacted. In addition to the 2,400-foot stretch parallel to the highway, grant funds would allow for a water line extension of 600 feet to reach the Gardner manufactured housing neighborhood. Maslany said 16 new customers will be reached and served by PSA water—13 of whom are considered "low to moderate income," or LMI, which helps the project meet certain grant qualifications.

The Construction-Ready Water and Sewer Fund (CRWSF) program is a part of the larger Community Development Block Grant program, and has been established to help fund projects that provide public water or sewer service to communities composed of at least 60% LMI households. It is through this program that the Floyd County PSA is hoping to secure funding for the Rte. 221 project, although Floyd County, not the PSA specifically, will be the grant applicant.

For each new LMI household that is served by the repaired water line, the county is eligible for up to \$15,000 in grant funding, Martin explained. The final cost of the entire project will remain unknown until bidding, but officials at the public hearing estimated a total cost of \$300,000. However, grant funds could cover up to 75% of construction costs, as well as all grant administration fees.

According to Martin, the current water line along Rte. 221 is 50 years old, and has "cracks and leaks." Some of the people living along the water line or in the currently unserved manufactured homes nearby "don't have washing machines because of a lack of

water pressure," Maslany said. The completion of this project will provide them with more "reliable" water.

The application window for the Construction-Ready grants opens on Jan. 1, and Martin indicated that Floyd County would apply as soon as possible. If the county is awarded the grant funds, the bidding process will likely begin in March 2020, and construction after that. According to grant guidelines, the project must be completed within a year.

This latest project launches on the heels of a summer when the PSA saw more line breaks than ever in Floyd County. In an interview with the Press in October following the pre-bid meeting for the Oxford Street project, PSA Chairman Bruce Turner said, "I think we're getting more and more breaks now than what we've had in the past." Richard Burton, director of the authority, agreed, saying, "The last six months or so, we've probably had triple the breaks that we typically have, and (now) we're moving into winter, which is typically worse."

The PSA, in conjunction with county officials, has been doing preparatory work for this latest grant since before that October meeting. The scope of the work necessary to modernize the county water system is large, as Maslany described this fall. "We're just trying to do all the preparatory work (for the construction-ready grant) ... And then hopefully we can get awarded rapidly, and start construction work," he said. "It's kind of fortunate that it's delayed, because (right now) this Oxford project is on our table, and we're so small, one project is enough for us at any one time."



BY WANDA COMBS  
For The Floyd Press

As the Floyd County Historical Society Museum closed for the year this month, volunteers were already planning for 2020.

Rebecca Weeks, who has been serving as the Society's president for 12 years, has left her position. She announced in the group's recent newsletter that

Pictured is Rebecca Weeks, who has led the Historical Society for 12 years.

she has cancer, but would continue to be as involved as her health permits.

Weeks, who was born in Floyd County, returned to the county after retiring from a career in education and became a member of the Historical Society. On a recent Saturday, Weeks fondly

looked back on her opportunity to work with the Floyd County Preservation Trust and others in transforming the former Ridge-mont Hospital into a museum.

Located on North Locust Street in Floyd, the museum houses an archive of historic documents and photographs as well as ar-

See **MUSEUM**, Page A5



**THANK YOU, MARY PUGH, FOR READING THE FLOYD PRESS!**

**LOCAL VET RETIRES » PAGE A2**



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