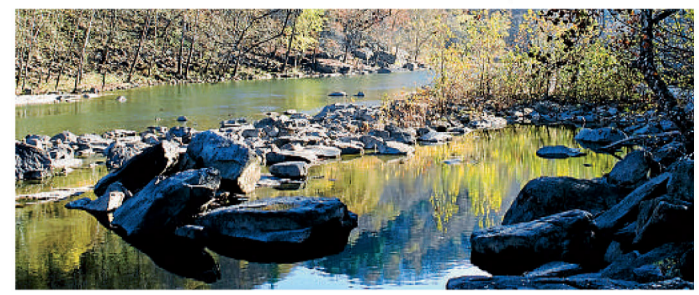




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# Sunday Gazette-Mail

THE STATE'S LARGEST NEWSPAPER

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**SIG STIMULUS MONEY**

## Federal school funds ebb

**Kanawha preparing to lose staff**

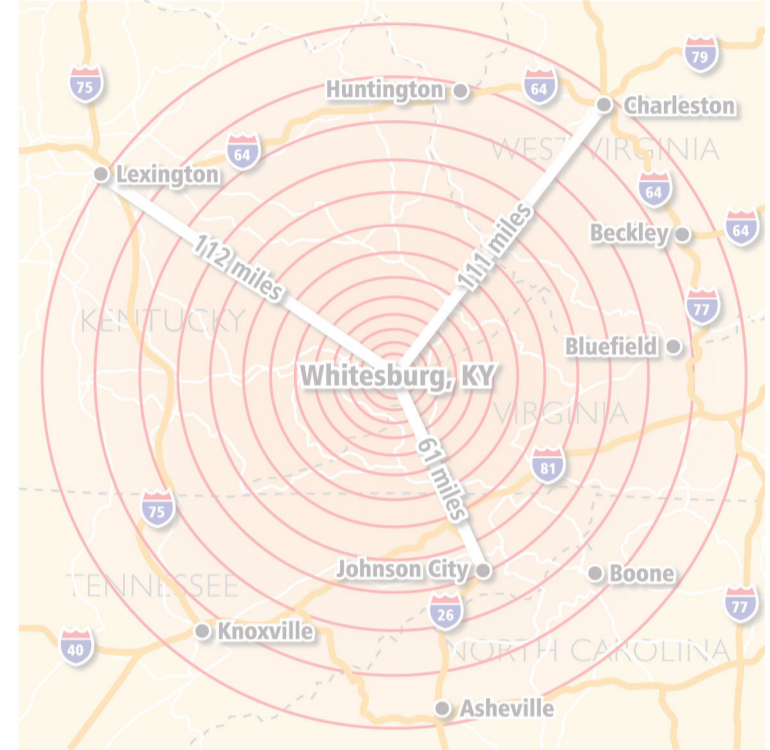
By Mackenzie Mays  
 Staff writer

In the past three years, Kanawha County has received nearly \$4 million in federal stimulus money to help turn around its lowest-achieving schools. Now that the funding

is drying up, school administrators are planning how to sustain the improvements they've made through the future, without the benefit of any extra money coming in. Last school year, about \$300,000 was spent among six of the county's schools on cut-

ting-edge supplies to help students learn, and another \$300,000 has gone to train teachers during conferences. More than \$730,000 paid salaries to recruit more teachers and "interventionists," who

SEE **SCHOOLS, 7A**



KYLE SLAGLE | Sunday Gazette-Mail illustration

## VETERANS, 'THANK YOU'



KENNY KEMP | Sunday Gazette-Mail photos

John Sauer leads the Sons of the American Revolution during Charleston's 70th annual Veterans Day Parade, which the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs selected as one of 62 "model communities" across the nation for this year's Veterans Day observance.

## Capital city holds 70th Veterans Day Parade

By Megan Workman  
 Staff writer

ONE in 10 West Virginians is a military veteran, and 3-year-old Katen Kelly calls two of those veterans mommy and daddy.

The Charleston youngster — wearing an American flag-inspired dress and a blue jean jacket — stood Saturday on the corner of Summers Street and Kanawha Boulevard with her parents, Erika and Kyle Kelly, and 14-month-old sister, Finley.

The 70th annual Charleston Veterans Day Parade passed the Kelly family as the sounds of marching band drums drifted in the unseasonably warm air.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs selected Charleston as one of 62 stand-out sites across the nation during this year's Veterans Day observance. It was the first time the capital city was selected as one of the VA's "model communities."

SEE **PARADE, 10A**



Sharon Grant and her 3-year-old granddaughter, Taygen, both of Winfield, watch the parade Saturday. Taygen Grant's father is deployed with the military in Afghanistan.

## Shakin' all over

Magnitude 4.3 quake rumbles region

By Kathryn Gregory  
 Staff writer

An Eastern Kentucky earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 4.3 was felt around the Kanawha Valley shortly after noon Saturday.

The earthquake, with an epicenter in Whitesburg, Ky. — about 111 miles southwest of Charleston — occurred at 12:08 p.m., according to the U.S. Geological Survey's Earthquake Hazards Program.

The quake, at a shallow depth of 0.7 mile, was in the Appalachian Mountains near the Virginia border. People in Ohio, Tennessee and Virginia also felt the quake.

A magnitude 2.5 aftershock struck the region at about 1:37 p.m., according to the USGS.

The National Weather Service in Charleston said no damage was reported, "although, in Putnam County, there were reports of items shaken off shelves."

Emergency 911 dispatchers in Kanawha, Putnam, Boone,

Jackson and Wood counties reported that they received several calls. No injuries or damage was reported in any of those counties.

Boone County residents told dispatchers they felt their houses shake.

In Jackson County, residents reported feeling "a little tremor," a dispatcher said. People who live in Ravenswood and Evans definitely felt the tremor, she said.

People took to social media sites minutes after the earthquake to see if anyone else felt the ground move.

According to posts on The Charleston Gazette's public Facebook page, residents from around the region said they felt the quake.

"I thought it was mountaintop blasting at first until other people started posting about it. That was weird!" Tina Nelson posted.

Clendenin resident Jodie Burdette said, "Our windows rattled as the whole house shook."

SEE **QUAKE, 11A**

**HEALTH**

## Diabetes association returning to W.Va.

By Kate Long  
 Staff writer

After nearly four years of absence from West Virginia, the American Diabetes Association will definitely come back in early 2013, an ADA official said this week.

"There's a lot of work to be done, so we're looking forward to being back," Lew Bartfield, ADA division vice president, told the Sunday Gazette-Mail.

"That's great news, welcome and timely," said Perry Bryant, director of West Virginians for Affordable Health Care. "The ADA could have an enormous impact in West Virginia with all the public education they're capable of doing."

An estimated quarter-million West Virginians have diabetes. Another 125,000 state residents are nearly diabetic, according to

the federal Centers for Disease Control. The state ranks either first or third in the nation in diabetes, depending on the poll.

The ADA closed its office in the state in 2009 after West Virginia fundraising contributions failed to meet the organization's goals.

"This time, the ADA will approach West Virginia with a mission-service agenda rather than a fundraising agenda," Bartfield said.

SEE **ADA, 7A**

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# ADA

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“We’ll take all the help we can get,” said Krista Farley, education director for the Kanawha-Charleston Health Department.

Farley is trying to set up diabetes education programs with limited resources in nine coalfield counties as part of the state’s Community Transformation Grant program. “It’s an overwhelming job.” Similar efforts are going on in all 55 counties. “If we can add the ADA, with all its resources, to the team, that would be tremendous.”

“It’s great to see an association like this decide to concentrate on its mission,” she said. “These organizations sometimes

## NEED TO KNOW

### Helpful ADA resources

*The ADA website — [www.diabetes.org](http://www.diabetes.org) — offers a wide range of practical, well-developed resources, including:*

- “Living with Type 2 Diabetes,” a free on-line self-help program that takes the diabetic step by step through the disease.
  - Advice about healthy diet and tasty recipes
  - Symptoms of diabetes and pre-diabetes
  - Ways to start and track an exercise program
- get so caught up in fundraising, their purpose gets lost. We very much welcome a mission-driven organization that recognizes what’s happening to people here and knows the impact they can have on our state.”

With its wealth of resources, the ADA

could play a big role in helping pre-diabetic West Virginians recognize their symptoms and go to their doctor and avoid diabetes, Bryant said.

“The ADA could provide education programs for children, too,” said Jennifer Honnaker, a longtime Huntington ADA volunteer who chaired the ADA’s state leadership council when the West Virginia office closed. “That’s where the greatest need is.”

“West Virginia is one of the battleground states as far as health issues go,” she said. “For the American Diabetes Association not to have a physical presence is a real loss to us and just embarrassing to the organization.”

The poor economy caused the office to close, Bartfield said. During the past four years, the ADA has, on paper, served West Virginia from Lexington, Ky.

That didn’t work well, he said.

“We have had a person in Lexington who was supposed to service West Virginia, but there really has not been any service.

“We need to do something of substance in West Virginia,” he said. In Kentucky, the ADA helped organize a statewide diabetes network and local ADA groups and supported them with materials and speakers.

Thanks in part to ADA’s lobbying, Kentucky counties got an average of 77 cents per person for diabetes in 2011, compared to West Virginia’s 6 cents per person.

In the past four years, at least 12 West Virginia counties have started diabetes coalitions to combat a surging epidemic. Many are struggling. The ADA “could be helpful to us in so many ways,” said Marshall University professor Richard Crespo.

“Just to have them physically present would be helpful and encouraging.”

“We certainly have missed the presence of a physical ADA office here in West Virginia, and we would love to work with them,” said Gina Wood, manager of the state’s Diabetes Prevention and Control Program.

Bartfield said that because the ADA won’t be fundraising, it hopes to limit overhead, perhaps by sharing space with an organization with similar goals. There’s already interest.

“We’d like to talk with them,” said Louise Reese of the West Virginia Primary Care Association. “All our members are actively providing diabetes control and prevention, so it would be a great fit — if it’s about education, not fundraising.”

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