



WEST VIRGINIA Archives and History NEWS

From the Editor:

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Archives and History Web site
[http://www.wvculture.org/history/
ahnews/ahnews.html](http://www.wvculture.org/history/ahnews/ahnews.html)**

I love language and the origins of words and place names. Huge dictionaries and dusty old gazetteers keep me entranced, which is why this newsletter often contains tidbits from them. Also, as a librarian, I appreciate the Dewey Decimal Classification System (DDC) because it organizes the whole world and beyond. While looking up a category in the DDC index, my eyes fell upon a fascinating phrase, right between “Odd Fellows” and “Odendaalsrus” (a South African town): “Odd-toed ungulates.” Enjoying how the words rolled off my tongue, I grabbed a DDC book, flipped impatiently to section 599.66, and discovered that the Greek scientific name for these creatures is “perissodactyla” and that the tapir is this type of animal. Wow! I have seen tapirs in zoos, know a little Greek (“dactyla” means both fingers and toes, “perrisos” means uneven), and have been near Odendaalsrus (however, I do not know any Odd Fellows). Excuse me while I dash to the Library’s big dictionary to look up “ungulates.”

Mining Your History Foundation Annual Meeting on November 2

The Mining Your History Foundation (MYHF) will hold its 2013 annual meeting on Saturday, November 2, at the Culture Center, State Capitol Complex, Charleston. Guest speaker will be Larry Rowe, presenting “The Ruffner Family and the Kanawha Salt Industry.” Following the program and light refreshments, MYHF will conduct its annual business meeting. All are welcome to attend, but only registered members of MYHF may vote. The goals of Mining Your History Foundation are to:

- promote networking among genealogical societies in West Virginia
- support West Virginia Archives and History Library with money, volunteers and collections
- disseminate information pertaining to research in and about West Virginia

To learn more about the speaker, the day’s schedule, the benefits of MYHF membership, or to print out a membership application, visit <http://www.wvculture.org/history/2013myhfannualmeeting.pdf>

to view the online brochure. You may also call or e-mail Esther Warner, ebw104@suddenlink.net, (304) 984-9468, or call West Virginia Archives and History at (304) 558-0230, for more information.

The Battle of Charleston, 1862, to be Focus of Terry Lowry’s Lecture on November 5

On November 5, 2013, author/historian Terry Lowry will give a presentation on the 1862 Battle of Charleston and the Kanawha Valley Campaign at the Tuesday evening lecture in the Archives and History Library in the Culture Center in Charleston. The program will begin at 6:00 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

In 1903 Sgt. Joseph A. Saunier, Co. F, 47th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, a veteran of the Battle of Charleston

and the 1862 Kanawha Valley Campaign of the Civil War, wrote, “It is a curious fact that in all the military histories of the late war there is no mention made of one of the most masterly retreats that occurred during the rebellion, and that was the one that was conducted by Colonel Lightburn in the fall of ‘62, from Gauley Bridge, West Va., thence to the Battle of Charleston, thence from Charleston to the Ohio

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River.” The battle of Charleston, fought September 13, 1862, between the Confederate forces of Gen. William W. Loring and the Federal army command of Col. Joseph A. J. Lightburn, has long been neglected by historians.

Lowry’s presentation on the campaign will include details of the battles of Fayetteville, Cotton Hill, Montgomery’s Ferry, Charleston, and Buffalo, in addition to the Trans-Allegheny Raid of Gen. Albert G. Jenkins. He will detail the burning and mass evacuation of Charleston and provide insight into the various personalities involved, such as Col. Samuel A. Gilbert, father of Cass Gilbert, who designed the current West Virginia Capitol, and Col. Edward Siber, who held off more than 5,000 Confederate soldiers with only two under-strength regiments of infantry at Fayetteville. To complement his presentation, Lowry will display a number of actual artifacts from the battle and campaign from his own personal collection, as well as of the State Archives collections, many never before seen by the public.

A native of South Charleston, Lowry received his bachelors in history in 1974 from West Virginia State College (now University) and studied Civil War history at Marshall University Graduate School. A professional musician for most of his life, he spent more than twenty years as a music critic for Charleston Newspapers, Inc., and one year with *The Atlanta Journal*. He published his first book, *The Battle of Scary Creek; Military Operations in the Kanawha Valley, April-July*, in 1982. Other books include *September Blood: The Battle of Carnifex Ferry* (1985); two volumes of the Virginia Regimental Histories Series, *22nd Virginia Infantry* (1988) and *26th (Edgar’s) Battalion Virginia Infantry* (1991);

and *Last Sleep: The Battle of Droop Mountain, November 6, 1863* (1996). In 2000 he co-authored with Stan Cohen, *Images of the Civil War in West Virginia*. Lowry’s most recent book is *Bastard Battalion: A History of the 83rd Chemical Mortar Battalion in World War II* (2009). His new book, *The Battle of Charleston and the 1862 Kanawha Valley Campaign*, is tentatively scheduled for an early 2014 release. Lowry is a historian with West Virginia Archives and History, where he has been employed since 2001.

On November 5, the library

[This article originally was prepared by Mary Johnson for the Archives and History Web site based on information provided by Terry Lowry.]

will close at 5 p.m. and reopen at 5:45 p.m. for participants only. For planning purposes, participants are encouraged to register for the lecture, but advance registration is not required to attend. To register in advance, contact Robert Taylor, library manager, by e-mail at Bobby.L.Taylor@wv.gov or at (304) 558-0230, ext. 163. Participants interested in registering by e-mail should send their name, telephone number and the name and date of the session. For additional information, contact the Archives and History Library at (304) 558-0230.

Evening Workshops and Lecture Schedule

Date	Conducted by:	Subject
January 7, Tuesday	Betty Rivard	“The ‘Other’ West Virginia: Positive Images of the State from the 30s and 40s”
January 23, Thursday	Dr. Michael Workman	“Parkersburg: Guarding of the Union during the Civil War”
February 4, Tuesday	Patti Hamilton	“West Virginia Courthouses”
February 20, Thursday	Terry Lively	“Covered Bridges of West Virginia”
March 4, Tuesday	Steve Cunningham	“Loyalty They Always Had: The 7th WV Cavalry in the U.S. Civil War”
March 20, Thursday	Dianne Anestis	“Women’s Role in Native American Society”

Registration for these free workshops is helpful but not required.

Call our office at (304) 558-0230, or e-mail bobby.l.taylor@wv.gov.

Workshops are held 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the West Virginia Archives and History Library, Culture Center, Charleston, West Virginia.

Check out Archives and History’s YouTube and Facebook Pages

<http://www.youtube.com/user/wvarchivesandhistory>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/West-Virginia-Archives-and-History/168933289812323>

Revolutionary War Genealogy Workshop

On September 26, 2013, Joetta Kuhn and Patsy Adkins addressed a library full of researchers interested in tracing their possible descent from Revolutionary War patriots. Handouts were distributed to assist in locating and recording the records needed to apply for membership in lineage societies such as Daughters of the American Revolution and Sons of the American Revolution. More photographs are available at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/workshops.html>.

For Your Reference

A monthly column discussing the Reference Collection of the West Virginia Archives and History Library

Resources for Biography of West Virginians

Books of biography for specific geographic areas have been published in the United States for well over a century. One did not have to be “famous” to be included, simply well-known and respected in one’s community. In fact, many of these compilations printed entries for anyone willing to subscribe to the publication. Today’s youngsters will be surprised to find almost no women or persons of minority status were granted entries in these books; however, since the honorees were businessmen, politicians, clergymen, lawyers, medical doctors, academicians, and other ranks virtually closed to women of those days, the absence of recognition for women or people of color was common.

- *Prominent Men of West Virginia*: by George W. Atkinson and Alvaro F. Gibbens, 1890. The multitude of subtitles explain the contents of

Charleston in the Modern Era To Be Discussed on November 14

On November 14, 2013, Dr. Billy Joe Peyton will present “History of Charleston: The Modern Era” at the Thursday evening lecture in the



the book: *Biographical Sketches of Representative Men in Every Honorable Vocation, including Politics, the Law, Theology, Medicine, Education, Finance, Journalism, Trade, Commerce and Agriculture: The Growth and Advancement of the State as Shown in the History of her Distinguished Representatives: A Succinct but Comprehensive Statement of the Advantages, Resources and Development of the State: A Compendium of Returns of Every Election, National, State and Congressional: A Record of Every State Officer, Executive, Legislative and Judicial: Illustrated with Numerous Portraits of Prominent Citizens of the New Commonwealth. Prominent Men* includes a general index in the front of the volume, as well as an index to the biographical sketches. Be aware that the biography index is not strictly alphabetical. Some sketches include portraits.

- *Encyclopaedia of Contemporary Biography of West Virginia: Including Reference Articles on the Industrial Resources on the State,*

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Archives and History Library in the Culture Center in Charleston. The program will begin at 6:00 p.m. and is free and open to the public.


Charleston has a rich history that spans 225 years, starting with the founding of Fort Lee at the mouth of Elk River in 1788. After becoming the permanent state capital in 1885, Charleston entered into a period of rapid growth and development. By 1960, it had evolved into a bustling city of 85,000 residents and was a hub of government, industry, and commerce. Over the next 50 years, socioeconomic forces dramatically redefined the capital city—population decreased to 51,000, the historic downtown evolved, and modern multi-lane highways crisscross the region.

Much has changed in Charleston since the dawn on the 20th century, but the city retains a great deal of its history. Bringing his look at Charleston’s earlier history, which

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etc., etc.: Illustrated with Portraits: Atlantic Publishing & Engraving Company, 1894. The "Contents" list in the front of the book is an alphabetical list of persons included. Biographies are lengthier than in most books of this type. Portraits are excellent.

- *Biographical and Portrait Cyclopedia of Monongalia, Marion and Taylor Counties, West Virginia: Comprising about Five Hundred Sketches of the Prominent and Representative Citizens of These Counties: Illustrated:* by Rush, West & Company Publishers, 1895. The publishers state in the preface: "Instead of devoting large space to men of pre-Revolutionary times, it was intended to make this a *live* Cyclopedia, which, while it preserves much that is valuable in the past, will include the men who are doing the work and moulding the thought of the present time." There is a separate index of people included for each county. A few of the listings are not for an individual, but for a family. Illustrations include several buildings as well as portraits.
- *Progressive West Virginians: Some of the Men Who Have Built Up and Developed the State of West Virginia:* compiled by Robert E. Murphy, 1905. A note in the front by the author states: "This book has been prepared for the purpose of preserving some accurate information concerning the men who have done so much in the past twenty years to develop the state of West Virginia." The book contains portraits and very brief descriptions of education, occupational history, military service, and organization memberships. Again, the index is divided by first letter of the surname, but is not strictly alphabetical, so search carefully.
- *Who's Who in West Virginia:*

"Charleston" continued from page 3

he covered during a library program in March, into the modern era, Billy Joe Peyton will share glimpses of historic Charleston through words and images. He will recount extraordinary moments of the past century, and share details about some little known historical secrets of the capital city.

Billy Joe Peyton received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. in history from West Virginia University. He has worked as a public historian at WSWP-TV in Beckley and for the National Park Service in Mississippi and West Virginia. He also served as associate director of the Institute for the History of Technology & Industrial Archaeology at WVU, worked for an historic architectural firm, and taught high school history. In 2002, Peyton joined the full-time faculty at West Virginia State University, where he is associate professor of history and chair of the Department of Social and Behavioral

[This article originally was prepared by Mary Johnson for the Archives and History Web site based on information provided by Billy Joe Peyton.]

1916: Published by the *Wheeling Intelligencer*, 1916. Biographies vary in length from a few sentences to a page. Portrait sizes also vary, with some given a full page. Bios and portraits of the five members of the West Virginia Supreme Court are gathered on a single page.

- *Progressive West Virginians:* published by the *Wheeling Intelligencer*, 1923. Similar to the 1916 *Who's Who* in style and content, brief bios and portraits are featured, but very different in that a half dozen or so women are honored. Several deceased persons are also included. The index is semi-alphabetical.
- *West Virginians: A Work of Biography of Those Personalities Who by Reason of High Purpose*

Sciences. Active in local preservation efforts, he has worked as a writer and historian on several documentary films, including *Ghosts of Green Bottom*, winner of a 2005 Bronze Telly Award. He also may be seen in *The 50 States* series that airs on the History Channel. In 2010, Peyton authored a local history book titled *Charleston Then and Now*, and he has just completed a second book titled *Charleston: The First 225 Years*, scheduled for release this December.

For planning purposes, participants are encouraged to register for the program, but advance registration is not required to attend. To register in advance, contact Robert Taylor, library manager, at Bobby.L.Taylor@wv.gov or at (304) 558-0230, ext. 163. Participants interested in registering by e-mail should send their name, telephone number and the name and date of the session. For additional information, contact the Archives and History Library at (304) 558-0230.

and Accomplishment Have Achieved Permanent Place in the Story of Twentieth Century West Virginia: The West Virginia Biographical Association, 1928. "Biographies" of counties and towns begin the volume, followed by biographies with portraits that give family information as well. Scattered throughout (and included in the index) are full-page pieces about West Virginia businesses that were probably paid advertisements.

- *West Virginians of 1934-1935:* Published by the *Wheeling Intelligencer*, 1934. Intended as a follow-up to *Progressive West Virginians* (1923), and published in the same format. About a dozen women are listed. The index is semi-alphabetical.

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- *Who's Who in West Virginia: A Biographical Dictionary of Leading Living Men and Women of the States of West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland:* Albert Nelson Marquis (publisher

New Titles

The Little Girl Dressed in Blue: Judy Burns with Margien Burns, 2006.
Uncle Zeke: The Bard of Buzzard Town: David Parmer, 2012.
Index to Hardesty's [Geographical and Biographical Encyclopedia as reprinted in] West Virginia Heritage Encyclopedia [Supplemental Volumes 1-8]: Volumes 1-8: Indexed by Maxine Marshall, [2011].

Gifts of William D. Wintz Family

Many of the books donated by the Wintz family have provided valuable backup copies to titles already in the collection. Titles listed here are new to the West Virginia Archives and History collection.

West Virginia People and Places: Charles Carpenter, 1974.
Mountain Memories V: J. Dennis Deitz, 1993.
Porte Crayon Sampler: David Hunter Strother: Jim Comstock, editor, 1974.
The Tie That Bound Us: The Women of John Brown's Family and the Legacy of Radical Abolitionism: Bonnie Laughlin-Schultz, 2013.
Faith, Hope and \$5,000: The Story of Monsanto: Dan J. Forrestal, 1977.
Under the Shade of the Trees: Thomas (Stonewall) Jackson's Life at Jackson's Mill: Dennis Norman, 2000.
The Keelboat Age on Western Waters: Leland D. Baldwin, 1980, c1941.
Burials by Allen Funeral Home: Putnam Co., WV: 1930-1999: Jean Allen, Don Peterson and Rose Peterson, 2000.
Joyce S. and Mortimer Bernard Doyle Family History: Mortimer Bernard Doyle, [1993?].
Griffith Family Life at Cave Lick of Ivy Branch, Lincoln Co. WV: Rome Griffith, [1974?].
Loyal Order of Moose Nitro Lodge #565: An Illustrated History of Its Birth and the First 50 Years: 1940-1990: Ira W. "Speedy" Miller and William E. "Bill" Young, Sr., 1990.

Gifts of Ruth Shepherd Family

The Great Bridge-Building Contest: Bo Zaunders, 2004.
Chesapeake & Ohio in the Coal Fields of West Virginia and Kentucky: Mines-Towns-Trains: Thomas W. Dixon, Jr., 2006.
Memories: Roy F. McClanahan, 2004.
Commemorating Our 75th Anniversary in the Year of America's Bicentennial, 1901-1976: Kanawha Banking & Trust Company, 1976.
Appalachian Mountain Country Cookin': 1998: Christian Relief Services, 1998.
Science in a Nanosecond: Illustrated Answers to 100 Basic Science Questions: James A. Haight, 1990.



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- (1) the reprint is not used for commercial purposes, and
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Virginia Division of Culture and History.

of the well-known *Who's Who* series), 1939. Although West Virginia is in big letters on the title page, unfortunately only a small percentage of the volume covers West Virginians. Entries are typical *Who's Who* type and lack portraits. Bios are arranged alphabetically, with separate indexes by state.

- *Outstanding West Virginians of 1969-1970:* by Richard A. Kelly, 1969. Includes a small section on "Distinguished West Virginians of the Past" and "Distinguished West Virginians of the Present" with portraits. The bulk of the book is an alphabetical "Biographical Listing: Outstanding West Virginians: 1969-1970," with very few portraits included.
- *West Virginia Women:* Jim Comstock, 1974. Comstock mixed his own original biographies with reprints of biographical articles from other publications and a variety of portraits and drawings. Women from the earliest period of western Virginia history up through the year of publication are included, as well as articles for women's organizations and activities in the state. Arranged in alphabetical order with an index, too.
- *Who's Who in West Virginia:* *Who's Who Historical Society*, 1983. Entries are alphabetical, some with family information, but not all with portraits. Good representation of women.

Other good Reference Collection resources for West Virginia biography:

- *West Virginia Heritage Encyclopedia, and the Encyclopedia Supplemental:* Edited and published by Jim Comstock, 1974. Check the appropriate encyclopedia volume first, since entries are cross-

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referenced to the material in the *Supplemental* volumes. The first eight *Supplemental* volumes are reprints of *Hardesty's Biographical and Geographical Encyclopedia* volumes, published in 1883-84, covering half of West Virginia's counties.

- *West Virginia Encyclopedia*: Phil Conley, 1929.
- *West Virginia Encyclopedia*: edited by Ken Sullivan and published by the West Virginia Humanities Council, 2006. Also available free online at <http://www.wvencyclopedia.org/>.
- Pre-statehood western Virginians may be found in *Virginia Immigrants and Adventurers, 1607-1635: A Biographical Dictionary*, 2007; *Encyclopedia of Virginia Biography*, in five volumes, 1915; and *Dictionary of Virginia Biography*, begun in 1998 and currently only up to Volume 3 through the surname of Daniels.

The Reference Collection also houses biographical resources for specific geographical areas, occupations, churches, military, etc., which may or may not include West Virginians.

Birth and Death Registration Difficulties in W. Va. Revealed in 1923

In November 2005 *West Virginia Archives and History News* featured a newspaper article highlighting problems with compliance with registration requirements for reporting birth and death records in 1936. As all West Virginia researchers know, the problem was not resolved with satisfactory reporting levels for around two decades more. An article published in the *Huntington Herald-Dispatch* on February 11, 1923, offers proof that this had been an ongoing problem for decades prior as well:

WEST VIRGINIA ON 'BLACKLIST' OF GOVERNMENT

Inaccurate Birth and Death Registration Frowned on by Federal Bureau STEP TO CLEAR SITUATION URGED BY STATE DIRECTOR Physicians and Undertakers Are Urged to Co-operate With Officials

Failure on the part of attendants at births and those handling the dead, to make the proper record of them with

the state, has put West Virginia on the black list with the U.S. government. West Virginia is one of two states east of the Mississippi whose birth and death records are so inaccurate that the U.S. government will not recognize them, is information given out by Dr. Carl F. Raver, director of bureau of vital statistics.

Law requires every child whether born dead or alive, to be registered with the state. Every county has several registrars, and the bureau of vital statistics urges the citizens of West Virginia to learn who their registrars are, and co-operate with them. Reputable doctors are particular to attend to this matter because they realize the great value of such record to their patient, but the bureau states there is gross neglect by attendants where no doctor is employed.

"Death certificates are equally important," says Dr. Raver, "and persons present at time of death should insist upon an immediate filing of death certificate with the state, if they

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Rotenizer Presents History of Grave Creek Mound and the Archaeological Complex

David E. Rotenizer, site manager of the Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex in Moundsville, a facility under the direction



of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History, spoke in the Archives and History Library as the October First Tuesday lecturer. His presentation included photographs of Grave Creek Mound and surrounding

area over the years, as well as scenes of the modern museum and research center. More photographs of the evening are available at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/workshops.html>.

For more information about the complex, go to <http://www.wvculture.org/museum/GraveCreekmod.html>.

"Finding Hidden Ancestors" Draws Full House

Jeanne Eppley, also known as Snow Flower, explained to an attentive audience on October 10 why Native American people are not always recognizable in the available records, and described ways in which they may

be identified. Additional photos may be viewed at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/workshops.html>.



Calendar of Events

Please check our Web site (<http://www.wvculture.org/history>) for genealogical and historical society meeting announcements, and for more complete information on activities listed below.

“WV 150” SESQUICENTENNIAL EXHIBIT, through 2013: The Culture Center, Charleston.

GUYANDOTTE CIVIL WAR DAYS, November 1-3: Huntington.

VETERANS DAY, November 11: Archives Library will be open.*

THANKSGIVING DAY, November 28: Archives Library will be *closed*.

THANKSGIVING FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, November 29-30: Archives Library will be *closed*.

CHRISTMAS ON THE FRONTIER, December 7: Fort Randolph, Pt. Pleasant.

ANNUAL VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS HOME TOUR AND TEA, December 7-8:
Julia-Ann Square Historic District, Parkersburg.

CHRISTMAS EVE, December 24: Archives Library will be *closed one-half day*.

CHRISTMAS DAY, December 25: Archives Library will be *closed*.

NEW YEAR’S EVE, December 31: Archives Library will be *closed one-half day*.

NEW YEAR’S DAY, January 1, 2014: Archives Library will be *closed*.

**Only the Archives Library will be staffed—all other Archives offices will be closed.*

The West Virginia Library Commission Library in the Culture Center is closed weekends and all holidays.

Continued from the previous page would avoid suspicion and perhaps prosecution. Undertakers should and usually do attend to this certificate, but there are large areas in West Virginia where no undertakers are available. In these cases, persons handling the corpse are responsible. Until these records are made accurate, the department of health has no means of keeping accurate check on fatal diseases: consequently, cannot take steps to improve health conditions.”

As an aid to putting West Virginia in good standing with the U.S. government, the registrars of Cabell county are given below, with whom these records should be filed. [Registrars for each Cabell County district were listed with their four-digit telephone numbers.] The editor thanks Mary

Johnson for bringing this article to her attention.

History Day Forms For 2014 Available

History Day in 2014 will be on Thursday, February 13, a week earlier than usual. During the week of October 21, Display Space and History Hero nomination forms were mailed to historical, genealogical, and preservation societies on our regular mailing list, as well as to other groups that have participated in recent years. The deadline for submitting **History Hero** nominations remains *December 31*, while forms requesting **Display Space** are due by *January 22*. Please make note of these deadlines.

History Day forms are available on the Archives and

History Web site at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/historyday/historyday2014announcement.html> or can be obtained by contacting Mary Johnson at mary.e.johnson2@wv.gov or (304) 558-0230.

Web Sites of Interest

Report to the Congress of the United States: Report of the Restrictions on Persons of Italian Ancestry during World War II: U.S. Dept. of Justice, 2001, <http://permanent.access.gpo.gov/lps16164/italian.pdf>.

Report gives full listing of laws and restrictions during wartime, and Appendices C through J contain lists of names and locations of persons interned, called before an Individual Exclusion Board, relocated, arrested for violations, etc.

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 and **History NEWS**

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WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

Let us know what you find helpful in the newsletter, and what new topics you would like covered. Contact *West Virginia Archives and History News* Editor Susan Scouras, (304) 558-0230, Ext. 742, or by e-mail: susan.c.scouras@wv.gov.

www.wvculture.org/history

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