

Mountain messenger

January 16, 2021

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The Weekend Newspaper for the Greenbrier Valley - Lewisburg, West Virginia

White Sulphur Springs gains specialty coffee shop downtown

By Sarah Richardson

The latest addition to Main Street White Sulphur Springs is a delicious one- Tootsie's Place held their grand opening on Tuesday, Jan. 13, and owner Kennedy Brooks said it has been busy ever since.

Located between the Paw Spa and GreenRiver Academy, Tootsie's Place is a one-stop-shop for hot, iced, and blended coffees, as well as pastries, muffins, cheesecake, pies, and cupcakes.

"It's always been one of those goals, a dream for me, to be able to do what you want to do and really have the freedom to be creative in the kitchen," said Brooks. The White Sulphur Springs native said it's exciting to see everything finally come together.



Owner Kennedy Brooks

Tootsie's Place offers a variety of baked goods including muffins and cheesecake



Gov. Justice announces vaccines to be offered to all West Virginians age 70 and older; introduces financial aid program for renters

During Wednesday's briefing, Gov. Justice announced that West Virginia will begin offering COVID-19 vaccines to all state residents age 70 and older beginning immediately.

The Governor added that the CDC is recommending that all states offer vaccines to those age 65 and older, as well as those with pre-existing conditions or comorbidities, as soon as possible.

"We're dropping our age right now from 80 to 70," Gov. Justice said. "And next week, if we continue to

push - and God knows we will - as quickly as we can get to a place where we're going to have enough vaccines to drop the age to 65, we're going to go to 65."

Meanwhile, the Governor reported that West Virginia continues to lead the nation in the rate of COVID-19 vaccine distribution and administration.

West Virginia remains the top-ranked state in the country for vaccine distribution on a per capita basis, according to the CDC's COVID-19 Vaccination Tracker.

See "Vaccination Update" ___ Page 3

MVP Pipeline to run through Jefferson National Forest

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued a Record of Decision (ROD) to amend the Jefferson National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) to allow for the Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) project on Jan. 11.

The ROD was issued after reviewing the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) that addressed new information and changed circumstances. The USDA's ROD modifies certain standards in the Forest Plan to accommodate the pipeline construction and requires measures to minimize environmental impacts. The agency will also provide a letter of concurrence for the MVP project to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The BLM is responsible for approving pipelines that cross federal lands under the jurisdiction of two or more federal agencies but must have the concurrence of the involved agencies. These actions are necessary steps in order for the MVP project to be built on National Forest System lands.

The Forest Service published the Final SEIS on Dec. 11, 2020. The SEIS addresses new information and

See "MVP Pipeline" ___ Page 2

Rose re-elected commission president, COVID-19 policy extended for courthouse employees

By Bobby Bordelon

After beginning with the reappointment of Commission President Lowell Rose, the Greenbrier County Commission approved a new COVID-19 policy for employees at the courthouse on Tuesday, Jan. 12.

The first item of business saw Commissioner Tammy Shiflett-Tincher move to have current commission president Lowell Rose continue to serve for another year.

Rose was approved in

a two to one vote, with Commissioner Mike McClung voting against.

"It has been the custom of this body to elect as its president the commission who, for the last few years of his current term," said McClung just before the vote. "It has not always been followed ... I have honored that custom with

my vote for the past nine years and I see no reason we should break with that custom."

Rose and Tincher, respectively, are the most recently elected Commissioners.

Board appointments, such as the commission's seat on the Greenbrier

See "GCC" ___ Page 7

More students return to class in new Greenbrier County school return plan

By Bobby Bordelon

The Greenbrier County Board of Education approved the new school re-entry plan in an emergency meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 13. Following guidelines given by the West Virginia Department of Education, the new schedule relies on the state map and could see more students return for in-person time.

"We dealt with this for over ten months and it's been a long, hard struggle but I'll be truthful with you," said Board of Education President Jeanie Wyatt. "Our board has always considered what we thought was best for our students and our staff. We may not always agree with other things that have been told [to] us, but we do the best with what we are able to do. We do have your best interests at heart. Thank you for being patient with us. We look forward to the days where we can get back to a more normal schedule."

Beginning Jan. 19:

If the alert map is GREEN, YELLOW, or GOLD:

• Pre-K students four days a week with a 90-minute early dismissal.

See "School Plan" ___ Page 2

Lewisburg's virtual MLK Day Celebration to be seen via YouTube



Lewisburg Mayor Beverly White at the video shoot for the 2021 virtual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration for YouTube distribution

The COVID-19 situation in Greenbrier County has resulted in the cancelation of the traditional Martin Luther King, Jr. Day march, community lunch, and program at the Lewisburg United Methodist Church. Instead, a celebration video is being made for YouTube distribution. On Jan. 18, the YouTube link for the video will be available on the City of Lewisburg website, www.lewisburg-wv.com.

The video will include scenes from previous Martin Luther King, Jr. Day marches, Mayor Beverly White reading the stirring proclamation of Lewisburg's Martin Luther King, Jr. Week for 2021, and the Keynote Speaker will be Rev. Matthew Watts of Charleston, WV.

The theme selected for this year by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration Committee is "Liberty and Justice for All." The associated Martin Luther King, Jr. quote chosen is, "It is not possible to be in favor of justice for some people and not be in favor of justice for all people."

Rev. Matthew Watts has been the Senior Pastor of Grace Bible Church in Charleston, West Virginia, for over 17 years. Prior to that, he worked as an engineer, small business consultant, and CEO of a broadcasting corporation. In 1997, he established

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MVP Pipeline

changed circumstances, such as new federally listed threatened and endangered species and critical habitat designations, as well as the Fourth Circuit Court’s 2018 ruling vacating BLM’s Right-of-Way and the Forest Service’s Forest Plan amendment. The Forest Service prepared the Final SEIS for the MVP project in response to a revised Right-of-Way application deemed complete by BLM on May 28, 2020. The Final SEIS was developed following a 45-day comment period which closed on Nov. 9, 2020. 4,400 comments were received during the comment period and are discussed in Appendix C of the Final SEIS. This project was not subject to the Forest Service’s 36 CFR 218 project-level pre-decisional administrative review process. This is because the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment was the responsible official for the project. Projects and activities proposed by the Secretary of Agriculture or the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment are not subject to the predecisional administrative review process; approval of projects and activities by these two officials constitutes the Final administrative determination of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The Mountain Valley Pipeline and Equitrans Expansion project’s Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement supplements the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Final Environmental Impact Statement. The Forest Service as the lead agency, and BLM, as a federal cooperating agency, plan to make decisions based on the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement review of the FERC 2017 Final Environmental Impact Statement.

Background Information:

The Forest Service issued a Record of Decision on

Continued from Front Page

Dec. 1, 2017, to modify 11 standards in the Jefferson National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan associated with the MVP project. Mountain Valley LLC obtained authorization from BLM to construct and operate the MVP project on federal lands crossed by the project on Dec. 28, 2017. Under the Mineral Leasing Act, BLM is the federal agency responsible for issuing Right-of-Way grants for natural gas pipelines across federal lands under the jurisdiction of two or more federal agencies. BLM acquired the written concurrences of the Forest Service and the United States Army Corp of Engineers prior to issuing their authorization. Mountain Valley LLC had cleared trees along the 3.5 miles of the Right-of-Way on the Jefferson National Forest in the spring of 2018 and began constructing the pipeline on a 1.8-mile section of the Jefferson National Forest.

The MVP project was litigated by environmental organizations and received an adverse ruling from the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals in July 2018 that vacated Forest Service decisions and associated authorizations for the pipeline route across the Jefferson National Forest. Due to this ruling, all construction activity that was in progress on the Jefferson National Forest stopped. The Forest Service is continuing to implement stabilization measures as well as monitoring stabilized areas for potential soil erosion and sedimentation.

The Forest Service set aside several areas for individuals or groups to exercise their constitutional First Amendment rights.

A closure order for Brush Mountain and Sinking Creek Mountain was put in place June 12, 2020, and is effective until June 12, 2021, or until rescinded earlier. This closure order was put into effect to protect public health and safety.

School Plan

• Elementary students will go five days a week with a 90-minute early dismissal for disinfecting and remote learning tasks.

• Middle and High Schools will go at 50 percent capacity (A and B groups) with a 90-minute early out each day to allow for disinfecting and remote learning tasks.

If the WVDHHR Alert map is ORANGE:

• All schools will operate at 50 percent capacity with 90 minutes early out.

• The A and B schedule will be assigned by each school

• Wednesdays will be remote for all.

If the WVDHHR Alert map is RED

• Elementary and Middle schools will operate at 50 percent capacity (A and B Groups)

• Wednesday remote with 90 minute early dismissal

• High schools go fully remote

The map is published each Saturday at 10 a.m. by the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources.

Superintendent Jeff Bryant also addressed remote learning, which will follow the curriculum.

“I know there is some fear, and maybe that’s not a good word but we’ll use it, that we would be eliminating remote learning,” Bryant explained. “Greenbrier County Schools, through the leadership of our board, has done a tremendous job creating and defining, and our teachers have done a great job administering, that remote instruction. Please be assured and reassured that we will continue remote learning. ... If you want to do that, you need to contact your school’s principal to have that conversation.I would welcome everyone to come to in-person, as defined by this plan, and also as directed by the West Virginia state school board.”

Continued from Front Page

Wyatt also noted the timeline of this plan is far from certain due to the vaccination schedule - “When the vaccinations are all given to our employees and staff, then we may have to come back and do a re-evaluation of this plan at the time. ... We don’t really have a timeframe on that, it’s when our younger teachers, 49 and younger, will be getting their vaccinations. We’re in limbo on that as vaccines come to each county.

Teachers who might contract the virus during the return to school plan should contact the board and Douglas E. Clemons (dclemons@k12.wv.us) or David McClure (damcclur@k12.wv.us).

“We had a local COVID plan where we helped our teachers with pay during the period they had to quarantine because of a school related incident or they contracted COVID from a school-related incident,” Wyatt said. “Our board has voted, as long as we’re able to, to continue on with that program. Our local board will be trying to help you, you’ll need to [get in touch] with Mr. Clemmons and Ms. McClure as we go through this. We’ll take each case individually.”

Bryant wished for everyone to have a safe return to school.

“Ladies and gentlemen, as they say, this is what we’ve been given,” Bryant said. “We’ve made the very best of it, in the best interests of our students, our families, our teachers, and school staff.”

MLK Jr. Day

Continued from Front Page

the HOPE Community Development Corporation, a non-profit organization with the mission of empowering the inner city through spiritual renewal, education, employment and training and economic development.

Pastor Watts also established the HOPE Youth Development Movement with its staff working with over 500 youth each week in Kanawha County public schools. He is on the Supreme Court Juvenile Justice Commission working closely with the state legislature and the WV Department of Corrections to develop a plan to address the prison overcrowding problem in West Virginia.

In November of 2016, Pastor Watts was a principal speaker at the third Summit on Race Matters event at the Greenbrier Valley Campus of the New River Community and Technical College.



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Greenbrier Co. Sheriff’s office contracts with Rainelle

By Bobby Bordelon

The town of Rainelle has patrolling police once again after an agreement was signed with the Greenbrier County Sheriff’s Department. Amid a few financial items during the Monday, Jan. 11, Town Council meeting, Bell stated the agreement has been finalized.

“We currently have the Greenbrier County Sheriff’s Department patrolling our community,” said Acting Mayor Bill Bell. “The contract between the town and the Greenbrier County Sheriff’s Department did not exist until it was signed and returned to us on Jan. 8. A copy is now available. This is in no way considered to be a permanent solution but a temporary one until a police chief is appointed and qualified officers are recruited to the department.

“I really appreciate the sheriff helping us out - he didn’t have to and we appreciate it,” said Councilmember Martha Livesay. “They’re very busy and short-staffed as well.”

Bell explained that the municipal fees could be used as part of the contract, highlighting the similarities to the arrangement to other services the town contracts out.

“The ordinance that established the municipal fee does not read that the Rainelle Police Department must be in house,” Bell said. “Matter of factly, we contract services for our roads, and for our creek banks to help with stream restoration. All of these services are provided by the town of Rainelle municipal fees are appropriate.”

Meanwhile, the search to rebuild the department is ongoing - on Wednesday, Jan. 13, the town posted to its social media.

“Town of Rainelle is looking to hire a police chief,” reads the post. “Has to be certified. You can pick up applications at City Hall, 1233 Kanawha Avenue, Rainelle, 25962, [open] Monday through Friday, 9 to 5.”

Previous mayor Jason Smith, who resigned during the dispute over policing, stated in an email he requested a copy of the agreement between the town and the sheriff’s department on Dec. 31, 2020. Smith is currently awaiting the results of a FOIA request - Bell explained the contract was not signed until Jan. 8.

Any financial information about this town is obtainable in City Hall during normal business hours,” Bell said. “There is a FOIA request that needs to be filled out ... that is the proper procedure. We do have those here. After that is filled out, there is a five day waiting period we must produce that information, at least to the best of our ability.”

In other business:

A hotly debated change order for sidewalk work totaling \$3,053.59 was approved by council, with Bell stating “I think we all agreed we had to pay it. We can argue it until we’re blue in the face but it’s got to be paid.” Councilmember John Wyatt also said “It was a bitter pill to swallow.”

Engineering drawings for the town’s ongoing street drain project have been completed but the pipe size and grading for the project have not yet been determined.

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Assistant to the Controller

Role/Responsibilities:

We are preparing for an all-inclusive data conversion from QuickBooks to a new platform and need an assistance to make entries and help maintain our current system while the new system is being tested and implemented. The Assistant to the Controller will be working with the Controller and other staff members, particularly the finance team, to track and control daily entries and company finances. Please send resume and/or cover letter with references to Accounting@smoothambler.com.

Duties:

- Creating Purchase Orders
- Scanning and entering payables and receivables
- Balancing point-of-sale cash drawer
- Filing invoices and payments.
- Weekly, monthly, and quarterly inventory.
- Entry verification and system reconciliation between existing and new systems.

Key Contact points (external and internal):

- Controller
- Founder/CEO
- Distillery staff and External finance team

Qualifications:

- Bookkeeping experience required.
- Excel skills mandatory.
- QuickBooks experience a plus.
- NetSuites experience a plus.
- Comfortably using Zoom/Teams/other to communicate with remote team members.

Desired Characteristics:

- Excellent written and spoken communication.
- Ability to work in a fast paced, rapidly growing business.
- Team oriented – able to work collaboratively and within company style across a variety of teams, personalities and situations.

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Smooth Ambler offers a family of delicious bourbons and ryes including whiskeys that are homemade, procured, and a blend of both disciplines. We are committed to our work, our people, and our word. Being a part of Smooth Ambler means being part of a team that does the right thing – every time.

Benefits:

Smooth Ambler offers competitive compensation, performance bonuses, and other benefits.

** Smooth Ambler Spirits is an Equal Opportunity Employer and supports the diversity of Women, Minorities, POC, Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities.*

PICK OF THE LITTER

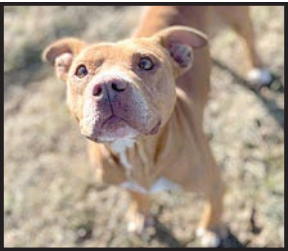
MASON

Mason is a three-year-old domestic shorthair and weighs 12 pounds. This beauty is black all over with sharp green eyes.



TONY

Tony is a pit bull terrier mix and weighs 45 pounds. He is six years old and ready to find his forever home!



These and other animals are available at the Greenbrier Humane Society, located at 151 Holiday Lane off of Rt. 90 West in Lewisburg. They are closed Sunday and Monday, and are open from 11 a.m. through 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

Their cat adoption fee is \$65 and covers spay/neuter surgery, first kitty vaccinations, rabies vaccine, de-worming, toe nail trim and flea treatment.

Their dog adoption fee is \$85 and covers spay/neuter surgery, first dog vaccinations, rabies vaccine, de-worming, toe nail trim, flea bath and flea treatment.

They also offer donation-based spay/neuter vouchers, and clinics are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. They use a lot of vets in the area but the clinics fill up fast! Fill out an application to help prevent animal overpopulation! Call 304-645-4775 for more information.

DON'T SHOP • ADOPT!

Briefly

WVSOM Board of Governors

will meet Jan. 22, via teleconference. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. To attend by phone, dial 844-621-3956 toll free and use access code 1209892992. No committee meetings are scheduled. A copy of the agendas for all meetings are posted on the WVSOM website at www.wvsom.edu/About/BOG prior to the meetings and are available in the president’s office. WVSOM board meetings are open to all who are interested, including the general public.

Addiction Screenings available

Did you know that nearly 38% of adults in the U.S. have battled a substance abuse problem at some point this year? That’s over three times the amount that have been exposed to the COVID-19 virus. Be safe this season and keep an eye out for loved ones who might be caught in the grip of addiction. If you or a loved one is struggling with substance abuse, take the first step towards overcoming addiction. Call today for free addiction screenings or referrals: 1-800-431-1754. For more information visit <https://www.narcononnewliferetreat.org/blog/strange-side-effects-of-covid-19.html>

AA meetings

will now be held Saturdays at 10 a.m. via Zoom. Contact at 304-647-0677 for Zoom details. Find listings for other meetings in West Virginia at aawv.org.

WSS Christmas Lighting Contest winners announced

The City of White Sulphur Springs annual Christmas Lighting Contest would like to announce the winners for 2020. First place, Scott Polk; second place, Bill Fanus; and third place, Steve Lester.

Bill Fanus donated his prize money to the Good Neighbor Children’s Clothes Closet at EUMC. Thank you to all who participated in this year’s contest.

For the Record

Deeds

Norman Lenzy Fleshman and Janet Leigh Fleshman to Nicholas Patterson and Amy Patterson, parcel, Meadow Bluff District

Glen Diehl and Twyla Diehl to Thomas Y. Wotherspoon and Brenda Wotherspoon, two lots, Village of Renick Fairview Associates LLC to Tony Hill, Lot 39 of Pinnacle Subdivision, Lewisburg District

Frances Workman and Thomas Dolan to Michael Dolan, 58.5 acres and 65 acres, Falling Spring Dist.

Norman Noltemeyer and Belita Noltemeyer to Jenky Properties LLC, Lot 32 in Howard’s Creek Phase Two Neighborhood, White Sulphur District

Jerry A. Hoover and Paula C. Hoover to Frank Joshua Lokant, 21,660 square feet and .5 acres, Falling Springs District

Jo Anne Blackburn to Savannah Ashleigh Ford and Neal Everette Chestnut, Lots 42 and 43 in the Stonehouse Woods Subdivision, Lewisburg District

Robert Bray and Ann Bray to Jerry Dexter Taylor and Cynthia Cook Taylor, .007 acre, Lewisburg Corp.

Deimer Kenneth Howell and Mary Lou Howell to William Johnson, .979 acre, Falling Spring District

Moonseon Silverman to Jonathan Plohocky and Keri Plohocky, 12.6 acres, 2.25 acres, .10 acre, Meadow Bluff District

Ngoc Hoang Tran and Quynh Nga Dang to Barry D. Boone and Kimberly Boone, a tract, Fort Spring Dist.

Tracy Fitzsimmons to David Jones, 1.24 acres, Lewisburg District

Daisy Tuckwiller to Robert A. Hamilton, Lot 2 in the Seneca Heights Addition, Lewisburg Municipality

Mary Lee Buckland to John Oscar Chapman, Lots 1 and 2 in Manor Park Addition, White Sulphur District

Sauna Elaine Crowe and Charles R. Long to Christopher McQuerry and Araminda McQuerry, 2 acres, .108 acre, Frankford District

Jesse Chaffin and Samantha Chaffin to Brianne Leigh Williams Lance Forrest McClintic, 2.268 acres, Frankford District

Paul D. Lindquist and Mary Lindquist to Philip C. Scibilia and Donna Scibilia, 2.16 acres, City of Lewisburg

Brenda J. McMillion to Donald Crookshanks and Betty Crookshanks, Lots 17, 18, 19, and 20, Block 16, Subdivision 1, Town of Rupert

Lisa Lafferty, James Ridgeway, and Jason Ridgeway to Jonathan Dabakarov and Daniel Honaker, Lot 25 and west side of Lot 26, White Sulphur Municipality

Michael Crews to Hoa T. Nguyen, two tracts, Frankford District

Hoa T. Nguyen to Malachi Minh Crews Isaac Minh Crews, two tracts, Frankford District

Stacey Nicole Hick to Justin Darrin Dolin, 2.455 acres, Fort Spring District

Alfred Buckmaster and Amy Buckmaster to Austin Byers, .468 acre, City of Ronceverte

Dustin Allen Erin L. Allen to Kaitlin Beha, 13,177 square feet, Lewisburg District

Christopher Lee Ratliff and Amy Lynn Ratliff to Brett Lively, Lot 23 of the O’Brien Addition, City of Ronceverte

James Johnson and Ethel Johnson to John Wyatt, Lot 17 of the Lilly Park Addition, Meadow Bluff District

Randy McClung and Sharon McClung to Ernest Bennett, Lots 26 and 27, Rainelle Municipality

Brent Douglas Lafon to Britney Ann Lafon, Lot 8 of the Stoney Fields Subdivision, Lewisburg District

Public Meetings

Lewisburg City Council

will meet Tuesday, Jan. 19, at 7:30 p.m. via Teleconference. For information on how to participate, contact Lewisburg City Hall at 304-645-2080 by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 19. On the agenda:

- Visitors' reports: (10-min. limit per subject not on agenda)
- Approval of Minutes - Dec. 15, 2020 regular session
- Ordinances
 - Consider and Act on Planning Commission Petition to amend Zoning Ordinance by rewriting Planned Unit Development portion of zoning ordinance by, among other things, changing allowed uses and densities, public hearing
 - Ordinance 290, amend Zoning Ordinance by rewriting Planned Unit Development portion of zoning ordinance, by among other things, changing allowed uses and densities, 1st reading
- Proclamations
 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Week
- Communications from Mayor Mayor White
 - Appointments to the Board of Zoning Appeals
- Communications from Interim City Manager Hill
 - Arts & Humanities funding program application, Central Greenbrier Little League, John Lynch
 - Financial Statements ending October 2020
 - Engagement letter with City Attorney White
 - Approve funding for Public Works furnishings
 - Approval of rental space contract
 - Monthly report
- Communications from City Council Members
- Communications from Police Department
- Communications from Fire Department
- Public Works Committee
- Executive Session:
 - City Manager discussion

Renick Town Council

will meet in a special session Monday, Jan. 25, at 7 p.m. at Renick Town Hall for the purpose of having a second reading and vote to approve a new ordinance adopting title 153, legislative rule secretary of state series 38, early vote-by-mail, voting by mail pilot project phase 1, class IV voting by mail.

Vaccination Update

Continued from Front Page

As of Wednesday, 100,696 1st doses and 16,434 2nd doses have been administered, totaling 117,130 doses administered overall statewide.

West Virginia continues to rank among the nation’s leaders with a 1st dose administration rate of 85.4 percent. As of yesterday, every 1st dose of vaccine that has been delivered to the state has either already been administered or is assigned to a name to be administered in the next few days.

“I think it is an incredible accomplishment,” Gov. Justice said. “Think about how many lives are being saved by us leading the nation.

“We have put in arms somewhere close to just under 30,000 vaccines to our elderly, and that does not count the additional vaccines we gave out at all of our state’s nursing homes and assisted living facilities,” Gov. Justice continued. “How many lives did we save? A week or so ago, those people that were 80-plus had no hope because they were told they weren’t going to get their vaccines until early April. We’ve got almost 30,000 of them vaccinated now.”

The Governor went on to say that yesterday he took a call with U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Alex Azar, who complimented West Virginia’s vaccination efforts.

“He called and said ‘I want you to go on and tell all the other governors what you’re doing in West Virginia because we’re failing across the rest of our country,’” Gov. Justice said. “We have additional vaccines coming next week, and we’re continuing to push the HHS hard for even more.”

To date, 25,774 West Virginians have been vaccinated through this program.

The Governor also once again provided a reminder that the State has launched a new COVID-19 Vaccine Info

See “Vaccination Update” — Page 8

Tax Time

Tax Tip

1. *Contribute to retirement accounts if you haven’t already funded your retirement account for 2020, do so by April 15, 2021. That’s the deadline for contributions to a traditional IRA, deductible or not, and to a Roth IRA.*

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Greenbrier County Magistrate Court Convictions

Brandon M. Mann, Ronceverte, no seatbelt, fine \$25

Bryan Paul Strobel, Rupert, 1) driving suspended, fine \$100; 2) no insurance, fine \$200

Brock David Kugler, Harrisonburg, VA, speeding, NC, fine \$20

Kenneth Wayne Adkins, Caldwell, hunting without written permission, NC, fine \$30

Amber Michelle Hulbert, Lewisburg, 1) speeding, NC, fine \$10; 2) no MVI, fine \$10

Andrew Layton Wykle, Ronceverte, possession of controlled substance, jail 6 months, credit for time served satisfied sentence

Brian Patrick Frazier, Caldwell, reckless driving, NC, fine \$100

Justin Anthony O’Dell, Rupert, failure to electronically register deer (6 pt.), fine \$50

Amanda Rachell Sarver, Ronceverte, 1) driving suspended, fine \$100; 2) no seatbelt, fine \$25

Alexander Daniel Williams, Cross Lanes, no insurance, NC, fine \$200

Robert A. Burns, II, Summersville, no blaze orange, fine \$30

Meredith June Lauderdale, Quinwood, speeding, fine \$18

Heidi E. Stidom, Lewisburg, speeding, fine \$5

Michael Joseph Watkins, Neola, no insurance, fine \$200

Charles E. Lynch, Daniels, speeding, fine \$5

Trevor Matthew Edenfield, Rupert, failure to electronically check deer w/bow (doe), NCP, fine \$40

Abigail Elizabeth Richmond, White Sulphur Springs, petit larceny, fine \$100, jail 20 days - suspended and placed on 12 months unsupervised probation

Crimebox

Man enters guilty plea to assault of a minor

By Bobby Bordelon

Greenbrier County Circuit Court Judge Jennifer Dent oversaw the guilty plea of Sidney Sebastian Sturgell, 57, for the sexual abuse of a minor on Wednesday, Jan. 13.

Originally indicted on two counts of sexual assault in the second degree, Sturgell plead guilty to the lesser offense of sexual abuse in the first degree. As a result, count two was dismissed and he faces a sentence ranging from one to five years and not more than a \$10,000 fine.

“During the month of August 2017, Mr. Sturgrell did make sexual contact with ... a juvenile under the age of 18, however over the age of 12,” explained Prosecutor Pat Via. “... That sexual contact was made without the consent of the juvenile and by forcible compulsion.”

“I guess I made a mistake and I’ve got to pay for it,” Sturgell said when Dent asked if he would like to give his version. He did not dispute Via’s description of the offense.

Defense Attorney Joshua Hardy agreed Sturgell has no meritorious defense. Via also noted the prosecutor’s office has not been in touch with the victim or their family for some time.

“Under the circumstances, this is the best interest for the victim as well as the state. I would say that [we have had] consultation with the investigation officer and it is agreeable on that score.”

Dent accepted the plea, deferring adjudication until the next hearing in the case. He is expected to be sentenced in March.

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Mountain Messenger

The Weekend Newspaper for the Greenbrier Valley

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OPINION

Commentary Accountability for the siege of DC should be a priority for lawmakers

By Bobby Bordelon

Things are not getting better in West Virginia. The reasons why are many and varied, but it’s our responsibility to organize and make our voices heard.

I’ve been a reporter in Greenbrier County for three years, and a majority of people I’ve spoken with have shared similar sentiments. From Greenbrier County Republican Chair Ben Anderson to Democrat Chair Paul Detch, this is the message of West Virginia politics - things are not working.

“West Virginians - as you should know - are a proud, stubborn, hard-working, and kind group of Americans who have been lied to by despots and whose earnest and hard-won advantages have been taken - stolen - across generations,” wrote Lewisburg Councilmember Arron Seams in a recent open letter.

I agree.

We should be demanding change for West Virginia. But what we saw in DC should give even the most radical on either side of the aisle pause.

The presidential election is over. Joe Biden won the presidency with the same number of electoral college votes President Donald Trump received in 2016, 306, which Trump refers to as “historic.” According to the Associated Press, Biden’s popular vote count was the largest in American history - over 81 million people cast their ballots in his favor.

So what does it say that the losing president sends his supporters to the U.S. Congress to stop the states’ right to run their own elections?

Governor Jim Justice seems to have an answer that I disagree with.

“I know President Trump and I know his family through and through,” Justice said. “And there’s no way they condone this either. ... there’s no way in God’s Earth that I would believe the Trump family would think that it was the right thing for people to go storming into the nation’s capitol and do what they did.”

Justice has fallen for a common trap of political correctness here. West Virginia is the reddest of red states in national politics and he fears a backlash from Trump supporters. Too often now does speaking out against Trump’s bad actions cost our local representatives - I would posit that now, in order to be politically correct in West Virginia, we cannot call a spade a spade, or an insurrection an insurrection.

My intention here is not to shame Justice, but to call attention to the contradiction of his oath of office and his defending of someone who directly incited violence against our, your, elected representatives. And although Justice did condemn those that stormed the capitol, rightly stating they should be arrested, he stopped short of the source. He is far from alone in this contradiction of West Virginia politics. Trump did not elect him, yet he has a party line to follow and is personal friends with the Trump family.

This is a failure of responsibility to account for some-



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one’s actions - it does not matter if Trump “condones” the seizure of the capitol or not, the people who are currently being arrested were directly told by the president to storm the capitol.

“We will never give up,” Trump told the crowd. “We will never concede, it doesn’t happen. You don’t concede when there’s theft involved... Now it is up to Congress to confront this egregious assault on our democracy. After this, we’re going to walk down and I’ll be there with you. We’re going to walk down. We’re going to walk down, any one you want, but I think right here. We’re going [to] walk down to the Capitol, and we’re going to cheer on our brave senators, and congressmen and women. We’re probably not going to be cheering so much for some of them because you’ll never take back our country with weakness. You have to show strength, and you have to be strong.”

Amid the photos, the most striking show armed men with zip tie handcuffs in the chambers of Congress.

What they would have done to Vice President Mike Pence or any of the Congressmen or women if they were not escorted out by the secret service remains unclear.

When the President of the United States has told you, over and over, that the election has been stolen, and you coordinate for weeks to get to Washington, DC for a

See “Commentary Accountability”__ Page 7

Commentary Confidence in American government begins with confidence in our election process

By Mac Warner, West Virginia Secretary of State

President Lincoln said, “Elections belong to the people. It’s their decision.”

Faith in our American democracy depends on confidence in the election process and results. When confidence is shaken, so too is the confidence in our government and our leaders.

Even during the pandemic, West Virginia’s election laws and procedures gave voters confidence in our system of selecting leaders, and that confidence propelled the highest voter turnout in over half a century, and second-highest turnout in our state’s history.

While COVID-19 created challenges for every state, West Virginia was prepared. Beginning in 2017, we began building relationships with our 55 county clerks and conducting extensive training. We shepherded voter list maintenance procedures with our clerks, and to date, they have removed over 200,000 deceased, duplicate, and outdated records from voter rolls. We created and practiced contingency operations, established extensive cybersecurity policies, and created a statewide Continuity of Operations Plan. We also initiated an elections-specific anti-fraud task force with state and federal partners to identify, investigate, and prosecute improprieties.

So, we were ready for the 2020 elections, and our preparatory measures stood strong. When the pandemic struck, we began taking extraordinary measures to protect the health and safety of voters and election officials alike. We secured, distributed, and issued extensive guidance regarding the use of PPE to maintain the gold standard of in-person voting as much as possible.

The pandemic allowed people to vote an absentee-by-mail ballot without legislative changes due to a legally identified medical excuse as a reason posed by the risks of COVID-19. West Virginia offered more ways to cast a secure ballot than any other state, and based on the historic turnout, the public was well educated on their options.

After ballots were cast, the next step was tabulation of the votes. Here again, West Virginia was prepared. Under existing law, county clerks were able to efficiently and securely process and tabulate ballots in a timely manner, and we saw nearly all statewide results within hours of the polls closing.

While voters in a handful of states still question whether their state-specific laws were properly implemented, West Virginia voters are confident and proud of our elec-

tion success. Our poll workers, clerks and other election officials followed the laws that have been in place for years by our legislature, and adhered to guidance put forth by the Governor, Secretary of State, and Attorney General to respond to the pandemic emergency. In doing so, we held one of the best, and safest, elections in the

See “Commentary Election Process”__ Page 7

Commentary A top New Year’s resolution: Volunteer to help your neighbor

Our area sees an increased need for emergency support during COVID-19

As the New Year brings the tradition of resolutions, consider helping people in need as a volunteer in this area.

During the coronavirus pandemic, families continue to depend on Red Cross volunteers every day for emergency support, including supporting families impacted by devastating home fires, hurricanes, tornadoes, floods and other emergencies.

“Just knowing that someone is there to lend a helping hand during these trying times provides a light of hope for our neighbors,” said Erica Mani, chief executive officer of the American Red Cross Central Appalachia Region. “Please join us by resolving to help as a Red Cross volunteer and ensure no one faces life’s emergencies alone.”

How To Help: The need for volunteers is constant, and everyone’s well-being is our top priority as we work with public health officials to safely deliver services during COVID-19. Visit redcross.org/volunteertoday to learn more, including our most-needed positions:

- Blood donor ambassadors: Blood donations are essential to the health of our communities, and blood donor ambassadors are a vital part of this work by welcoming visitors and taking their temperatures before entering Red Cross facilities and blood drives. Blood drive volunteers help support the blood donors and ensure they have a pleasant and fulfilling experience, from the moment they arrive to the moment they leave.
- Disaster response volunteers: Most of the U.S. disasters that the Red Cross responds to every eight minutes

See “Commentary Resolution”__ Page 7

Commentary Vaccinating the most vulnerable - the immunocompromised

By Senator Stephen Baldwin

Last week, I received a phone call from a concerned constituent. She explained that her 29-year old son is a two-time bone marrow transplant recipient. For the last four years, he has worn a mask due to his weakened immune system.

She said, “Please, can you help my son get vaccinated? Please remember that people with immune deficiencies need it more than anyone else.”

She’s right. According to Dr. Alan Taege, Infectious Disease Specialist at The Cleveland Clinic, serious complications of COVID are most likely to occur in elderly people and those who have weakened immune systems (“immunocompromised”) Because they are at high risk, the CDC recommends that the immunocompromised receive the vaccination.

Who is immunocompromised? More people than you might imagine. Patients with cancer, chronic kidney disease, COPD, lupus, diabetes, and transplants, for example. Across the US, more than 3% of the population fits this category. In West Virginia, the rates are higher. More than 45% of our population has multiple chronic conditions, many of which cause immune deficiencies.

According to Science Magazine, researchers in the United Kingdom who discovered the COVID variant strain did so by studying immunocompromised patients. They found the variant virus in a patient who was given rituximab (a very expensive drug delivered via infusion) as a form of cancer treatment. The patient acquired the COVID strain, was given remdesivir and plasma immediately, yet still died. Immunosuppressed citizens may hold the keys to understanding how COVID continues to evolve. We must remember their plight.

Americans understand, because all of us have family members with immune deficiencies. A Harris public opinion poll in August 2020 asked Americans who should receive priority for the COVID vaccine? The results were: 1) health care workers, 2) the elderly, and 3) the immunocompromised.

Most states are rightfully focusing their vaccination efforts on the elderly. West Virginia leaders have done an exemplary job of protecting seniors and specifically prioritizing those in nursing homes. West Virginia leads the nation in vaccination rates. And now, it is time for us to lead the nation by being the first state to prioritize the most vulnerable segment of the population--the immunocompromised.

Because their conditions are not always visible, we sometimes forget about the immunocompromised. They need protection more than anyone else. Some are young, some are old, and they all are in grave danger.

I thank the courageous mother from southern West Virginia who called me this past week with a message we all need to hear: “Please remember that people with immune deficiencies like my son need the vaccine more than anyone else.”

We hear you. We remember him. We must vaccinate the most vulnerable among us.

(Senator Stephen Baldwin represents the 10th District and is Pastor of Ronceverte Presbyterian Church. Stephen.Baldwin@wvsenate.gov)

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OBITUARIES

Betty Josephine Huffman Anderson



Lewisburg-Betty Josephine Huffman Anderson passed away Monday, Jan. 11, 2021, at the age of 90, after a long, full life.

She was married to the late Eugene Anderson, Sr.

Betty worked at the old Burlington Ribbon Factory in White Sulphur Springs and was a seamstress. She was a member of Calvary Baptist Church in Lewisburg.

She is survived by her son, Gene Anderson and wife Pam of Lewisburg; daughter, Julie Masters and husband Tony of Massanutten, VA; five grandchildren, Amanda Siler, Emilee White, Cameron Masters, Daniel Anderson, and Stephanie Peyatt; and eight great-grandchildren. She is also survived by a sister, Mildred Robinson of Covington, VA; and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral service will be at 3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 14, at Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg. Entombment will follow in Greenbrier Memorial Gardens Mausoleum in Lewisburg.

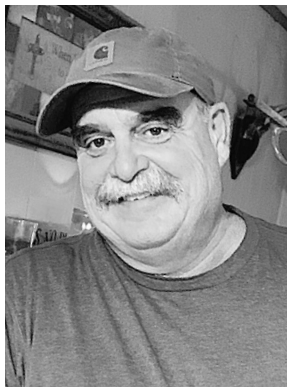
Family and friends will be received from 1 p.m. until time of the service at the funeral home on Thursday.

Covid19 guidelines of wearing a mask and social distancing will be enforced.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg is in charge of arrangements.

Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

Lantie M. Cole, Jr.



White Sulphur Springs-Lantie M. Cole, Jr., 60, passed away unexpectedly at his residence on Sunday, Jan. 10, 2021.

He was born in White Sulphur Springs on Mar. 10, 1960, the son of the late Lantie M. Cole, Sr., and Nina Sue Dean.

Lantie enjoyed hunting, but lawn care and landscaping was another strong passion. He spent 34 years working at The Greenbrier Hotel, as a pump operator, before leaving and working at Davis Stuart. Above all, Lantie's true love was his wife, daughters, and grandchildren.

Survivors include his loving wife of 41 years, Sonja L. Cole; his daughters, Megan McCoy, Courtney Hudnall (Zackary), Lanti Cole (Steven); siblings, Robert Cole (Karon), Kathy Glover, and Lana Cole Massa; grandchildren, Ella McCoy, Finlee Hudnall, Cole McCoy, Raegan Hudnall, and expecting Xander Damon to make his arrival into the world any day; also surviving is his mother-in-law, Phyllis Sizemore (Gerald); father-in-law, Marshall Gabbert; sister-in-law, Tracy Persinger (Doug), and brother-in-law, Ray Gabbert (Dee).

Due to Covid-19 and Lantie's wishes, cremation will take place with a private celebration of life at Alleghany Memorial Park in the near future.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in White Sulphur Springs is in charge of arrangements.

Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

Kenneth Lee "Bud" and Della Lea Simms



Lewisburg-Della Lea Simms, 92, passed away Friday, Jan. 8, 2021, at Brier Nursing and Rehabilitation Home and is united with her husband Bud again.

Della was born Oct. 26, 1928, in Frankford to the late George Mason and Myrtle Ford Brandt.

Della graduated from Frankford High School was a member of the Trinity United Methodist Church. Della was an operator with C&P, had worked at the Federal Prison in Alderson and also had worked at Kroger as a Floral Arranger.

Other than her parents, Della was preceded in death by her husband of 70 years, Kenneth Lee "Bud" Simms; siblings, Leonard Brandt, Ruthie Brandt, Paul Brandt, Bill Brandt, Lillian Brown, Nellie Simms and Margaret Smith.

Kenneth Lee "Bud" Simms, 95, of Fairlea, passed away Saturday, Oct. 13, 2018, at Brier Nursing and Rehab Center.

Bud was born Feb. 26, 1923, at Maxwelton to the late Charles Carroll and Margaret Brown Simms.

Bud was owner/operator of Simm's Esso in Ronceverte from 1950 until 1960 when he sold it and then bought what is now Simm's Exxon in Lewisburg in 1960; a member of the Fairlea Ruritan Club, Lewisburg Rotary; American Legion Post # 200. Bud was a WWII Navy Veteran having served as a Tail Gunner off of a Hellcat Dive-bomber having been awarded the Silver Star and Airman's Medal among others. He was a member of the Trinity United Methodist Church. He served on many committees at Trinity and was a member of the Methodist Men.

Other than his parents, Bud was preceded in death by sisters, Catherine Simms and Ella McClung; brothers, James, Bill, Clarence, Ray, Perry "Snookie" and Charlie Simms.

Bud was a proud donor to the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine.

Survivors of Della and Bud include daughter, Sandy Tuckwiller of Lewisburg; sons, Kenny Simms and wife Donna of The Villages, FL, Larry Simms of Miami, FL, George Simms and wife Diane of Lewisburg; grandchildren, David Tuckwiller, Ross Tuckwiller and wife Jenny, Kelly Tuckwiller Collins and husband Zack, Amanda Karjan and husband Andrew, Andrew Simms, Lisa Hagerty and husband Gahn, Harry Simms, June Simms; great grandchildren, Tenner, Lochlan, Lola, Connor, Ward, Gracie, Josie, Lou, Laine and Cooper.

A joint funeral service for Bud and Della will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 18, at Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg with Pastor Ron Miller officiating. Burial will follow in Rosewood Cemetery with military rites for Bud.

There will be a walk-thru visitation at the funeral home one hour prior to the service.

The family would like to extend their gratitude to the Staff at Brier Nursing and Rehabilitation Home for the care given to Della.

Strict Covid-19 regulation will be enforced during this time.

Live stream of the service will be on wallaceandwallacefh.com

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations of sympathy be sent to either the Edward R. Tuckwiller Scholarship (for students wishing to pursue careers in the trade or agriculture industry) c/o Premier Bank, 1085 Washington St. East, Lewisburg, WV 24901 or Trinity United Methodist Church Building Fund at 373 Pocahontas Avenue Ronceverte, WV 24970.

Elaine McCallister Allen



Richmond, VA-Elaine McCallister Allen, 95, went to be with the Lord Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2020. The eldest of 12 children, she was born to Ernest and Madeline McCallister May 3, 1925, in Asbury, Greenbrier County, WV.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William D. Allen; her sister, Kayle Harvey of Livermore, CA; and her brother, Kenneth McCallister of Redding, CA.

Survivors include son, Danny Allen and wife, Linda, of Henrico; two daughters, Bonnie Allen Baber and husband David of Henrico and Elizabeth Allen Bareford and husband Allen, of Quinton; five grandsons, Daniel Allen, Joshua Allen, Matthew Allen, Christopher Baber and Jeremy Bareford; three granddaughters, Laura Allen Carter, Katherine Allen and Ashleigh Bareford; one great-grandson, Grayson Allen; and five great-granddaughters, Brooke Carter, Libby Carter, Nora Allen, Violet Allen and Lacie Baber. She is also survived by one sister, Patricia Moore of Glen Allen; and eight brothers, Perry McCallister, Jimmie McCallister, Keith McCallister of Livermore, CA, Bobby McCallister, Joe McCallister and Eddie McCallister of Redding, CA, Lael McCallister of Pahrump, NV, and Garry McCallister of Alderson, WV.

Elaine accepted Christ as her Savior after hearing the evangelist, Oliver Green, in 1948. She was a registered nurse and retired from Richmond Memorial Hospital in 1986 after 20 years. She was a longtime member of Immanuel Baptist Church in Richmond. Elaine was a great Christian role model to her children, family and friends. She was a faithful prayer warrior, loved to read Civil War novels, journal and write letters to family and missionaries. Elaine had a gift for entertaining including being a great cook and loved to "help the old people." She had great fun spending hours researching the genealogy of her family.

The Lord used experiences like living through the Depression in a home with no running water and electricity, helping her parents raise her brothers and sisters by making school lunches, doing laundry and making dresses out of feed sacks to shape her strong work ethic and determination to live life to the fullest, even while suffering with RA for over 40 years. One of her favorite songs has a line: "I'll fly away; To a land where joy shall never end." That is exactly what she has done.

Elaine was professionally cared for, especially during this time of Covid-19, by the loving staff of Parham Healthcare.

Private interment was in Westhampton Memorial Park, Henrico, VA. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Immanuel Baptist Church Mission Fund, 3601 Monument Ave., Richmond, VA 23230 or New Life for Youth, P.O. Box 13526, Richmond, VA 23225.

Bennett Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Myrtle Belle Reed



Lewisburg-Myrtle Belle Reed, 93, of Season's Place, Lewisburg, formerly of White Sulphur Springs, passed away Friday, Jan. 8, 2021, at Peyton Hospice House, Lewisburg.

She was born Aug. 18, 1927, in Caldwell, the daughter of the late Clarence S. and Gladys Thomas Kessinger.

Myrtle Belle was a graduate of White Sulphur Springs High School, a member of Emmanuel United Methodist Church, a member of the Green Mitt Garden Club, operated the Jack and Jill Play School for over 20 years and had worked at several of the Shoppes at The Greenbrier Hotel.

Other than her parents she was preceded in death by her husband, Thomas E. "Tommy" Reed in February 2019; son, Thomas Kenton Reed; and brother, Bill Kessinger.

Those left to cherish her memory are daughter, Ceda Jean Reed and her companion Bill Burghy of Morgantown; son, Curtis E. Reed and wife Debbie of White Sulphur Springs; sisters, Charlotte Rock of New Castle, VA and Betty Collachio of Augusta, GA; and her little Furry Pal "Sasha."

Due to Covid-19, Myrtle's wishes were to be cremated.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in White Sulphur Springs is in charge of arrangements.

Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

John Edward Ewart



Fairlea-On Jan. 10, 2021, two weeks shy of his 93rd birthday, John "Jack" Edward Ewart died suddenly at the Greenbrier Valley Medical Center after a brief hospitalization.

Jack was born in Lawrence, MA, on Jan. 23, 1928, to Raymond James and Dorothy (Deering) Ewart.

He graduated from Tilton School in Tilton, NH and from Springfield (MA) College. During the later stages of WWII, he served as a Sergeant in the US Army Signal Corps (Company B, 51st Signal Operation Battalion) after enlisting at Grenier Field, Manchester, NH. In 1949, he was discharged at Fort George G. Meade in Maryland.

Prior to moving to Lewisburg, Jack served as Assistant Director of the Student Union at the University of New Hampshire and as Director of the George Sherman Union at Boston University for 14 years. He was also the Executive Director of the Faculty Student Union at SUNY Delhi Tech in New York.

In 1995, Jack retired from the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine after serving as Director of Personnel and Affirmative Action, Director

of Physical Plant, Director of Auxiliary Services, Director of Institutional Service, and lastly Director of Physician Placement and Placement Officer.

Jack was very active in community affairs: the Lewisburg Fire Department in which he earned the 1982 Fireman of the Year while president; the Greenbrier Valley United Way as the first Chairman of the Board of Directors; the Board of Directors of the WV affiliate of the American Heart Association; Chairman of the Greenbrier Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross; a founder of the Greenbrier Valley Chapter of Bereaved Parents; and the Greenbrier Valley Model Railroad Club.

He became very active in the Shepherd Center as a Trustee who helped to deliver meals.

He was an active member of Rotary, having helped to organize a club in Delhi prior to moving to Lewisburg. He was the 1994-95 District Governor as well as secretary, Alumni Subcommittee chair, editor of the newsletter, coordinator of On-Site Arrangements at the Homestead, chairman of the Permanent Fund, and a legislative delegate to the International Rotary Council.

He served as Vice President of the Lewisburg Planning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals. For his unselfish volunteer work, Jack was proclaimed the 1983 Volunteer of the Year by the City of Lewisburg. He was a member of the American Legion, a Senior Volunteer at Greenbrier Valley Hospital, and an instructor and district coordinator for AARP's Driver Safety Program. At St. Stephen's Anglican Church in Clifton Forge, Jack was a Vestry member.

In 1968 Jack married Betty Hovencamp who predeceased him in 2009 as did their daughter Ruthie in 1988. Through an earlier marriage, he is survived by daughters, Virginia and Elizabeth; sons, Christopher and Douglas; three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. His sister, Susan is still living as is a Hovencamp nephew and three nieces.

Jack loved being as active as he could, using his Kubota tractor to snowplow neighbors' driveways. Above all he had a vast knowledge of model railroading which he gladly shared with everyone.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Shepherd's Center of Greenbrier Valley, 1133 E. Washington Street, Lewisburg, VA 24901.

A private service and burial will be held. A public memorial service will be scheduled at a later date. Covid-19 guidelines will be followed and social distancing will be enforced.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg is in charge of arrangements.

Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

Treva Z. Tingler Weikel

White Sulphur Springs-Treva Z. Tingler Weikel, 82, passed away Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021, at Genesis Health Care Center in White Sulphur Springs.

Born July 29, 1938, in Covington, VA, Treva was a daughter of the late Blanton Lawrence and Frances Mildred Craft Tingler.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her loving husband of 62 years, Harold; sister, Mildred Tingler; and granddaughter, Jessica Victoria Correa.

See "Obituaries" _____ P. 7

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WVSO announces cancellation of in-person concerts, introduces live stream event

The WV Symphony Orchestra (WVSO) has announced its decision to cancel the remainder of the previously scheduled subscription concerts for the 2020-2021 season due to continued safety concerns caused by the COVID-19 global pandemic. The Symphony will continue to offer performances online and on West Virginia Public Broadcasting.

President Joe Tackett said in regards to the cancellation; "The WV Symphony Orchestra is thankful that vaccines are becoming more readily available, and we hope to be able to be together in the hall again soon. Nevertheless, we are still making alternative concert events that follow state and federal guidelines until the pandemic restrictions are lifted."

In lieu of the in-person concerts, the WVSO is excited to announce additional live streaming and broadcast concerts throughout the spring. The next concert, "Great Music - Old and New" will be live streamed on Wednesday, Jan. 27, at 3 p.m. thanks to an ongoing partnership with West Virginia Public Broadcasting.

"Great Music - Old and New" brings Music Director Lawrence Loh and WVSO musicians back to the Culture Center stage for an afternoon of beautiful music. The concert features selections from several Black composers, including Jesse Montgomery's Starburst and William Grant Still's Danzas de Panama. Another highlight of this special concert is a performance of Quinn Mason's Reflection on a Memorial. Mason is a 25-year-old, award-winning composer from Texas and has been lauded as "one of the most sought-after young composers in the country" (Texas Monthly).

Astral Artist and guest violinist, Katie Hyun joins the Symphony for the second half of this concert for a performance of Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 4.

This concert is made possible thanks to our generous sponsors the Elliot Foundation, Jim & Keith Straw, and Dr. Steven & Mrs. Sharon Jubelirer.

FAQs Surrounding Cancellation of WV Symphony concerts:

Q: What were the factors that influenced the decision to cancel these concerts?

A: After careful review and discussion, the WVSO announced that all previously advertised concerts have been cancelled due to the COVID-19 global pandemic. This cancellation represents the safest and most prudent plan to ensure the well-being of the entire community.

Q: How will the season cancellation affect musicians?

A: The WVSO is com-

mitted, alongside the WVSO's extraordinary musicians, to creatively remain connected to the community. We are continuing to explore other programming options, including live streaming. The next live-stream concert will be "Great Music - Old and New" on Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 2:30 p.m. Please visit wvsymphony.org for more details about this and other performances.

Q: How do I donate my 20-21 subscription or tickets back to the Symphony?

A: The WVSO is deeply grateful for those who choose to donate their tickets back. Patrons who donate tickets will receive an acknowledgement for their charitable contribution. Symphony staff will be making phone calls to touch base with subscribers beginning later this week. If you'd like to speak with someone directly and immediately, contact Amanda McDonald, Marketing Director, at 304-957-9880 or amcdonald@wvsymphony.org, or the Clay Center Box Office at 304-561-3570 or boxoffice@theclaycenter.org, to discuss subscription options.

Q: Can I receive a refund for my 20-21 subscription?

A: While the WVSO appreciates those who donate their tickets back to the Symphony during this trying time, they also understand some subscribers may want a refund for the cancelled concerts. Subscribers are eligible for a refund, and those interested should contact the Clay Center Box Office at 304-561-3570 or boxoffice@theclaycenter.org, to discuss subscriptions and refunds.

Q: I have credit or vouchers from the 19-20 season. Will that credit or voucher(s) be available and applicable to the 21-22 Season?

A: Yes, vouchers will be honored. However, the most impactful thing patrons can do right now is to donate the value of any credit(s) or voucher(s) back to the Symphony. To explore available options, please contact Amanda McDonald, Marketing Director, at 304-957-9880 or amcdonald@wvsymphony.org.

Q: Are the Symphony's education programs affected as well?

A: Our partnership with Kanawha County Schools is continuing throughout the current school year. Additionally, the Sympho-

Dear Recycle Lady,

Dear Recycle Lady,
Where can we recycle our glass bottles and jars? We used to take them to Blacksburg, but they have eliminated their general collection places. We are located in Greenville, Monroe County. Thanks.

Glass Recycler
Dear Glass Recycler,
Unfortunately, most recycle centers have discontinued glass recycling because of processing costs. One of the few recyclers in the area that still recycle glass is Greenworks Recycling in Lewisburg (greenworksrecyclingwv.com or 304-661-7793). Greenworks has two plans available for recycling glass. The first one is a county-wide, private-pay plan that is \$25 per pickup, with pickup date and time scheduled by the client. The second one is a Lewisburg public works add-on plan for \$14 a month. Subscribers' glass

is picked up during the regular every other week curbside pickup. As a Monroe County resident, you may not be able to recycle your glass bottles and jars. However, you can recycle the metal lids on glass bottles and jars, including ones with a rubber gasket. Recycle these metal lids with steel cans.

Dear Recycle Lady,
Is there any place locally that recycles florescent light tubes? Thank you for all the valuable information you provide.

Reader
Dear Reader,
Thanks for saying there is valuable information in my columns. Unfortunately, florescent tubes are, at times, hard to recycle. Lowe's in Lewisburg sometimes accepts florescent light tubes, as does Lowe's in Beckley.

Dear Recycle Lady,

National Seed Swap Day is the last weekend in January. I found an article that tells things people can do that weekend and how to make seed envelopes out of newspapers. Cut a sheet of newspaper larger than the size you want your seed envelope to be. Fold over/tape/glue the edges and create a top fold. Some of my favorite flower seeds to harvest are zinnia, marigold, calendula, and larkspur.

Flower Gardener
Dear Flower Gardener,

Thanks for the information on National Seed Swap Day and how to make storage envelopes out of newspapers. According to my research, National Seed Swap Day has been observed every last Saturday in January since it originated in Washington, DC, in 2006. Participants are not only reusing newspapers to

create storage for seeds, but also wrapping paper and old envelopes. With the increased interest in gardening, perhaps readers would be interested in having a county seed swap day. Anyone interested? If so, let me know and maybe we can get one started for this spring.

Have questions about recycling, or interesting information about recycling? Send questions or requests to recyclelady@greenbrier-swa.com. Dear Recycle Lady is sponsored jointly by the Greenbrier Recycling Center and Greenworks Recycling.



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	7				4	9	2	
		8		6			5	
3			1					6
	4	6	9				8	
9				5		4		
	2				6			1
5			8		7	6		
	1			4			3	
		4			9			2

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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ny is excited to produce and record a new Young People's Concert. Details will be released as soon as possible.

Q: Whom do I call with questions? Is the Clay Center Box Office still open?

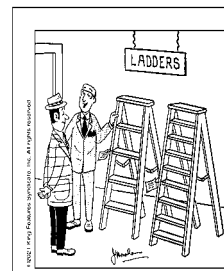
A: Contact Amanda McDonald, Marketing Director, at 304-957-9880 or amcdonald@wvsymphony.org, or the Clay Center Box Office at 304-561-3570 or boxoffice@theclaycenter.org to discuss subscription options. The Clay Center Box Office hours are currently phone only, Tuesday-Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 12 noon to 4 p.m. Patrons are encouraged to leave a message if calling on Monday and times in which the box office is closed, and someone will return your call as soon as possible.

The West Virginia Symphony Orchestra is West Virginia's premier performing arts organization, presenting classical, pops, and chamber-music concerts annually throughout the Mountain State. The WVSO is a proud member of the community and enriches the region by providing affordable, high-quality concerts, collaborations with West Virginia arts organizations and a nationally award-winning

Super Crossword

MULTITUDINOUS

- ACROSS**
1 Little rascal
6 Mosque officiants
11 Go for a dip
15 Spill the secret
19 Shinbone
20 Local theaters, in slang
21 Had on
22 Go very fast
23 City in which quadrennial games take place
25 Gumbo vegetable
26 R&B singer James
27 Japanese soup paste
28 Fit — queen
29 Sea cargo weight unit
31 Statistic associated with plane riders
35 Threatens to topple
36 Brouhaha
37 Ken is one
38 Viking 1 landing site
39 Fleecy boot brand
42 Guesses at LGA
45 Instructive example
47 "Siddhartha" author Hermann
52 Gotten larger
54 UNLV part
56 1977 Triple Crown horse
58 "— & Stitch"
59 Stinging hits
61 TV's Amaz
62 Not iffy
63 Whitewater transport
67 Vassals
69 Tongue-lash
70 See
71 117-Across
72 Goldie of "Laugh-In"
72 Unit of pressure
75 It surrounds the South Orkney Islands
80 Twin of Jacob
81 Secy., e.g.
83 Oozes
84 Jazzy Fitzgerald
85 Pile of trash
89 Enervate
90 Sacred song
91 Muscle twitch
92 Arthurian wizard
94 "Encore!"
96 "Science Guy" of TV
97 Pupil setting
99 Arthurian wife
101 Add — (annexes)
103 Reviewer of tax returns
107 Disney World roller coaster
113 Moniker for a 1970s sitcom family
115 Go up
116 With 118-Across, bite-size Nabisco cookie
117 With 70-Across, Taj Mahal locale
118 See 116-Across
119 Statement about the end of each of nine answers in this puzzle
122 Meyers of "Late Night"
123 Ball field coverer
124 Candid
125 Cara of "Fame" fame
126 Canadian fuel brand
127 Gin flavorer
128 Burrito topper
129 Winona of "Beetlejuice"
- DOWN**
1 Walk heavily
2 Paramedic hairs
3 Huge gulf
4 Cocktail at brunch
5 Dad, in dialect
6 Disguised, in brief
7 Gold-medal skier Phil
8 On a plane or train
9 Month, in Spain
10 Retired jet since '03
11 Cutlass, e.g.
12 Rousted
13 Thorns in one's side
14 Scant
15 Favre of football
16 Starbucks offering
17 Many a Tony winner
18 Hits on the noggin
24 Alternatively
29 Artificial
30 Two-gender pronoun
32 Utopian site
33 Email giggle
34 Bullring calls
38 Sacred song
39 Wrinkled citrus fruit
40 Smile widely
41 Club game
43 Assuage
44 Bygone Swedish car
46 Smiley's opposites
48 Inherent natures
49 Slimy garden pest
50 Dried up, old-style
51 Rams' partners
53 Some babes in the woods
55 Sharp, broken-off piece
57 Purple blooms
59 Colonel Klink's camp
60 Mail status
64 — carte
65 Nutrition stat
66 Ventilates
68 "Sands of — Jima"
71 Big African beast, briefly
72 Tinkertoy bits
73 PDQ cousin
74 Gilbert of "The Talk"
75 Fire remains
76 Join (with)
77 Zest
78 Join (with)
79 Identify
82 Between urban and country
86 Friendly relationship
87 Letter before beth
88 — colada
90 "21 Grams" actor Sean
93 Cage, to his pals
95 City WNW of Paris
98 R2-D2 and others
100 Skin-related
102 "Our Lady" of churches
103 Humiliate
104 Beseeches
105 Pub missiles
106 Boise setting
107 Brand of mouthwash
108 Outward expressions
109 Port of Japan
110 Felt sickly
111 Words after two or hole
112 Stuff in gunpowder
114 Successor of Claudius I
119 Provisos
120 Refrain bit
121 Title for Ringo Starr as of 2018



SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Creak
ORGAN
Wild
FLARE
Lone
LOSE
Blunt
CREDIT
TODAY'S WORD

Commentary: Accountability

cont. from Page 4

rally he has called, and he tells you to do this or “liberty” dies, you believe you’re doing the right thing. The president himself has called on you to serve your nation and protect it, the ideals we are taught to glorify from birth.

Trump’s case is built on lies. Justice also knows this:

“You can’t ever have it perfect, I know, but ... but at the same time I have to have enough faith that the people that were checking things out nonstop in regard to the elections ... in all the different states, all the courts, all the everything, ... came back and said ‘no, we’re good with this. We’re good with what’s happened.’ And then we ran out of time. When you get to the time situation, you have to fall back and be America again.”

Trump did not join the mob he encouraged because he knew what would happen to them.

Five people are dead as a result of the riot, including a law enforcement officer.

Video of one officer screaming as rioters crush him while trying to enter the capitol is haunting.

“Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and fellow officers of U.S. Capitol Police Officer Brian D. Sicknick, who succumbed last night to the injuries he suffered defending the U.S. Capitol, against the violent mob who stormed it on January 6th,” wrote Acting Attorney General Jeffrey A. Rosen. “The FBI and Metropolitan Police Department will jointly investigate the case and the Department of Justice will spare no resources in investigating and holding accountable those responsible.”

They have already taken action - West Virginia Delegate Derrick Evans was taken into custody by the FBI on Friday, Jan. 8. Two days earlier he live streamed, filmed, and posted a video of himself breaking into and walking inside the United States capitol building.

“Derrick Evans is in the capitol!” he

confesses, to what sounds like great satisfaction. He was just one of the first arrested for “entering a restricted area” by the Department of Justice.

Although less than a week remains of the outgoing president’s term, Congressional leadership is demanding that the executive branch, Vice President Mike Pence and the presidential cabinet, remove Trump through the 25th Amendment of the Constitution or they will impeach and remove the man that called the mob to DC in the first place. Unlike last January, the Senate would hold a full and fair accounting of the man who told a mob to “be strong” and sent it across the metaphorical Rubicon.

“The behavior we witnessed in the U.S. Capitol is entirely un-American,” reads a bipartisan press release from several representatives, including WV Senator Joe Manchin. “This was not a peaceful protest - this was an insurrection. ... Our democracy is stronger than the destructive behavior of any mob and will survive today’s egregious behavior.”

After the siege, Congress returned to session to certify the results. Even then, after an armed rebellion incited by Trump, over 100 Congressmen and women, including our own Carol Miller, WV District 3 Rep, amid political pressure from Trump, voted against certifying the election results from states other than West Virginia, specifically Arizona and Pennsylvania, continuing to disrespect the people of West Virginia by lying to them about the results of the election.

Trump continues to not acknowledge the role he played here, even after the violence had started. Even a week later, denouncing the followers he called on to do this, he does not mention his involvement.

I’m reminded of 2017. After Neonazis and Klansman descended on Charlottesville, Virginia.

“Jews will not replace us,” they chanted.

“Blood and soil,” they chanted, a Nazi slogan.

David Duke, former Grand Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, was there.

A woman, Heather Heyer, was murdered in the street.

Trump called them “very fine people.”

In the first presidential debate, Trump told the Proud Boys, a far-right extremist group whose members must enact political violence in order to “advance” inside the organization, to “stand back and stand by” when asked to denounce them.

“Hang Mike Pence,” they chanted.

And after this armed insurrection, he told the political terrorists, those his rhetoric led on, who took the capitol, armed with guns and zip ties, who stole from our representatives, and left what appears to be blood and feces in the halls, “We love you. You’re very special. I know how you feel.”

In spite of all of this, Congress still was able to do its job and rubber stamp the state’s elections, elections they have the right and responsibility to operate and manage, the will of the American people.

“Today was a difficult and dark day in our nation’s history,” Manchin said in a later statement. “But let’s be clear - our democracy prevailed. ... In just 14 days, there will be a peaceful transition of power. Joe Biden and Kamala Harris were legitimately elected and are our next President and Vice President. It is time to come together and begin to move forward as one nation. God bless the United States of America.”

Thankfully, the House of Representatives is holding this standard, voting to impeach Trump once again. Miller voted no, stating “America is in desperate need of healing and unity, not further division.”

Unity is only possible through an honest accounting of what has taken place. To not rebuke it, without question, simply opens the door for another riot in 2024 if Trump loses once again. Or another in 2028. Or another on inauguration day.

“They were domestic terrorists and justice must prevail,” said Speaker Nancy Pelosi in her statements before the vote. “But they did not appear out of the vacuum, they were sent here. Sent here by the president with words like a cry to ‘fight like hell.’ Words matter. Truth matters. Accountability matters.”

Please consider your brother and sister West Virginians and Americans. We only win by working with one another, relying on verifiable evidence, instead of fighting among ourselves about basic facts.

January 6th was one of many dark days, but I hope that our representatives can hold the same level of accountability for the president as our local law enforcement and court system does for conspiracy to break into someone else’s business or home. But this time, it was the center and home for Democracy.

Please continue to realize that things are not right. Things are not getting better for West Virginia. Despite party intentions, we must look forward for the benefit of America and what will help her citizens most. It’s our responsibility to fix this.

Commentary: Resolution

cont. from Page 4

are local home fires, which can destroy nearly everything a family owns in a matter of minutes. Partnering with local fire departments, Red Cross Disaster Action Team volunteers connect with families by video or phone call to provide emotional support, emergency financial assistance and information to help families begin to recover.

- Volunteer from home (virtual positions): Help from the comfort of your own home through a wide range of virtual opportunities, including volunteer screeners who help match new volunteers with the needs of the organization and connecting volunteers with positions for which they are both interested and well suited.

Commentary: Election Process

cont. from Page 4

United States, and in the history of West Virginia.

Lincoln was right. Elections belong to the people, and West Virginia is but one of 50 states that choose our national leaders; we are inextricably tied to the rest of the U.S. The horrible events at our nation’s capitol on January 6th showed how fragile our democracy can be when people lose confidence in the election process. We all watched in horror as the protest turned deadly.

Under no circumstances should violence, mayhem, or destruction be tolerated. People who broke the law must be held accountable, and I condemn their actions. While I support small government, and free, safe, and secure “one-person one-vote” elections, I do not support vio-

lations of law in pursuit of a different outcome. Our judicial system is the appropriate venue for raising arguments and presenting evidence; not destruction at our capitols and other government buildings, or putting people’s safety in danger.

Due to proper preparation and extraordinary voter turnout, West Virginia had an exceptional election. Recent events should not distract from our successes. On Wednesday, Jan. 13, I presented our certified election results to the WV House of Delegates and the WV Senate, allowing the start of the 85th Session of the WV Legislature. Through voter engagement and following the rule of law, WV voters can have confidence in the election process and confidence in our elected leaders. Indeed, it is “their decision.”

GCC

cont. from Front Page

County Airport Authority, were also approved to match last year’s seats in a two to one vote, with McClung voting against.

A revised COVID-19 policy for courthouse employees was also considered after the rules around the CARES Act expired at the start of 2021.

“Before the end of the year, [COVID-19 quarantine was] covered for up to 14 days ... and the individual would not have to use their medical leave or their vacation time,” explained Tinchner. “After this new act has been put out, that is not included. I would make a motion that we continue to include that in our COVID policy for ... any individual to have coverage for up to 14 days, 80 hours, the county would cover their leave time because they have become COVID positive or have to quarantine. After that 80 hour period, they would have to use their vacation time or medical leave time. Ultimately this is covering them the same they would be covered in 2020.”

Noting that documentation from the Greenbrier County Health Department would be required, Tinchner explained why the commission wants to keep this policy intact.

“We do not want the courthouse to have to close - our goal is to keep the courthouse open but if we get to the point where we’re not providing something for an employee ... who is positive or is sick,

we do not want them to feel like they have to come to work if they do have COVID because they don’t have sick leave,” Tinchner said.

“The [80] hours should take care of the lion’s share of the cases,” McClung agreed. “It is a changing situation.”

The courthouse is also currently not expected to require employees to get the vaccine when it becomes available.

“That’s a personal decision, as far as getting the vaccine,” Rose said. “Personally, I went yesterday (January 12) and got my first round. Feb. 7, I get my second round - it’s been 24 hours and no problems at all with all my pre-existings.”

In other business:

A letter was approved to the Department of Highways requesting the return of approximately \$60,000 for the Meadow River Trail originally coming from FEMA. The money was to be used to make repairs after it was damaged during the 2016 flood, and the DOH was sent the funds in order to design the repairs with another local project. After review, the commission agreed to request the funds back, allowing the project to move forward. The letter was drafted by Matt Ford, the lead coordinator for the project.

Sheriff Bruce Sloan was approved to hire a new, grant-funded Victim Advocate.

Obituaries

cont. from Page 5

She is survived by her daughter, Pamela Correa of White Sulphur Springs; her son and daughter-in-law, Harold “Dean” and Teresa of Roanoke, VA; grandchildren, Whitney and Evan Correa and Hunter Weikel, Esq. She is also survived by her brother and sister-in-law, Larry and Pat Tinger of White Sulphur Springs and her sister and brother-in-law Mona and Charlie Workman of Clintonville; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, neighbors and friends.

She was a graduate of New Castle High School in New Castle, VA, Class of 1955. She worked at the Bank of White Sulphur Springs, which later became First Citizens Bank with 20 plus years of service. After her retirement in 1999 she and Harold enjoyed traveling around on the hunt in antique stores for that “perfect” flower frog. She was of the Methodist faith and attended Emmanuel United Methodist Church in earlier years.

A graveside service will be held Saturday, Jan. 16,


at 3 p.m. at the Paint Bank Community Cemetery in Paint Bank, VA, with Rev. Melissa Shortridge officiating.

In lieu of flowers Treva would be proud if people would make contributions to Greenbrier County Animal Shelter, 151 Holliday Lane, Lewisburg, WV 24901.

We will be following all guidelines as set out by State and County officials due to COVID 19.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in White Sulphur Springs is in charge of arrangements.

Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com



Call for nominations

The West Virginia Press Association is now accepting nominations for the

WVPA's Hall of Fame, Class of 2021

The written nomination must include a brief biographical sketch.

Nomination details at wvpress.org
Submit nominations by March 1, 2021
Email to **Don Smith, donsmith@wvpress.org**
or by mail to **WV Press Association**
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information call (304) 645-6452.

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DUMP LOAD OF DRY SEASONED FIREWOOD. In Sinks Grove. Call (304) 661-0417.

Vaccination Update

Line to help West Virginians get information on the distribution process and availability of COVID-19 vaccines.

Vaccine Info Line: 1-833-734-0965.

The line operates Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Visit vaccinate.wv.gov for more information, including details on vaccine availability and other frequently asked questions.

Also, on Monday, Gov. Justice announced an upcoming initiative called the Mountaineer Rental Assistance Program, which will provide aid to renters and landlords who have been impacted by COVID-19.

"I am excited," Gov. Justice said. "If you're renting or you are a landlord, this is a really big deal."

The program will be administered by the West Virginia Housing Development Fund (WVHDF) and will provide direct financial assistance to renters who have lost their job, had their income reduced, or suffered a significant cost or financial

hardship because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Working with our partners at the U.S. Treasury, there is significant money on the way to achieve just this," Gov. Justice said.

The program is not open yet. Gov. Justice said that he will provide additional updates about the program when they become available.

"We are waiting for additional guidance from the Treasury. We expect that additional guidance in the coming days," Gov. Justice said. "We are expecting those funds to be administered to us in late January."

"I want to thank the West Virginia Housing Development Fund Executive Director Erica Boggess for all the great work that she's doing," Gov. Justice continued. "It's really great news to people that are really having a really hard time in regard to their rent. This is really good stuff."

More information is now available on the WVHDF's website.

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Greenbrier Greeters

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Creative Kitchens • Edith's Store • Fairlea Animal Hospital
The Ferrell Eye Clinic, P.C. • First Baptist Church, Fairlea
Grassroots Church • Greenbrier Bowling & Rec. Center • Greenbrier Recycling Center
Greenbrier Valley Brewing Company • Greenbrier Chevrolet Buick
Greenbrier Chiropractic Center-Dr. Timothy Pence • Greenbrier Medical Arts Pharmacy
Greenbrier Valley Medical Center • Greenbrier Valley Theatre
Greenbrier Valley Veterinary Hospital • The Heart Center-Thomas W. vonDohlen, M.D.
Knight Henderson-American National Insurance
Lawrence J. Ickes, CPA, A.C. • Lewisburg United Methodist Church
Lewisburg Veterinary Hospital, Inc.-Dr. Mary Ann Mann
Mary Kay Cosmetics-Erica Buzzard • Mountain Messenger
Olive + Shea Natural Nail Studio • Post Net • Premier Bank • Robert C. Byrd Clinic
Sandy Epling-State Farm Insurance • Seneca Trail Animal Hospital
Shuck Memorial Baptist Church • S.J. Neathawk Lumber •
Spare Time Sports Bar & Grille • St. James Episcopal Church
St. Thomas Episcopal Church, WSS • State Farm Insurance-Chris Hall
Summit Community Bank • True Value Home Center

Heather Blake, Owner 304-646-2624
Alice Hollingsworth 304-645-3788
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T	O	L	S	N	E	S	I	M	E	C	O	N	O	A	V	A	G
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E	C	V	A	R	E	H	O	M	S	E	B	V	N	V	I	B	I
B	A	V	L	B	M	I	M	S	S	M	A	V	M	I	P	W	A

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6	3	8	5	4	9	7	1	2
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5	8	2	3	7	6	9	4	1
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3	5	1	2	9	7	8	6	4
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Anderson to offer Hero’s Journey workshop through New River CTC

Learn how to create compelling narratives for fictional characters or your own life with author Belinda Anderson at New River Community and Technical College. The Hero’s Journey workshop will be held by conference call beginning Feb. 5.

The Hero’s Journey is a four-week writing class meeting at 10 a.m. on Fridays. This workshop is based upon author Joseph Campbell’s “The Hero with a Thousand Faces,” which details the steps of a hero’s journey that are common to ancient myths. “Jane Eyre,” “Moby Dick” and “The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn” are classic hero’s journeys. The Harry Potter books and the “Star Wars” movie series are perfect - and very successful - examples of the hero’s journey approach to storytelling.

The class can be accessed with an internet conference call connection or by land-line telephone - no high-speed internet is required. The hour-long conference calls will include lecture, with time for questions and participant sharing, and group e-mail follow-up as needed. Participants can create new work or apply the concepts to existing projects. The workshop is open both to beginning and more experienced writers.

“The hero’s journey is an approach that works for all types of writing, from novels to memoirs,” Anderson said. “But it’s more than a template. Through discussion and practice, students will gain a deeper understanding of how they can make use of the hero’s journey in terms of plot, setting and characterization.”

The hero’s journey has influenced Anderson’s own writing. “I remember one short story where I wasn’t satisfied with the ending,” she said, referring to her collection “Buckle Up, Buttercup,” published by Mountain State Press.

“I started thinking about the hero’s journey and realized the hero had never entered the symbolic innermost cave. When I thought more about that, the manuscript transformed into a story that was still humorous but with much more depth and humanity. It is one of my best-received stories at readings. It’s also a great example of what the hero’s journey can do for any type of writing - this is a story about delivering a fruit basket.”

Tuition for the class is \$75, and the registration deadline is Jan. 22. Participants will be emailed the conference call number and access codes after registering for the class.

For college information or to register visit www.newriver.edu/community or contact Gloria Kincaid (304-793-6101, gkincaid@newriver.edu).

Learn more about Anderson and her work online at <http://www.BelindaAnderson.com>

GOT LEGALS?

EMAIL LEGALADS@MOUNTAINMEDIANEWS.COM

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(2019-S-00000011 - Greenbrier County - JAMES A FACEMIRE)

To: HAMBRICK ANNETTE L, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.

You will take notice that JAMES A FACEMIRE, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2019-S-00000011, LOT 19 GYPSY HTS GYPSY LAND FAIRLEA 50X150X70X150, located in FORT SPRING, which was returned delinquent in the name of HAMBRICK ANNETTE L, and for which the tax lien(s) thereon was sold by the sheriff of Greenbrier County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on the 20th day of November, 2019, has requested that you be notified that a deed for such real estate will be made to him or her on or after April 1, 2021, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount you will have to pay on the last day, March 31, 2021, will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to March 31, 2021.	\$	101.94
Amount of subsequent years' taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to March 31, 2021.	\$	9.76
Amount paid for the Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2020, following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2021.	\$	428.74
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2021.	\$	42.75
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to the The Honorable Bruce Sloan, Sheriff and Treasurer of Greenbrier County.	\$	583.19
Cost of Certification of Redemption - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to the The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.	\$	35.00

You may redeem at any time before March 31, 2021, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

Return this letter and both certified funds to the
WV State Auditor's Office,
County Collections Division
1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 option 2

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CITY OF RONCEVERTE FUNDING ASSISTANCE ORDINANCE

A public hearing will be held on the following-entitled Ordinance at a regular meeting of the Council of the City of Ronceverte (the “City”) to be held on Monday, February 1, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at the City Hall, 182 Main Street West, Ronceverte, West Virginia, and at such hearing any person interested may appear before the City and present protests, and all protests and suggestions shall be heard by the City and it shall then take such actions as it shall deem proper in the premises upon an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DESIGN AND OTHER PRE-CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR THE ADDITIONS, BETTERMENTS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE EXISTING PUBLIC WASTEWATER FACILITIES OF THE CITY OF RONCEVERTE, AND THE FINANCING OF THE COST THEREOF, NOT OTHERWISE PROVIDED, THROUGH THE ACCEPTANCE BY THE CITY OF FUNDING ASSISTANCE IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$500,000 THROUGH THE WEST VIRGINIA SRF PROGRAM; AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF ALL DOCUMENTS RELATING TO ACCEPTANCE OF SUCH FUNDING; APPROVING, RATIFYING AND CONFIRMING THE FUNDING ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT RELATING TO SUCH FUNDING ASSISTANCE.

The above-quoted title of the Ordinance describes generally the contents thereof and the purposes of the Funding Assistance contemplated thereby. The City contemplates the issuance of the Funding Assistance described in the Ordinance. The proceeds of the Funding Assistance will be used to (i) pay a portion of the costs of design certain extensions, additions, betterments and improvements to the existing public wastewater system of the Issuer (the “Project”); and (ii) to pay certain costs of issuance hereof and related costs. The Funding Assistance is provided through a principal forgiveness loan, which shall be deemed forgiven on the 30th day of June in the fiscal year in which they were advanced. No taxes may at any time be levied for the payment of the Funding Assistance.

The City Council is following the mandates from the Office of the Governor of West Virginia with respect to COVID-19. These mandates change from time to time and may impact the manner in which members of the public may attend meetings of City Council and participate in public hearings. Members of the public who wish to participate in the public hearing on this ordinance are encouraged to call City Hall prior to the meeting to verify the then current procedures for meetings of City Council and public participation in public hearings.

The above-entitled Ordinance was adopted by the Council of the City of Ronceverte on January 4, 2021. A certified copy of the above-entitled Ordinance is on file with the City for review by interested parties during regular office hours.

Following the public hearing, the City intends to enact the Ordinance upon final reading.

/s/ David Smith
Mayor

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A Look Back

Courtesy of West Virginia State Archives.

By William “Skip” Deegans

This week’s photo from the 1950s shows vacationers enjoying one of the cabins at Greenbrier State Forest. The park opened with 5,000 acres in 1939 after development by President Franklin Roosevelt’s New Deal Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The purpose of the CCC was to provide employment and income during the depression. The four initial log cabins, the superintendent’s residence, and support buildings were built by the CCC. They also built the road over Kate’s Mountain and some of the hiking trails that are used today. Stone craftsmanship by the CCC workers may be found throughout the park.

The 40’ x 82’ swimming pool was mostly completed in 1953 for \$115,000 and opened in June 1954. West Virginia State Parks were segregated until

the Supreme Court rendered a decision on Brown v. Board of Education in the spring of 1954. West Virginia’s governor, William Marland, integrated the state parks and advised each county to integrate their schools. Greenbrier County complied initially but reversed itself following a walk-out of students at White Sulphur Springs High School (reported to have been instigated by the Klu Klux Klan). While whites and blacks could picnic and, in theory at least, swim together at the Greenbrier State Forest pool, county children could not attend school together until 1956 when school segregation in Greenbrier County finally ended.

Sources: *The Greenbrier Independent; Charleston Gazette; National Park Service National Register; WV Archives and History.*

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Notice to Tax Payers

West Virginia, Greenbrier County Commission Regular January 12, 2021, Term Take notice that the Board of Equalization and Review of Greenbrier County, composed of the County Commissioners of Greenbrier County, will convene at the Courthouse at 10 a.m. on the 1st day of February 2021, for the purpose of hearing complaints any tax payer may have as to the assessment placed upon his/her property by the Assessor of this County.

It is the duty of the Board to reduce the value of property if it is too high and to increase it if it is too low. This may be done upon motion of any tax payer interested or upon the Board’s judgment. This Board will meet the tax payers from the several districts and corporations at the Courthouse in the County Commission room of said County, on the following dates: February 1st, February 5th, February 11th, and February 18th and ending no later than the 28th day of February 2021. **Instructed by WV State Code 11-3-24: the County Commission may adjourn sine die anytime after February 15th and will do so if no hearings are scheduled.** Anyone desiring to appear before this Board is requested to make an appointment with the Assistant to the County Commission, Kelly Banton, at 304-647-6689 ext. 0, Monday through Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. If the Board finds it proper to do so, it may adjourn from day to day no later than the 28th of February, 2021. Anyone desiring to review their assessment may do so online at www.greenbrier-county.net or by contacting the Assessor’s office at 304-647-6615.

Lowell Rose,
Greenbrier County Commission President

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PUBLIC ONLINE AUCTION

Secure Store - 135 Maple Carriage Drive, Lewisburg, WV 24901, has a possessory lien on all of the goods stored in unit 289. The auction will end on 01/27/2021 at 12 noon. All these items of personal property are being auctioned online through lockerfox.com. These auctions will run until January 27, 2021. Pictures of the unit can be inspected online. Cash payments only. For more details visit www.lockerfox.com/storage-auctions/us/

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Notice is hereby given that Princess Polly Anna & JCT Enterprises, LLC, PO BOX 886, LEWISBURG, WV 24901, has submitted an application with the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, (WVDEP) 1159 Nick Rahall Greenway, Fayetteville, West Virginia, 25840 for a Phase I release on Permit Number S-3011-16 for the following increments:

Increment No. 2	13.14 acres
Increment No. 7	22.00 acres

The permit is located in Meadow Bluff District of Greenbrier County, 3.5 miles southeast of Quinwood on unnamed tributaries of/and Mill Creek and unnamed tributaries of/and Big Clear Creek of Meadow River of Gauley River of Kanawha River.

Princess Polly Anna & JCT Enterprises, LLC completed backfilling and regrading on 9/15/20 and is requesting release of sixty (60) percent of the reclamation performance bond for the above increments, currently in the amount of \$112,240.00 Written comments will be received at the WVDEP address until March 1, 2021 or thirty (30) days from date of **final publication**.

PERMIT No. S-3011-16 NPDES WV1028987

GENERAL LOCATION MAP

QUINWOOD QUADRANGLE

WEST VIRGINIA GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP

GREENBRIER COUNTY 7.5 MIN. SERIES

SCALE: 1" = 1 MILE

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Carnegie Hall offers online salt rising bread workshop January 23

Do the dark days of winter have you thinking about baking bread again? If so, maybe it is time to learn the Appalachian art of making salt rising bread.

Carnegie Hall in Lewisburg will offer an online workshop on making salt rising bread at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 23. Cost of the workshop is \$25. Registration includes free access to a videotaped lecture on the history and lore of salt rising bread in Appalachia.

In the universe of breads, salt rising bread stands alone. There is nothing else remotely like it, in flavor, personality and technique. It was slow food before there was slow food - a yeast-less bread with a colorful American past going back to early pioneer days in the mountains of Appalachia. Over time, the knowledge to make salt rising bread was nearly lost, but now a new generation of bakers is rescuing the tradition.

Expert baker Jenny Bardwell and her co-author Susan Brown set out to rediscover the secrets and the science behind the

bread's "wild microbes," unique fermentation, and memorable taste. Their search took them from the parlors of Appalachian bread-making elders to the laboratory of a renowned pathologist, to the pages of rare cookbooks, bread museums and pioneer diaries.

Bardwell lives and works in an Appalachian community where salt rising bread has been a part of life for nearly 200 years. Drawn to understand this beloved heritage bread, she has spent over 20 years extensively researching its history, lore, and science. Her quest has taken her to libraries, bakeries, and bread museums across the United States and Europe, as well as into the kitchens and living rooms of hundreds of expert salt rising bread bakers.

Bardwell is the former owner of Rising Creek Bakery, in Mt. Morris, PA, which specializes in salt rising bread. She graduated from the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, NY, and earned a master's in Plant Pathology.

Tickets to the bread-baking



Salt rising bread expert Jenny Bardwell with fresh loaves of bread

workshop are available at carnegiehallwv.org. After registering, the participant will receive the information about how to join the online workshop and view

the lecture on salt rising bread.

Carnegie Hall is a nonprofit organization supported by individual contributions, grants, and fundraising efforts such as

TOOT and its annual gala. The Hall is located at 611 Church Street, Lewisburg, WV. For more information, please visit www.carnegiehallwv.org

Annual Memorial Toy Fund provides gifts for Meadow Bridge area children



The annual Donald Davis Memorial Toy Drive in the western Greenbrier, eastern Fayette and northern Summers counties area was once again successful in its fifth year.

A native of western Greenbrier, Davis worked in the Washington, DC area and annually brought a truck load of toys back to the Meadow River Valley to distribute to children who would not get toys for Christmas otherwise.

After his untimely death, his friends and relatives in the tri-county area continued the collection of new toys to be distributed in the area schools and through Wellspring.

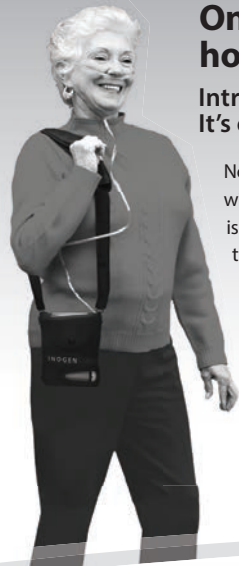
With financial backing from the Greenbrier Valley Council 8689 Knights of Columbus, the toy drive was once again successful in 2020.

In addition to supporting the Donald Davis Memorial Toy drive, the Greenbrier Valley Council 8689 Knights of Columbus, the toy drive was once again successful in 2020. In addition to supporting the Donald Davis Memorial Toy drive, the Greenbrier Valley Council 8689 Knights of Columbus, the toy drive was once again successful in 2020. In addition to supporting the Donald Davis Memorial Toy drive, the Greenbrier Valley Council 8689 Knights of Columbus, the toy drive was once again successful in 2020.

in White Sulphur Springs and the Lewisburg-Fairlea Food Locker.

Additionally, the GV Knights financially support each month the Community Outreach program of St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in White Sulphur Springs which assists those in need in the Greenbrier Valley area.

The Greenbrier Valley Council of Knights of Columbus has members in Pocahontas, Greenbrier, Monroe and eastern Fayette counties in West Virginia, as well as Alleghany and Bath counties in Virginia.



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Local student places in HHOMA essay contest

The Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs (HHOMA) will host a virtual award ceremony to celebrate the student winners of the Project on Racism Contest and 37th Annual Poster Competition. The ceremony can be viewed Saturday, Jan. 16 at 5 p.m. on HHOMA's Facebook page or on Monday, Jan. 18 at 9:30 p.m. from WV Public Broadcasting, the West Virginia Channel, directly following the broadcast of the annual Ecumenical Service.

Tenth grade student Jonathan Nguyen of Greenbrier East High School won third place in the Grade 9-12 category of the essay contest.

"The young people in our state have creativity and passion," said HHOMA Execu-

tive Director and Martin Luther King Jr. State Holiday Commission Chair Jill Upson. "We are honored to take part in recognizing them, what they have to say and what they have achieved."

The Project on Racism Contest was presented by the Martin Luther King Jr. State Holiday Commission and the YWCA Wheeling. Entries were accepted for essays, music, and five-minute films and was open to any student from grade 1-12 attending public, private, parochial, or home school in West Virginia.

All entries must have focused on the following quote from Martin Luther King, Jr.: "We may have all come on different ships, but we're in the same boat now."

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Application deadline is Jan. 29, 2021.

Applications may be downloaded from wvpress.org

For information or to have the applications mailed, contact Executive Director **Don Smith** at donsmith@wvpress.org, at 304-342-1011 or write to: WV Press Association Foundation, 3422 Pennsylvania Ave., Charleston, WV, 25302.