

McDowell County FACES Newsletter

The FACES of HOPE

September, 2010

facesfrn.com

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What's In The Month:

September's birthstone is the sapphire.

September's birth flower is the morning glory.

August holidays—none.

LABOR DAY is the only legal holiday in September. It is celebrated in both the United States and Canada.

On September 17th, both Citizenship Day and Constitution Day are observed in the United States. Mexicans and many Mexican-Americans will celebrate the Mexican Independence days on September 15 and 16.

September is one of the warmest months in the Southern United States. First day of fall is 23rd.

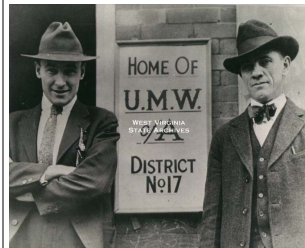
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Labor Day: How it Came About. What it Means.

Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.

More than 100 years after the first Labor Day observance, there is still some doubt as to who first proposed the holiday for workers. The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City, in accordance with the plans of the Central Labor Union. The Central Labor Union held its second Labor Day holiday just a year later, on September 5, 1883.



In 1884 the first Monday in September was selected as the holiday, as originally proposed, and the Central Labor Union urged similar organizations in other cities to follow the example of New York and celebrate a "workingmen's holiday" on that date. The idea spread with the growth of labor organizations, and in 1885 Labor Day was celebrated in many industrial centers of the country.

The form that the observance and celebration of Labor Day should take were outlined in the first proposal of the holiday — a street parade to exhibit to the public "the strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations" of the community, followed by a festival for the recreation and amusement of the workers and their families. This became the pattern for the celebrations of Labor Day.



- 2 Speeches by prominent men and women were introduced later, as more emphasis was placed upon the economic and civic significance of the holiday. Still later, by a resolution of the American Federation of Labor convention of 1909, the Sunday preceding Labor Day was adopted as Labor Sunday and dedicated to the spiritual and educational aspects of the labor movement.
- 2 The character of the Labor Day celebration has undergone a change in recent years, especially in large industrial centers where mass displays and huge parades have proved a problem. This change, however, is more a shift in emphasis and medium of expression. Labor Day addresses by leading union officials, industrialists, educators, clerics and government officials are given wide coverage in newspapers, radio, and television.
- 4 The vital force of labor added materially to the highest standard of living and the greatest production the world has ever known and has brought us closer to the realization of our traditional ideals of economic and political democracy. It is appropriate, therefore, that the nation pay tribute on Labor Day to the creator of so much of the nation's strength, freedom, and leadership — the American worker.

While Celebrating Labor Day Don't Forget The Unemployed

When coal was king, there were nearly 120,000 people living in McDowell County, WV. Jobs were easy to obtain, unemployment was minimal and even though life was hard, it was good. Welch was called "little New York" because of the numbers of people coming into town on the weekends.

Since the 1980's however we have seen a decline in coal mining jobs even though the tonnage of coal being mined has remained steady. With the unemployment people began leaving the county in the masses, leaving us with a current

population of 22,707 and a July 2010 unemployment rate of 12% while West Virginia rate was 8.6%.

The new Kids Count Data Book depicts there were only 1,626 children under age six (6) in 2008. Only 24% of those children lived in families with parents in the labor force. The poverty rate for our children under the age of 18 is maintained at 47%.

While we celebrate this labor day with picnics, parades, and festivals, let us take a moment to think of those less fortunate that are unem-

ployed, impoverished, and in need. Can this county be great again—I think so! What can each of us do to make a difference? That is a question only each individual can answer but everyone can do something—what is your calling?



SAFE/SHED Welcomes New Executive Director

Jennifer Thacker grew up in Wyoming County in Kopperston Lower Camp, where she has lived most of my life. Her parents are John and Judy Thacker. Jennifer graduated from Oceana High School and Concord with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a minor in Social Work.

She began her career as a case manager for the Wyoming County Op-

portunity Council, Child Care Resource and Referral Program. She wanted to give something back to the community where she grew up. She is pursuing an Executive MBA at Marshall University. While working at MountainHeart she received recognition as both Employee of the Year and Supervisor of the Year.

Jennifer will become the SAFE/

SHED Executive Director on September 1, 2010. As the new Executive Director for SAFE/SHED, she is committed to fulfilling the vision that the 7 founding fathers set forth in 1981. She is devoted to the mission "**breaking the cycle of violence and empowering individuals and families**". Jennifer looks forward to having the opportunity to lead SAFE/SHED into its next 25 years.

McDowell BOE Welcomes New Superintendent

James (Jim) G. Brown was born in Shadyside, Ohio. He has a wife who works in Huntington and one son that is attending Marshall University as a freshman.

Mr. Brown completed his Masters Program at Marshall University. He spent 23 years in Tyler County, WV as a teacher, principal, and in the central office with special education. He coached basketball for 21 years. He worked in the State Department of Education in special education.

While there are always negative opinions about McDowell County His vision is to work to change the negative image and to remind ourselves of the positives and to build on those. He wants our county to meet the challenges and do things better.

The specific issues he wants to address are the test scores and facilities. While we acknowledge the scores are a problem we want to use this as an opportunity to envision ways to improve them. While we have new beautiful facilities,

we must maintain them with a comprehensive plan. All facilities have been inspected and safety issues are the number one priority. The custodians and maintenance crews have worked extremely hard and are committed to the task.

Staffing issues continue to plague the state and McDowell currently has 30 positions posted for the county.

It is a challenge but we will rise to it.

LIFELINE/SAFELINK FACT SHEET

The federal "Lifeline" program was created during the Reagan Administration. Lifeline is a federal program created by the Reagan era Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in 1984. The program was enhanced under Telecommunications Act of 1996, which was supported on a broadly bipartisan basis in Congress. The FCC's Low Income Program of the Universal Service Fund, which is administered by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), is designed to ensure that quality telecommunications services are available to low-income customers at just, reasonable, and affordable rates. Lifeline support reduces eligible low-income consumers' monthly charges for basic telephone service.

Thanks to SafeLink, Lifeline support is now available for wireless phones. Traditionally, the Lifeline program was only available as a discount on a consumer's landline telephone bill. SafeLink Wireless was created by TracFone Wireless, Inc. when the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) recently approved the company to offer Lifeline -- a public assistance program that ensures telephone service is available and affordable for low-income subscribers. SafeLink Wireless applies the Universal Service Fund subsidy to an allotment of free airtime minutes and TracFone provides the wireless handset at the company's expense. Instead of receiving a subsidized monthly telephone bill for Lifeline service, SafeLink converts the total amount of discounted service into minutes each month for one year. The cell phone offers in-demand features: voicemail, text, three-way calling, call waiting, caller ID and access to 911.



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SafeLink phones are not paid for by taxpayers or the federal government. TracFone Wireless pays for the phones and also the cost of promoting its SafeLink program to make sure that eligible consumers know about the program.

SafeLink Wireless is making the vision of universal access to telecommunications services for all Americans a reality. *The Welch area is listed for services available through the program.*

Only certain Americans are eligible for SafeLink. Eligibility guidelines vary by state but in general individuals qualify if they participate in a public assistance program such as Food Stamps, Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), National Free School Lunch, Federal Housing/Section 8 Assistance, or if they do not receive any of these public assistance programs, they may also qualify based on total household gross monthly income. Customers can learn more or apply by calling 1-800-SAFELINK or visiting www.SafeLink.com

Your exact benefits, including the number of free Minutes you will receive, depend on the state you live in.

Through SafeLink Wireless' Lifeline Service you can receive:

1. A FREE SafeLink Wireless phone
2. Three different plans to choose from with FREE Monthly minutes
3. You qualify for Lifeline Service in your area if... You already participate in one of the following assistance programs:
 - ⇒ Emergency Assistance (EA)
 - ⇒ Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
 - ⇒ Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP)

- ⇒ Medicaid
- ⇒ National School Lunch (Free program only)
- ⇒ School Clothing Allowance (SCA)
- ⇒ Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) formerly the Food Stamps Program
- ⇒ Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- ⇒ WV Children's Health Insurance Program (WV CHIP)
- ⇒ No one in your household currently receives Lifeline Assistance through another phone carrier. If someone in your household is receiving Lifeline Assistance you must cancel the service before applying for Lifeline Service through SafeLink Wireless.
- ⇒ You have a valid United States Postal Address. In order for us to ship you your FREE phone you must live at a residence that can receive mail from the US Post Office. Sorry, but P.O. Boxes cannot be accepted.

Applying for SafeLink Wireless Service in your area is quick and easy, and by using this site you can be approved in less than ten minutes. To apply, just follow these steps:

1. Fill out the application on this website:
www.safelinkwireless.com/EnrollmentPublic/benefits.aspx
2. Download the completed application for your records.
3. Write down the Enrollment ID that we provide when you fill out your application! With your ID you will be able to check on the status of your application at:
www.safelinkwireless.com/EnrollmentPublic/check_enroll.aspx, or by calling us at **1-800-977-3768**.

MCDOWELL COUNTY FACES NEWSLETTER

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National Youth Leadership Initiative, West Virginia

As you may recall, the NYLI is a component of the National Coalition Academy developed by [CADCA's National Coalition Institute](#). During the year long training, youth work side by side with their adult advisors to learn how to help your coalition be more effective in creating meaningful changes in your community. Youth learn about the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF), how to create logic models, strategic planning, developing interventions, advocating for change, evaluation, and sustainability. The NYLI experience teaches what is required to create and nurture the growth of committed leaders and their work within coalitions. Meanwhile, through the process youth gain leadership skills that will prove valuable no matter what career path their future takes them.

During the NYLI experience, both youth and their adult coaches will work together to be better equipped to develop an action plan that clearly defines the strategies that young leaders will carry out to address the problems and goals that the coalition is striving to affect.

Courses for the West Virginia NYLI program are still in development and will include:

- Change Agents Leading the Way
- Analyzing the Problem
- Developing Interventions
- Advocating for Change
- Putting It All Together
- Photovoice
- Defining Your Community
- Developing a Model for Change
- Action Planning
- Measuring Success & Sustainability
- Team Teach Back

To participate in the NYLI, both youth and adult attendees **must** participate in all sessions (three 4-day sessions and monthly webinars/conference calls) and will work together to achieve the highest quality outcomes. More details will be sent to the Board of Education, Principals, and Counselors.

HOPE Coalition Happenings

Pancake Breakfast: Saturday, September 18, 2010 from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Sterling Drive Inn on Stewart Street, Welch, WV to support WV Breast and Cervical Diagnostic and Treatment Program.

Commission on Aging Health Fair: September 10, 2010 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Welch National Guard Armory.

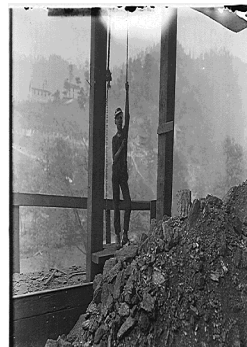
For more information on the event, to set up exhibitors tables, etc. contact Brenda Kelsor at 304-436-8012, ext. 25.

Prescription Drug Abuse Summit: September 27, 2010 at 10:30 a.m. at the McDowell Public Library to review forums and possible solutions to the problem.

Child Labor: *The West Virginia School Journal and Educator* April 1919

OWEN R. LOVEJOY, Secretary Nat'l. Child Labor Committee
"If West Virginia can achieve the impossible, other states can achieve the possible. Not that West Virginia has gone farther than any of those other states, but she had farther to go than most of them at present have to go. She lagged behind until it seemed that she would never catch up with the progressive states. Now she has placed on her statute books a law establishing a minimum age limit of sixteen years for mines, quarries, and all occupations dangerous to life or limb or injurious to health or morals."
"Formerly she permitted boys of fourteen to work in mines and quarries when schools were not in session, and the law contained no special provision as to dangerous and injurious occupations. The new law requires that no child shall receive a permit to enter any gainful occupation covered by the statute - and all occupations except agriculture and domestic service are covered - until he has undergone a physical examination by a public health physician or a public school physician".

This picture is a boy running "trip rope" at a tippel for Welch Mining Co in 1908. He is only 13 years old. He worked 10 hours a day.



This picture demonstrates that on May 11, 1919, child labor laws restricting the employment of children took effect.

