



**FREE**

*"The where to and how to magazine for the outdoor enthusiast."*

**Vol. 1 Issue 177**

**February 2008**



***INSIDE THIS ISSUE***

**Trout  
Tips**

**BOW  
Hunt**

**DNR  
Updates**

**Outdoor Photos**

# 7th Annual Summer Bash 2008

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# Ellenboro Volunteer Fire Department

Held at the Legendary Pennsboro Speedway in Pennsboro, West Virginia!

Great Food & Drinks provided at Noon on **Saturday**, July 26, 2008 at no charge to Ticket Holder & **One** Paid Guest - See Rules for Details.

Drawings held on **Saturday, July 26, 2008**  
Gates open on **Thursday, July 24, 2008**

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**EARLY BIRD 1: 20 Additional Chances of \$500.00 for 2008 Summer Bash stubs returned to the Ellenboro VFD by Noon on March 29th, 2008**

**EARLY BIRD 2: 16 Additional Chances of \$500.00 & 2 Chances of \$1,000.00 for 2008 Summer Bash stubs returned to the Ellenboro VFD by Noon on May 31st, 2008**

Featuring **JOE DIFFIE** on Friday, July 25, 2008 at 9 PM. You must be a \$100.00 – 2008 Summer Bash ticket holder in order to attend. Joe Diffie's performance will be followed by fireworks, weather permitting. Ticket guest payment **ONLY** applies to Saturday's Summer Bash...**Not Friday's** performance. See Rules for Details. There will be entertainment on Saturday beginning at 9 PM.



You must be at least 18 years of age to be in the campground or on the drawing grounds **at any time. No Exceptions!**

**JOE DIFFIE** Summer Bash  
**Friday** **Saturday**  
**July 25, 2008** **July 26, 2008**

Credit Card orders **ONLY** on our website through **PayPal** until sold out **or** Saturday, July 12, 2008 at 5 p.m. (whichever comes first). You **Do Not** have to be a member of PayPal in order to purchase our tickets through them. No Telephone Orders!

TIME PRIZE

- 3:45 - \$2,500.00
- 3:50 - Ruger Red Label
- 3:55 - Browning A-Bolt Medallion
- 4:00 - 2008 Ford Sport Trac 4x4
- 4:05 - Remington 870 12 ga
- 4:10 - Remington 700 CDL
- 4:15 - \$2,500.00
- 4:20 - Weatherby Orion Upland
- 4:25 - \$2,000.00
- 4:30 - 2008 G-3 188 Pontoon Boat
- 4:35 - Ruger Hawkeye
- 4:40 - Tikka T-3 Hunter
- 4:45 - \$1,500.00
- 4:50 - Weatherby MARK V Sporter
- 4:55 - \$2,000.00
- 5:00 - 2008 Lincoln MKX AWD
- 5:05 - Remington 700 CDL
- 5:10 - Remington 870 12 ga
- 5:15 - \$2,000.00
- 5:20 - Browning A-Bolt Medallion
- 5:25 - \$1,500.00
- 5:30 - 2008 Harley-Davidson Fatboy
- 5:35 - \$2,000.00
- 5:40 - Weatherby Seven CDL
- 5:45 - \$1,500.00
- 5:50 - Ruger Hawkeye
- 5:55 - Remington 700 CDL
- 6:00 - 2008 Mercedes-Benz SLK 280
- 6:05 - Browning A-Bolt Micro Hunter
- 6:10 - Weatherby MARK V Sporter
- 6:15 - \$2,000.00
- 6:20 - Remington 700 CDL
- 6:25 - \$1,500.00
- 6:30 - 2008 Glastron MX 175 Pleasure Boat
- 6:35 - \$1,500.00
- 6:40 - \$2,000.00
- 6:45 - \$1,500.00
- 6:50 - Cabelas Hunting Trip
- 6:55 - \$3,000.00
- 7:00 - 10-\$1,000.00 Winners  
(Match WV Daily 3 Last Numbers)
- 7:00 - \$100,000.00 (Match WV Daily 4 Exactly)

Ticket #s 0000-1111-2222-3333-4444-5555-6666-7777-8888-9999 Instant Winners of \$1,000.00

TIME PRIZE

- NOON - 2008 Silverado Crew Cab 4x4
- 12:05 - \$2,000.00
- 12:10 - Ruger Red Label
- 12:15 - \$2,000.00
- 12:20 - Browning A-Bolt Medallion
- 12:25 - \$1,500.00
- 12:30 - 2008 Yamaha Grizzly 4x4
- 12:35 - Remington 700 CDL
- 12:40 - \$2,500.00
- 12:45 - \$2,500.00 LeRoy's Shopping Spree
- 12:50 - Tikka T-3 Laminated
- 12:55 - \$1,500.00
- 1:00 - 2008 Pontiac Solstice Conv
- 1:05 - Weatherby MARK V Sporter
- 1:10 - Ruger Hawkeye
- 1:15 - 2008 Camper
- 1:20 - Browning A-Bolt Medallion
- 1:25 - \$2,000.00
- 1:30 - 2008 Ranger 170 VX Bass Boat
- 1:35 - Weatherby Orion Upland
- 1:40 - Remington 700 CDL
- 1:45 - \$1,500.00
- 1:50 - Ruger Red Label
- 1:55 - \$2,500.00
- 2:00 - 2008 Toyota Tundra 4x4
- 2:05 - Tikka T-3 Laminated
- 2:10 - \$1,500.00
- 2:15 - \$2,000.00
- 2:20 - Browning A-Bolt Medallion
- 2:25 - \$2,500.00
- 2:30 - 2008 Harley-Davidson Softail Heritage
- 2:35 - Weatherby MARK V Sporter
- 2:40 - Remington 11-87 Prem Super Mag 12 ga
- 2:45 - 2008 Polaris 300 4 x 4
- 2:50 - Thompson/Center Encore Shotgun 12 ga
- 2:55 - Ruger Hawkeye
- 3:00 - 2008 GMC Acadia AWD
- 3:05 - Remington 700 CDL
- 3:10 - Weatherby MARK V Sporter
- 3:15 - \$2,000.00
- 3:20 - Tikka T-3 Laminated
- 3:25 - Remington Seven CDL
- 3:30 - 2008 Yamaha Rhino 450 4x4
- 3:35 - \$2,000.00
- 3:40 - Ruger Hawkeye

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**Volume 1 Issue 177**

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**Mark A. Goudy**

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Natural Resources

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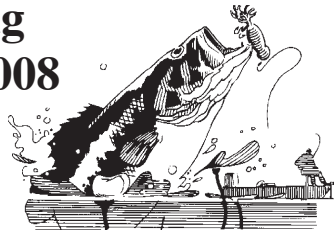
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## Cover Photo

A quality Logan County bow  
buck scored 144 P&Y. Dana  
Dean brought in this massive  
buck.

Some of the email photos were  
inadvertently deleted that were  
sent in. If you have sent pics  
this way and they do not appear,  
please send in again.

Look for this magazine on the  
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*Photo courtesy of Cardinal Pawnbrokers  
in Beckley.*

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## Brothers Of The String

By Todd Petrunger

As the alarm went off, I eagerly arose from my camper bed. The night had seemed to stretch on for hours. I could barely sleep at all. I ran to the camper door with the same level of anticipation a child has on Christmas morning, running to see what presents lie beneath the Christmas tree. I slowly stuck my head out the door to see what the weather was like. The cold northern air hit my lungs like a sledgehammer. A thick white frost covered everything in sight. One by one I saw lights turn on in the other campers. My face lit up like the 4th of July. This is what we had all been waiting for. It was the first week of November and the first day of our annual bow hunting trip on Cheat Mountain.

As the coffee was perking, I did a quick check to make sure nothing would be forgotten ... range finder, release, safety harness, hand warm-

ers, pull up rope ... yup, it's all there. Breakfast was a bowl of oatmeal and a cup of coffee. Not a five-star breakfast by any means, but it would do. After eating breakfast I loaded my gear into the truck, wished the others good luck, and started off to one of my favorite stand sites.

As I drove out the long ridge high atop Cheat, I could see the mighty spruce tops silhouetted against a bright red morning sky. A storm was moving in. The latest weather synopsis forecasted a rain/sleet mix for the area later that evening. I eased down the slow moving creek bed, weaving in and out of the pines and laurel, until I reached the spruce that held my stand. As I first made eye contact with the stand, it was

continue to the next page

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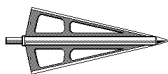
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Todd Petrunger, from Princeton, with his Randolph County bear.

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**Game  
Check**



Sophia Adams, from Reader, shot a 10 point in Wetzel County.

Feb. 2008 ~ Page 4

## New Building Tin

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like seeing an old friend that I had not seen or spoken to for a long time. I climbed up and into the stand, secured my safety harness, and pulled my bow up.

I looked at my watch ... 7:05 a.m. Perfect! It was a calm morning. The sounds of the slow moving creek trickling down the hollow, along with a few song birds, filled my ears. I could not help but laugh as a couple of red squirrels, or as I like to call them, mountain boomers, began chasing one another up and down the trees.

No more than 30 minutes had passed when I caught movement to my right. Slowly turning my head, I could see a nice mature doe easing down the ridge. The rays of light glistened from the frost on her back as she made her way through the thick pines, stopping directly under my stand. She kept looking back up the hill, as if she anticipated other deer were close by. Sure enough, two yearlings came prancing out of the laurel and made their way down the same trail. The doe began licking the little ones on their faces as they stood contentedly by her side.

I glanced down at my watch again ... 7:35 a.m. Suddenly a loud crash off in the distance made my heart skip a beat. It's that kind of feel-

continue to the next page



Tabitha Sanchez shot a buck. Photo courtesy of Starcher's Sport Shop in Lu-beck.

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Glen Hawkins, from Hico, bagged a nice Fayette County buck..

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like seeing an old friend that I had not seen or spoken to for a long time. I climbed up and into the stand, secured my safety harness, and pulled my bow up.

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I glanced down at my watch again ... 7:35 a.m. Suddenly a loud crash off in the distance made my heart skip a beat. It's that kind of feeling you get when someone shoots a high-powered rifle just a short distance away and you're not expecting it. I almost jumped out of the tree.



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It sounded like a rotten log or a tree had smashed into the forest floor. The deer, which now stood about 20 yards from me, were in full alert mode: heads up, ears out, locked in one position as they peered off into the distance. After several agonizing minutes the big doe slammed her front hoof down, snorted, and ran off to my left. The two yearlings ran directly away from the front of the stand.

I knew that something was coming, but what could it be? Was it a buck? Was it another hunter? I grabbed my bow and clipped my release to the bow string. Whatever it was it was heading in my direction. My heart started beating extremely fast, and I could feel my legs start to shake. The small group of pines which stood about 25 yards from the stand began moving back and forth. I heard what sounded like something exhaling very loud. All of a sudden a large black bear sprang out of the thicket, into the creek below the stand. I can't believe this ... I can't believe this ... is all that was going through my mind. The mighty bruin stood up on his hind legs as if to get a better look at where his prey might

have vanished. The bear dropped to all fours, head to the ground, nostrils working overtime to pick up the scent, then scurried off in the direction the two yearlings had gone.

As the bear went out of sight, I said to myself, "I can't believe I didn't get a shot." I mean it all happened so fast that by the time I started to pull my bow back, he was walking directly away from me.

Suddenly I snapped back to reality, continue to the next page



Dave Dobbins hunted for this Gilmer County buck

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as the bear came scurrying back. At about 25 yards he stood up again, peering off into the pines directly behind me. This time it would be different though. As he dropped down onto all fours, he turned slightly quarterly away. By this time I was at full draw. "Stay calm, stay calm, and pick a spot." The sight settled in directly behind the shoulder. The green fiber optic pin seemed to glow against the jet black coat of fur. I gently squeezed the release, sending the Easton arrow and Thunderhead on the perfect course. The white-crested arrow sank up to the fletching exactly where I was aiming. The might black bear spun around in a circle, rolled over onto his back, and staggered off into the pines.

My heart was beating a million beats per minute. I closed my eyes and thanked God for letting my aim be true. It seemed like the bear had just made it into the pines when I heard the death moan. After a few seconds the woods became silent. I knew all the practice had paid off and that I had executed the shot to perfection.

I slid down the tree and ran up the hill to the truck in Olympic speed. I took off for camp to get some help tracking my bear. As I approached the camper, I began laying on the horn. I ran over to Mike's camper, beating on the door. "Mike, Mike,

I just shot a huge bear. Get up!" Mike, who had driven up from Alabama, came staggering to the door. "What! What! Slow down, slow down," he said. Mike practically had to tie me down; I was so excited. After about an hour and countless times of going over and over the story, we headed off to recover my bear.

Mike kept saying, "I can't believe I haven't been up here even a day, and I'm already tracking a bear." Both of us were ecstatic. We found the crested part of the arrow directly where the bear had stood. We had a perfect blood trail. It was like you had taken a five-gallon bucket of blood and poured it out down into the pines.

We hadn't gone more than 35 to 40 yards when we both spotted my bear. It was a large male bear with

huge paws and an enormous head. A true West Virginia trophy. Mike gave me a big hug and told me how proud he was of me. We took several photographs to seal the hunt in permanent memory.

I feel so blessed to have such great friends who share the same love of bow hunting, Cheat Mountain in all its beauty, and our time together, not just as friends, but as Brothers of the String.



Cory Booth caught a 5 pound bass.



Mark Brasky bagged a trophy out of state. Photo courtesy of Middle Cardinal Pawnbrokers in Beckley.



Sheila Coberly, from Clarksburg, has a Barbour County buck.



Todd Tennant, from Pleasant Valley, caught a 5 pound, 7 oz. brown trout.

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T S Lewis shot a nine point buck.  
*Photo courtesy of Starcher's Sport Shop in Lubeck.*



Veronica Burge used a bow for this nice buck. *Photo courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting Goods in Elkins.*



Rick Dunlap Jr. trapped a large bobcat. *Photo courtesy of Rick's Taxidermy in Buckhannon.*

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Young Becky Lantz, from Buckhannon, got her 1st deer.



Lewis Cales, from Sandstone, got a 9 point with a muzzleloader.

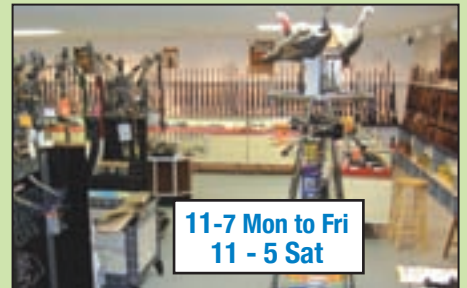


Chap Southern used a bow for this Mercer County black bear.

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Mark Meadows hunted in Lincoln County for this 8 pointer.



Kevin & Tom Lambert brought in a big Tygart River musky.



Malick Friend, from Albright, caught a big channel catfish.



Jared Swanns shot his first coyote.



Marlene Nelson, from Cabins, bagged a real nice 8 point buck.

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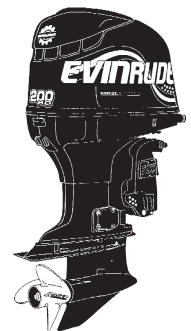
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J L Cook shot a big buck . Photo courtesy of Flintlock's Sporting Goods in Kingwood.



Nathan Lantz, from Buckhannon, shot an Upshur County 6 point.



Jason Priddy, from Hurricane, shot a Lincoln County 8 point. .

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Selling Boats!*

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boats



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## Black Bear Record Harvest

West Virginia bear hunters harvested a record 1,807 bears during the combined 2007 archery and firearms season, according to Frank Jezioro, Director of the Division of Natural Resources. This preliminary harvest data for the combined bear season is six percent higher than the 1,703 bears taken in 2006 and eclipses the previous record harvest of 1,730 bears established in 2003.

“A number of different factors contributed to the record harvest of 2007,” said Jezioro. “The state-wide spotty mast conditions helped archery hunters harvest the second highest archery harvest on record. The incredible bear population and average weather conditions in most of December enabled gun hunters to have their second highest harvest on record. In addition, hunters harvested bears in many non-traditional counties in the western, southern, and eastern portions of the state that added to the total.”

Gun hunters killed 1,071 bears, which is the second highest gun



Jason Priddy, from Hurricane, used his Matthews for this Ohio 10 point.

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**US HIGHWAY 33**

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harvest on record. The top five gun counties were Randolph (141), Pocahontas (123), Pendleton (115), Greenbrier (85), and Webster (78).

Archery hunters took 736 bears, which is 42 percent higher than the 2006 harvest. It ranks as the second highest archery harvest on record. The top five archery counties were Randolph (74), Webster (69), Greenbrier (54), Nicholas (50), and Preston (47).



Jake Boytek, from Switzer, used a bow for this Logan County bear.

## WANTED

### Game Photos From 2007



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City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Animal \_\_\_\_\_ Deer Points \_\_\_\_\_

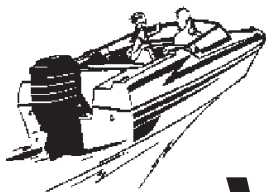
County \_\_\_\_\_ Gun \_\_\_\_\_ Bow \_\_\_\_\_



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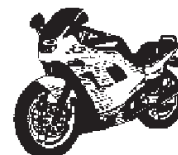


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## Coyote Cautions

As humans expand their living areas and coyotes expand their range as well, contact is inevitable. Most of the time, coyotes go out of their way to avoid humans, but they are discovering that humans are a good source for food. Resourceful and adaptable as coyotes are, they will take advantage of this when they can. In urban areas and in some National Parks the coyotes are changing their behavior.

The most serious problem is that the animals may become habituated to people. As they lose their fear of people, they will become bolder in approaching people and may put themselves in hazardous situations they would normally avoid.

Coyotes, if fed regularly by people, will come to depend on people for their food. They won't starve



Freddie Adkins shot a South Carolina wild boar.

if you stop feeding them, but they will be hungry and unafraid of people. They can get very aggressive in approaching other people. Some of the national parks now have coyotes that are begging for food. Children and adults have been bitten by coyotes in California, Arizona and other states. The most danger is in urban areas where young coyotes have learned to steal and beg for food. If they can't find food, then the small animals in the neighborhood will become their targets to solve their need for food. Children will also be at risk of being bitten. What you can do:

Coyotes are not your average dog -- they are not to be messed with.  
continue to the next page



Cody Coburn brought in a big Mercer County buck.

*Get Ready For Hunting Season With Our Large Selection Of*

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SAFES



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They are smart, and they learn quickly. They can be dangerous, and when it comes to urban coyotes, steps should be taken to avoid encouraging them to visit your neighborhood. That means close garbage can lids tightly, do not leave pet food outside and do not leave small pets outside unaccompanied.

Coyotes love nothing better than cats and frequently take small dogs. Inform neighbors of your sighting and encourage them to take steps NOT to attract the clever little varmints. Remember: Make sure that no pet food is ever left outdoors.

When walking a small dog where coyotes are present, take along walking stick or some device that can make a loud noise. The dog should always be on a leash. Large dogs (35 lbs and up) in general are not at risk to a coyote attack.

If a wild coyote bites you or your dog, you need to get the proper medical treatment. A person or animal that has been infected with rabies will die without the proper medical treatment. You will have to get a series of rabies shots and maybe a tetanus shot.

Coyotes usually present little danger to livestock. While they are



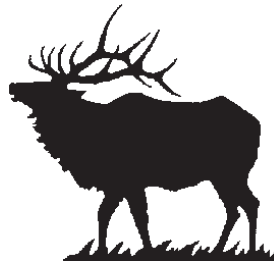
Jeff Montgomery hunted this 6 point..

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normally fairly solitary or roam in small groups, at times they may gang up and attack larger animals  
continue to the next page

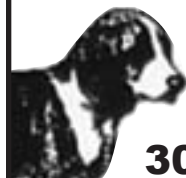


Eli Gain, from Slalem, used a bow for this 9 point Doddridge County deer.



Stanley Purdy brought in a real nice 10 point. Photo courtesy of Dee's Sporting Goods in Hamlin.

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such as sheep or a pony. During foaling time, do not let foals out without a human around at all times. Coyotes will attack sheep and foals but not adult cattle or horses unless such livestock are sick or extremely weak.

**Food & Hunting**

A coyote travels over its range and hunts both day and night, running swiftly and catching prey easily. It has a varied diet and seems able to exist on whatever the area offers in the way of food. Coyotes eat meat and fish, either fresh or spoiled, and at times eat fruit and vegetable matter and have even been known to raid melon patches.

Although the coyote has been observed killing sheep, poultry and

continue to the next page



Michael Plumley shot an 8 point. Photo courtesy of Dee's Sporting Goods in Hamlin.

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Randall Wells, from Williamstown, tagged an 8 point.



Henry Starkey, from Vienna, bagged a Jackson County buck.

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other livestock, it does not subsist on domestic animals. Food habit studies reveal that its principle diet is composed of mice, rabbits, ground squirrels, other small rodents, insects, even reptiles, and fruits and berries of wild plants.

The coyote is an opportunistic predator that uses a variety of hunting techniques to catch small mammals likes rabbits and squir-

rels, which comprise the bulk of its diet. Although it hunts alone to catch small prey, it may join with others in hunting larger mammals like young deer or a pony.

The coyote often tracks its prey using its excellent sense of smell, then stalks it for 20-30 minutes before pouncing. It may also take advantage of its stamina to chase its prey over long distances, and then strike when the quarry is exhausted.

In the dry season they may try to dig for water or find a cattle tank to have a drink. They also derive moisture from their diet. Everything they eat has some moisture in it. There are also the Coyote Melons which grow in the desert. To humans, they taste terrible but they provide moisture and coyotes and javelina are about the only animals that eat them.

Urban coyotes do take advantage of swimming pools, dog water dishes, ponds and water hazards at golf courses and other water bearing human artifacts as a source of moisture. However, the majority of coyotes never see people.



Jamie Wicker had an impressive 10 point. *Photo courtesy of Starcher's Sport Shop in Lubeck.*



In the youth hunt, Ryan Swiger, from Morgantown, got a doe..



Young Jacob Highley, from Middlebourne, shot his 1st buck.

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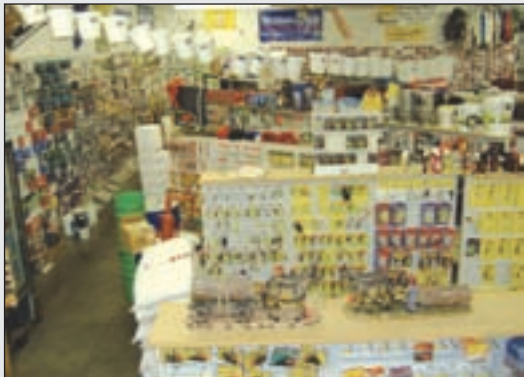


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Stop By Justin's Before Your Next Hunting Or Fishing Trip!



Haley Fluharty took her 1st black bear. Photo courtesy of Holmes Market in Moundsville.



Dakota Nicely got his 1st deer. Photo courtesy of Justin's Hunting & Fishing in Huntington.

Mail In Your **BIG FISH** Pictures  
From The 2007 Season.  
Form Is On Page 37

## Starcher's Sport Shop



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Open Mon. to Sat. 7AM to 7PM

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Just South Of **LUBECK, WV** On Rt.68



Greg Childers went out of state for this big buck. Photo courtesy of Cardinal Pawnbrokers in Beckley.



Clint McFee, from Elizabeth, shot a large 10 point.




Julia Tinney, 14 years old, used a bow for this 425 pound Randolph County black bear.



Kevin McClain bagged a buck with an unusual rack. *Photo courtesy of J & R Sporting Goods in Shinnston.*



Josh Harper used a bow for this Pendleton County 8 point.




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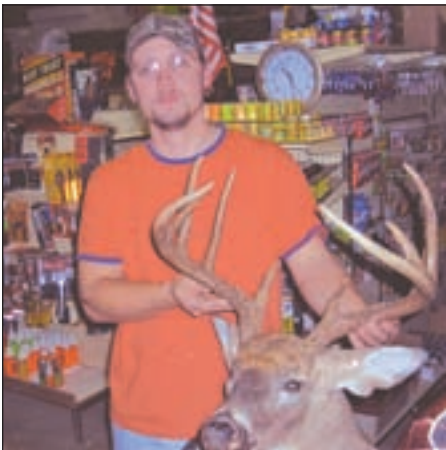
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Jim Gum used a bow for this nice buck. Photo courtesy Dee's Sporting Goods in Hamlin.



David Mike shot a big 10 point. Photo courtesy of J & R Sporting Goods in Shinnston.



Kevin Custer went out-of-state for this buck. Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.



Jake & Casey Cales used their Matthews bow to take two Wyoming County P&Y bucks on the same day. Photo courtesy of Cardinal Pawnbrokers in Beckley.

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Feb. 2008 ~ Page 22

# NWTF Assists In WV

Administered jointly by the NWTF, its state chapters and state wildlife agencies, the Hunting Heritage Super Fund is used for projects that support the conservation of the wild turkey and preservation of the hunting tradition. Nationally, NWTF chapters and cooperating partners have raised and spent more than \$258 million for wild turkey conservation. Since 1985 over \$785,564 has been raised and spent by West Virginia chapters on projects within the state. A sampling of these projects is provided below.

## Habitat Enhancement



Jake Boytek, from Switzer, shot a big turkey in Logan County.

Spent \$126,384 on habitat improvement projects.

- maintenance and development of brood habitat
- wildlife openings
- prescribed fire
- tree planting
- riparian restoration
- water development projects
- control of invasive plant species
- support for seed subsidy and conservation seed programs

Habitat enhancement projects have impacted more than 1,318 acres within the state.

- 595 acres of wildlife openings

Purchased equipment for habitat management including:

- 1 trailer
- 1 drill
- 1 seeder



Projects were completed on:

- Cecil H. Underwood WMA

continue to the next page

ATV's Motorcycles

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BUCKHANNON WVA

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Josh Murray took his 1st Ohio buck. Photo courtesy of Starcher's Sport Shop in Lubeck.

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FISHING TACKLE - GROCERIES**

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fall hunting &  
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- Cheat WMA
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- Jug WMA
- Lewis Wetzel WMA
- Monongahela National Forest
- Nathaniel Mountain WMA
- Sleepy Creek WMA
- Stonewall Jackson Lake WMA
- Summersville Lake WMA
- Wallback WMA

Education

Spent \$65,893 on educational programs and literature including scholarships, education boxes, 4-H and teacher workshops.

- Awarded 96 scholarships
- Donated more than 225 education boxes to area schools

Spent \$5,568 on educational projects for volunteers and profession-

continue to the next page



Young Eric Gilbert, from Parkersburg, harvested a nice Ohio buck.



Rick Jr & Rick Dunlap are shown with a nice buck. Photo courtesy of Rick's Taxidermy in Buckhannon.

## T&T Gun Shop

Jolynne Addition  
(off the Tallmansville Road)  
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DEER HUNTING SUPPLIES

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**Seneca Rocks, WV**

<http://wvoutdoors.com/yokums>



Robert Keaton shot a big 8 point with a wide rack. Photo courtesy of Dee's Sporting Goods in Hamlin.

als including:

- Volunteer leadership workshops
- Wild Turkey Woodlands field days
- State web sites and newsletters
- Purchased 122 educational CD-ROMs

### JAKES

Spent \$96,880 to introduce youth to outdoor activities, conservation and hunting. Sponsored 140 JAKES Conservation Field Days throughout the state.

### Hunting Heritage

Spent \$39,450 to protect and promote the hunting tradition including contributions to the U.S. Sportsman's Alliance and the National Shooting Sports Foundation. Hunter Safety



Tracy Cooper, from Barboursville, used a muzzleloader for this big Cabell County 8 point.

## Tex's Gun & Pawn Buckhannon, WV

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all of our loyal  
customers over the  
past years!*

### **HAPPY HUNTING!**

Spent \$7,735 to support hunter safety classes and initiatives within the state. Purchased hunter safety materials and equipment, including interactive shooting systems.

### Turkey Restoration

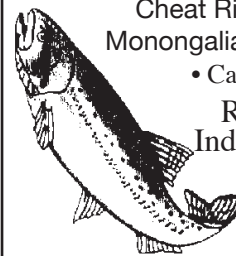
Spent \$345 to trap and transfer turkeys within the state. Expenses include the purchase of trapping equipment such as nets, rockets and rocket charges.

### Women's Programs

Spent \$8,350 on programs, materials and equipment to introduce women to the outdoors, hunting

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and conservation. Conducted 20 Women in the Outdoors events throughout the state.

### Rewards

Spent \$6,602 to protect wild turkeys and other wildlife through support of state sponsored reward programs, the printing of reward signs and reward payments.

### Management

Spent \$8,971 on wild turkey management.

- operation of wild turkey check stations
- hunter success and satisfaction surveys

continue to the next page



Jason Kessell, from Hurricane, took a Putnam County 8 point.



Brandon Coleman, from Clarksburg, used a bow for this 8 point.

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- completion of wild turkey management plans
- support of law enforcement activities

Purchased equipment to support law enforcement and management activities including:

- ATV's
- weight scales for check stations
- survey/surveillance cameras
- gates to limit vehicular access

**Land Purchase**

Spent \$285,117 to purchase 1,429 acres of land or conservation easements to preserve wildlife habitat and provide additional hunting areas.

**Research**

Spent \$49,312 on wild turkey re-



Scott Lively is shown with a couple of deer. Photo courtesy of H&S Sporting Goods in Princeton.

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search. Purchased equipment related to research such as radio telemetry equipment.

**Wheelin' Sportsmen**

Spent \$4,950 to provide opportunities for the disabled to participate in outdoor activities and learn about wildlife conservation. Conducted 8 Wheelin' Sportsmen events.

**Other**

Spent \$53,641 on other projects including organizational dues, travel expenses to professional meetings, special NWTf projects, and chapter rebates.



Scott Dobbins used a bow in Gilmer County for this good buck..



David Shrewsbury used a bow in Wyoming County for this 9 point..



Mariah Jones, age 9, hooked a 38 pound carp. Photo courtesy of Parson's One Stop in Grantsville.

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## Hunters Helping The Hungry

A total of 1,224 deer were donated to the Hunters Helping the Hungry (HHH) Program in 2007, exceeding last season's total of 1,030, according to the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR). "Thanks to the generous West Virginia hunters who donated deer to the HHH Program, many needy West Virginians will receive highly nutritious meals this year," according to Jerry Westfall, DNR, Wildlife Resources Section Coordinator for the Hunters Helping the Hungry (HHH) Program. "The high number of deer donated to the program and the correspondingly high poundage of venison distributed is up from last year."

DNR is reliant upon the collection and distribution of venison by Mountaineer Food Bank (Gasaway) & Huntington Food Bank. Two-pound packages of ground venison will continue to be distributed to participating food pantries, soup kitchens, senior centers and needy families throughout the state through the month of February. Although it is too late for non-enrolled food pantries, soup kitchens, or senior centers to receive venison this year, those interested are

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**GAME CHECKING**

encourage to enroll early this year so they may receive deer in 2009. Contact Mountaineer Food Bank at (304) 364-5518 to discuss the application process needed to receive venison next season. Interested parties are reminded that there is a 60-day application review process.

"Although DNR is very grateful for hunter-donated deer, the HHH Program still requires monetary donations to offset processing and distribution costs," said Westfall. DNR is restricted from using sportsmen's license dollars to fund this program, and is completely dependent upon donations by concerned individuals, businesses, conservation organizations, foundations, and churches. "Without this funding, we simply could not continue the HHH Program," said Westfall.

Anyone wishing to make a donation to the HHH Program, or wishing more information, should go to HHH Web page at: [www.wvdnr.gov/Hunting/HHH.shtm](http://www.wvdnr.gov/Hunting/HHH.shtm), or contact Jerry Westfall at (304) 558-2771; or e-mail [jerrywestfall@wvdnr.gov](mailto:jerrywestfall@wvdnr.gov).



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Becky Stalnaker used a bow to get this quality buck. *Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.*

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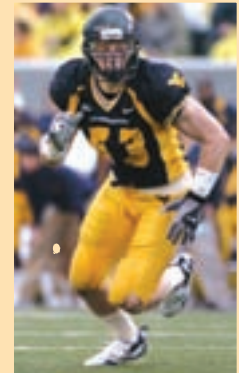
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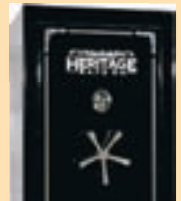
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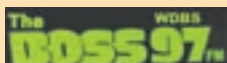
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The Nicholas Chronicle





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7 Cabins



Bobby Cooper, from McGraws, used a bow in Wyoming County for this 9 point massive buck.



Ashley Purdy shot a massive buck. Photo courtesy of Dee's Sporting Goods in Hamlin.



Rick Dunlap Jr. go a nice buck. Photo courtesy of Rick's Taxidermy in Buckhannon.

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 Details On Page 3**

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Logan Highley, from Middle-  
bourne, shot his 1st squirrel.



Mat Morgan, from Phillipi, caught  
a nice rainbow trout.

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Barry Toppings used a bow for this 10 point. Photo courtesy of Dee's Sporting Goods in Hamlin.



Barbara Bailey, from Wallback, shot a Clay County 8 pont.



Ricky & Dylan Jenkins went to the Double "D" Ranch for this fallow deer. Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.

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**INFO ON PAGE THREE**

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## Fish Consumption Advisory

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) has updated the West Virginia Sport Fish Consumption Advisory for 2008. West Virginia DHHR, through an interagency agreement, partners with the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Division of Natural Resources (DNR) to develop consumption advisories for fish caught in West Virginia. Fish consumption advisories are reviewed annually and help West Virginia anglers make educated choices about eating the fish they catch.

Certain West Virginia sport fish have been found to have low levels of chemicals like polychlorinated

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biphenyls (PCBs), mercury, selenium and dioxin. To protect the good health of West Virginians, the West Virginia DHHR offers an advisory for how often these fish can be safely eaten. An advisory is advice, and should not be viewed as law or regulation. It is intended to help anglers and their families make educated choices about: where to fish, what types of fish to eat, how to limit the amount and frequency of fish eaten, and how to prepare and cook fish to reduce contaminants.

This advisory covers only sport fish caught in West Virginia waters. Safety regulations and advisories for fish in the market place are the responsibility of the Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA). For more information you can contact the FDA at: [www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/mehgadvisory1208.html](http://www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/mehgadvisory1208.html).

The following updated 2008 advisory recommendation is the result  
continue to the next page



These hunters were busy trapping and going to the woods this season. Photo courtesy of Ritchie Realty in Ellenboro.



Donny Staats trapped a big bobcat.

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of reviewing new and recent fish tissue data. Data collected from lakes and rivers in West Virginia show that a general statewide advisory of sport-caught fish is appropriate. A review of this information indicates that mercury, PCBs, and dioxin are the chemicals of the greatest concern. If you would like more detailed information about these contaminants and the levels



Steve Wilson, from Belington, shot an 8 point Barbour County buck..

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measured, consult the DHHR Web Site at [www.wvdhhr.org/fish](http://www.wvdhhr.org/fish).

Changes to the current advisory are as follows:

- Consumption of rock bass statewide should be limited to two meals a month because of mercury.
- Follow statewide consumption advisories for all sport fish from Mount Storm Lake, Upper Mud Lake and Pinnacle Creek because of selenium.
- Limit the consumption of black bass less than twelve inches in length from Sutton Lake to one meal a month because of mercury.
- Limit the consumption of smallmouth bass less than twelve inches in length from the Greenbrier River and Fish Creek to one meal a month because of mercury.
- Limit the consumption of sauger from the Little Kanawha River to one meal a month because of mer-



Randy Townsend brought in a bobcat. Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth

304-884-6561

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cury.

- Meadow River rock bass are no longer listed as a site specific advisory. Anglers should now follow the statewide consumption advisory.
- Wheeling Creek has been removed from the site specific list because smallmouth bass less than twelve inches long are managed as catch and release only.

Body weight and meal size are important factors in fish advisories. This advisory is designed to keep the amount of chemicals you eat at a safe level.

[www.wvasportsman.net](http://www.wvasportsman.net)

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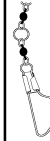
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**Trout Lure Casting Methods**

1 When starting out, it is important to focus on your back cast. The back cast is the basis of a good casts as it provides the platform for shooting forward again. Be careful not to overcast but you should give ample time for all of the line to go fully out behind you.

2 Take care to frequently clean your fishing line. It seems mundane but lines that are dirty with algae etc are less easy to cast with. After cleaning your line dress it to keep it nice and smooth for easier casting. Dressing your line more frequently will also improve the floatability of the line which will help with roll casts.

3 Start out with a "double taper dry line". This kind of fly fishing line is the easiest for beginners to get to grips with because a stiffer line

glides through the eyes of the fishing rod with more ease and does not get tangled as easily. When starting out, it is important to focus on your back cast. The back cast is the basis of a good casts as it provides the platform for shooting forward again. Be careful not to overcast but you should give ample time for all of the line to go fully out behind you.

4 Roll casting is a valuable technique in trout fishing. This technique is used when there is no scope for backcast, or when the wind is hostile. This casting method can also be used for picking the line off the water. In the roll cast you can adjust the loop size by adjusting the angle of the rod and also the speed.

continue to the next page



Brian Galloway, from Mount Clare, trapped a red fox in Harrison County



Joey Foutty's 1st deer was an 8 point. Photo courtesy of Starcher's Sport Shop in Lubeck.



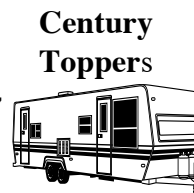
Billy Booth trapped a grey fox. Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.

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5 Here is how it is done. Tilt the rod slightly from your body; lift your hand to bring the rod tip to 1 o'clock position, keeping the line behind the rod, forming an arc behind the rod. Now force the rod sharply in forward and backward direction, accelerating to the 9:30 position, and stop suddenly. The forward motion will roll the line forward and straighten it.

6 Another casting method is a false cast. This method is used to change the directions of the cast. This is done by a combination of pickup and lay-down cast without allowing the line hit the water

7 If the line does not get straightened completely: Apply power on the cast again and make sure that the belly of the line is behind the rod, making it moving downward, not straight out.

8 If a tailing loop is formed: A tailing loop is formed when a sudden application of power happens in the forward direction. To avoid this, move forward forcing yourself with the rod in the 10 o'clock position and stop abruptly.

9 If the line is slack and loose: The problem here is with your line speed. In order to get a tight cast, the leader has to be unfolded at least half the way before your next casting motion. Make sure you

# EXHIBITOR BOOTH SPACE AVAILABLE

**There is still a limited amount of booth space available at the upcoming Summersville and Huntington Sport Shows. Look for the ads in this issue for information on these shows.**

**Contact - W. Va. Sportsman 304-295-8450**  
**For More Information And Costs.**

maintain a constant speed allowing the leader to speed the line up before the next casting.

10 When the line hits the rod: This happens very often in the windy conditions. To avoid this, slant the rod about 20 to 30 degrees away from your body, and do the casting. If it still does not work, follow the Opposite Shoulder Casting, i.e., casting by placing arms across your body.

11 When the line clutter at the end of the cast: This is often caused by the hasty casting. You should allow the line to go only after the rod turns to the 10 o'clock position.

12 Always make sure that the rod tip is along a straight line.

13 The size of the casting arc should be changed according the length of the line outside the rod tip.

14 The speed of casting should be adjusted according to the length of the line. As the line gets longer, the time span between two consecutive castings should also be more.

15 Make the back cast more powerful to ensure a long front cast.

16 Apart from learning these tactics, a systematic practice is required to change you to a professional trout hunter. Try your hand at it now.



This big buck was checked in at Brook's Sunoco in Glen Fork



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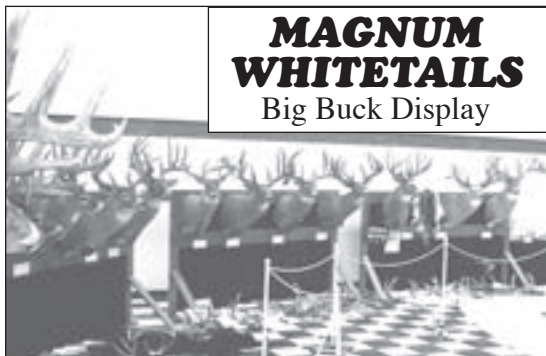
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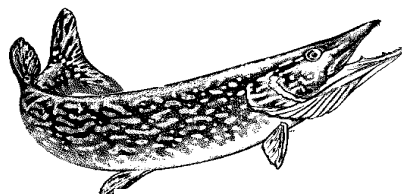
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