May 26, 2020 Issue 8

## The Gravy Infusion

News, activities, and doings from the Loyal Jones Appalachian Center



## **More Appalachian Media**



"Inside Appalachia tells the stories of our people, and how they live today. Host Jessica Lilly leads us on an audio tour of our rich history, our food, our music and our culture.

Inside Appalachia is produced by West Virginia Public Radio production and broadcasted throughout other regional states as well. No need to fret if you don't happen to be located in the mountains however. The show is also available as a podcast." Find out all the different ways to listen at

https://www.wvpublic.org/program s/inside-appalachia#stream/0



"Eastern Standard is a radio magazine of interviews and stories about interesting people, places and things happening in central and Appalachian Kentucky. Our program is a community service of Eastern Kentucky University.

Supported by the Foundation for Appalachian Kentucky and the Appalachian Impact Fund, Eastern Standard airs on Thursdays at 11 am & 7 pm, and on Sunday evenings at 6 pm."

Find out more at esweku.com

"Light crept grayly, melting on the rocky river, the engine smoke streaked out on dawn like a cold breath, the hills were big, but nearer, nearer than he thought." ~ Thomas Wolfe

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## **Matewan: 100 Years Ago in Appalachian History**



Photo Courtesy of <a href="http://wvmetronews.com/">http://wvmetronews.com/</a>

Last Tuesday marked the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the legendary Battle of Matewan, the spark that ignited the <u>largest labor uprising</u> in United States history. For more than twenty years, southern West Virginia miners had been striving to unionize, and coal operators were equally determined to keep them out. On May 19, 1920, Matewan Police Chief Sid Hatfield and pro-union townspeople confronted Baldwin-Felts agents who were hired to break the months-long Mingo County strike and had evicted eight families from their homes. A gunfight erupted. When the smoke cleared, seven agents and four townspeople and miners lay dead, making Matewan an important symbolic stop on a generations-long march toward mineworkers' rights to organize unions. Click <u>here</u> to read what a West Virginia newspaper reported the day after. And you can learn more about this day in Matewan from the <u>West Virginia Encyclopedia</u>.

The Gravy Infusion wants to hear from you! Share your own favorite local news stories and histories with our community on our social media platforms by posting with #LJAC

"My feeling is that we mountaineers have a pretty realistic view of ourselves, and we don't take ourselves too seriously. We never believe that man [sic] could be perfect. We don't become cynical as others may when men fail. When they do not fail we are pleasantly surprised. These beliefs make us somewhat at peace with ourselves. We don't pretend we are something that we are not."



~Loyal Jones