

## Monsters in West Virginia

Sometimes late at night, when I'm lying in bed and can't sleep, I wonder what is out there in WV that no one has seen.

The story of the Moth Man in Point Pleasant, WV and the collapse of the Silver Bridge in the adjacent town of Gallipolis, OH fascinates me. On December 15, 1967 during rush hour traffic the bridge collapsed killing 46 people and injuring many others. An investigation revealed that the bridge was carrying much more weight than was allowed by law. The bridge was also poorly maintained. Very credible witnesses at the scene stated that they had seen the Moth Man right before the collapse. Some people believe the sighting and subsequent sightings were harbingers of this and other tragedies.

There have been sightings of UFOs all over the state of WV. In fact, the Flatwoods Monster or Phantom of Flatwoods made Braxton County, WV famous across the United States. According to History.com, "In 1952, the Flatwoods Monster terrified 6 kids, a mom, and a dog, and the nation. It prompted a U.S. Air Force UFO inquiry, part of an initiative called Project Blue Book."

You can ask almost anyone that has ever hunted these rugged WV hills about Big Foot and they will have a story to tell you. Mr. Boothe, a teacher at my school whose hobby is to night hunt, swears he can hear large animal-like creatures knocking on trees to communicate with each other. Who knows?

Is there something else out there that no one has really got a finger on? It is my dream to visit these popular tourist attractions in our beautiful, mysterious state. I truly believe there are otherworldly creatures here.