

Schoolhouse Hotel progress continues, renovations underway to old WSS High School building

By Sarah Richardson

Downtown White Sulphur Springs is continuing to see massive upgrades and renovations as the Disability Opportunity Fund (DOF), a Community Development Institution (CDFI), makes headway with the renovation of the old White Sulphur Springs High School building into the Schoolhouse Hotel.

The DOF has already renovated numerous storefronts on Main Street in White Sulphur including what is now M Boutique, ACE Hardware, GreenRiver Academy, Pinoy Store, Tootsie's Place, and the Paw Spa. The Schoolhouse Hotel will be the largest of the projects so far as the building receives a facelift and extensive interior upgrades to complete the transformation into a hotel.

While they may be updating the space, keeping the spirit of the building alive is paramount throughout the process. Trophies, uniforms, photos, footballs, and other high school memorabilia will be preserved to help capture the original essence of the building, with a strong focus on community history.

"The Schoolhouse Hotel will be a real hub for the community - from its restaurant and rooftop bar to its event space. We will end up employing 40 to 50 local people through hotel operations, food and beverage, and event staffing," said Operations Manager Cindy Bennett.

The DOF's focus is to provide technical and financial services to individuals and organizations serving



Digital rendering showing the exterior design plans for the old White Sulphur Springs High School building.

the disability market throughout the United States, with a focus on affordable housing, education, vocational training and employment.

As progress surges forward, a FAQ was released to provide further details on their potential opening date,

employment opportunities, and more:

What is The Schoolhouse Hotel?

The Schoolhouse Hotel is White Sulphur Springs' first full-service boutique hotel. This exciting project will transform the former historic WSS High School See "Schoolhouse Hotel" ____ Page 2

Five children murdered before December Williamsburg housefire, announces Sheriff Sloan in press conference

By Bobby Bordelon

Greenbrier County Sheriff Bruce Sloan confirmed the passing of Shaun Dawson Bumgarner, Riley James Bumgarner, Arikyle Nova Myers, Haiken Jirachi Myers, and Kian Myers during a press conference on Thursday, Jan. 21. Oreanna Antoinette Myers, 25, killed the five children shortly before starting the Dec. 8, 2020, house fire on Flynn's Creek Road near WIlliamsburg.

Sloan called the press conference a week before, announcing it would cover "information regarding the death investigation of Dec. 8, 2020, on Flynn's Creek husband Brian Bumgarner's ex-wife is the mother of Shaun, Riley, and Haiken.

In a text message the day before, Myer told Bumgarner of three notes, labeled "To whoever finds this," "My Confession," and "My Will." Sloan read from the first two, focusing on the importance of getting help when dealing with mental illness struggles.

"I'm sorry this is no one's fault but my own," Myers wrote. "My demons got ahold of me and there's no going back. ... I shot all the boys in the head. I set the house on fire."

also confirmed the absence of Bumgarner from the home seemed to be a "trigger" in these same text messages.

Forensic analysis determined the children's remains contained shotgun pellets, four of which matched pellets found in Myers. Sloan confirmed Myers' fingerprints were located on the 4.10 single-shot shotgun.

The case is now closed and Sloan said to take a "if you see something, say something" approach to helping those that could be struggling with mental health issues.

"You have to get help," Sloan said. "You can't let it fall on deaf ears. If you know someone who is express-

Road near Williamsburg."

"All five children were accounted for," Sloan said. "Our moral fabric finds it unconscionable that a mother could take their child's lives," Sloan said. "... Through all the facts and evidence, that's what we concluded did occur on Dec. 8."

Each child was under the age of ten - Myers was the biological mother of Aarikyle and Kian, while Myers'

Bumgarner had not been residing in the home during the week - he did not have transportation to work, so he was staying near Lewisburg to be close to work. He was only home during the weekends and was a "tremendous" source of "tension" between the two.

Sloan confirmed he is unaware of any diagnosis or treatment. Review of texts between her and husband showed "disturbed" and "troubling" comments. Sloan

City Council adjusts PUD zoning, plans Public Works move

By Sarah Richardson

Lewisburg City Council met on Tuesday, Jan. 19, to hold the first readings of changes to the Planned Unit Development (PUD) zoning ordinances, to hear ideas from Central Greenbrier Little League on potential field updates, and to discuss the moving of Public Works to their new building location on Feamster Road.

Planned Unit Developments are when land uses can be mixed at the same site, rather than being separated into residential and commercial uses. Multi-use subdivisions take advantage of zoning such as this to increase walkability and provide greater housing variety and density.

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In the proposed changes it specifies that residences can be mixed with a variety of retail spaces including banks, certain restaurants, childcare facilities, and more.

The proposed ordinance describes PUDs as, "A mixed-use development that includes significant amounts of commercial and residential uses while allowing variation in lot sizes; promoting more economic subdivision layout; encouraging a variety in types of residential dwellings; and preserving open spaces, tree cover, scenic vistas, hillsides, natural drainageways (sic) and other features of natural topography."

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Airport Authority discusses new signage, ongoing projects

The Greenbrier County Airport Authority met this week to review initial design plans for a new front sign and to discuss the departure of the Hertz rental car company and the Aviator restaurant. Also on the agenda were updates about the environment assessment, the taxiway lighting project, and the new airport website.

Authority members reviewed five digital rendering concepts for the new signage for the airport, none of which seemed to be the perfect fit.

"We are just looking to get some direction from the board. This is rougher than what we would usually present, but just to get an idea, they developed five different concepts so far," said Director Brian Belcher. The rough concepts varied from simple designs to more dramatic layouts that included flagpoles. Authority members kept in mind the distance to the road, what materials would potentially be used, and how to make sure it was noticeable.

Commissioner Tammy Shifflett-Tincher added, "None of them really catch my eye, and maybe it's due to the infancy of their concept." Mike Rose explained he didn't think any of them "captured the essence of Lewisburg."

Feedback will be transmitted to the design company, and further designs will be reviewed before the project moves forward.

In other news, Belcher explained the closing of the Hertz rental agency location at the airport. "Two weeks ago, on Thursday, we were notified that Hertz was going to pull

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ing these [problems, help them get help.]"

Provisions have been made for the mental health of the law enforcement. Sloan and Greenbrier County Prosecutor Pat Via spoke of the excellent work of the first responders and investigators in this case, including the Greenbrier County Sheriff's Department, Williamsburg Fire Department, West Virginia State Police and their forensic lab, Marshall University for DNA analysis, and many more involved agencies.

Recently at the Greenbrier County Angel Tree ceremony, the memory of the five children was honored by residents and Bumgarner's ex-wife, the mother they left behind. Five candles were lit, honoring each child and

See "Williamsburg" _____ Page 3

Greenbrier County Schools announces 2021-2022 school calendar forum dates

Planning is underway for the 2021-2022 school calendar. Greenbrier County parents, students, staff, and community members recently provided input through a brief online school calendar survey. To further engage stakeholders in the planning process, Greenbrier County Schools will host two virtual public calendar forums via Microsoft Teams scheduled for Feb. 9 at 5 p.m. and Feb. 25 at 5 p.m. Links to the virtual forums will be posted on the school district's web page at greenbriercountyschools.org.

"Feedback from parents, students, staff, and community members is needed and welcomed as we make decisions about school start dates, scheduled breaks and scheduled make-up days. We invite the input and encourage interested stakeholders to log in and participate in our calendar forums," states Superintendent Jeff Bryant.

Under provisions of the West Virginia State Code §18-5-45 and State Board of Education Policy 3234, each county board must prepare a school calendar for the upcoming year and submit it to the State Superintendent of Schools for approval. Calendars must meet guidelines and requirements outlined in state code and state board policy. A copy of current school calendar requirements, guidelines and sample calendars are available for review on the WV Department of Education website.

The 2021-2022 school calendar will be presented for approval at the regular meeting of the board of education in April. Schoolhouse Hotel



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

AVAILABILITY OF MONITORING DATA FOR UNREGULATED CONTAMI-NANTS FOR LEWISBURG, WV3301307

Our water system has sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those that do not yet have a drinking water standard set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. As our customers, you have a right to know that this data is available.

If you are interested in examining the results,

please contact Randy Johnson or Charlie Cooper at 304-647-5585.

You may also mail your request to: Lewisburg Water Plant, 2539 Stonehouse Road, LEWISBURG, WV 24901; or email your request to: WaterPlant@ Lewisburg-wv.com.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received the notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses).

This Notice is being sent to you by LEWIS-**BURG** Water Plant

State Water System ID# WV3301307 January 21, 2020.

Director of Public Works Roger Pence said, "This is a mandatory public notice required by the EPA concerning monitoring of unregulated contaminants, 'whether there are any detections or not.' The finished water leaving the treatment plant which becomes the water at your tap goes through extensive sampling and testing and falls well within the required guidelines to be considered safe by a number of regulatory authorities. Please follow directions in the post if you would like more information. The Water Plant is available to answer your questions weekdays from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m."



Poncho is a fiveyear-old male boxer mix and weighs 68 lbs. This handsome boy has a black coat with a white chest, feet, and muzzle.

MASON

Mason is a threeyear-old domestic shorthair and weighs 12 lbs. This kitty is solid black with light bluegreen eyes, a real stunner!



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 firstcome, 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.

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Cindy Bennett, operations Mmanager of the Schoolhouse Hotel, said, "We had a wonderful socially distanced meeting with over half a dozen local contractors this week to introduce them to the project, the history of the building and its special place in the history of White Sulphur Springs. We're pleased to be able to work with so many local people as a team to get The Schoolhouse Hotel ready to open its doors to guests by the end of year. We are especially excited to showcase some of the old school memorabilia within the hotel design. It's just overall a really fantastic project to be a part of." (Photo credit Sheena Pendley)

into a hub for the community and visitors alike. Featuring 30 uniquely appointed guest rooms, an upscale restaurant/grill, a rooftop bar, and flexible ballroom space perfect for weddings, conferences and so much more. The Schoolhouse Hotel will showcase the best in West Virginia hospitality and lodging in a completely inclusive atmosphere.

Conceived and developed by The Disability Opportunity Fund, The Schoolhouse Hotel will be built with a focus on community. The renowned architectural firm, Crabtree, Rohrbaugh & Associates, has designed a hotel that pays homage to its storied schoolhouse past and the building's place in the history of the town of White Sulphur Springs. Memorabilia from the old high school will adorn the walls, and playful nods to the school days of yesteryear will be peppered throughout the hotel experience.

Groundbreaking on this exciting new Greenbrier County hotel happened in January 2021, and we will begin taking reservations as early as this fall.

What amenities will be at The Schoolhouse Hotel?

Aside from the 28 guestrooms and 2 suites, The Schoolhouse Hotel will feature a new restaurant/bar, a rooftop bar overlooking downtown White Sulphur Springs, a meeting and event space that can host conferences, weddings, and more, a business center, and an exercise room.

When will The Schoolhouse Hotel be completed?

We are planning to open in 1Q of 2022.

more, please email info@theschoolhousehotelwv.com.

help supplement your needs. To learn

Will there be a spa at the hotel? There will not be a spa at hotel.

Who is the developer, The Disability **Opportunity Fund?**

The Disability Opportunity Fund (DOF) is a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) whose goal is to help communities spark economic growth. By financing community businesses - including small businesses, nonprofit organizations, commercial real estate, and affordable housing - CDFIs generate job growth and retention in hard-to serve areas across the United States. DOF's objective is to introduce the disability market to the CDFI community. With DOF's mission to focus on the disability market, The Schoolhouse Hotel will be a completely accessible hotel where everyone's' needs will be met without ever needing special accommodations.

How are you working to preserve the historic building that was once the White Sulphur Springs High School?

We are diligently working to retain the historical dignity of the building. To that extent, some of the features of the old school will be directly integrated into the design and build of the hotel. We rescued a number of items of other memorabilia from the school, which we will display throughout the halls of the hotel for the community to enjoy.

How do I apply for a job at The Schoolhouse Hotel?

When can I book a room at the hotel?

We hope to have bookings open by fall of this year. Sign up to our newsletter to stay informed on room releases.

Will there be an event space at the hotel?

Yes, we will have a large event space for hosting weddings, conferences, community events and more. Our in-house catering will take care of all your food and beverage needs, while local vendors will

Over the next few months, we will be hiring the remaining management team -Executive Chef, Director of Operations, and Food and Beverage Director. We hope to host a Job Fair in late summer to hire all other positions. Please sign up for our Newsletter to stay informed.

Visit https://theschoolhousehotelwv. com/contact/ to subscribe to the Newsletter.

e-mailnews stories to news@mountainmessenger.com

NEW RESIDENTS WANTED BY:

Greenbrier Greeters If you have recently moved to this area,

please contact us for a free welcome visit. We would be glad to share gifts and information about the area, provided free by local businesses and professional services.

Barnwood Living • Caring Acres Farm • Cartier Raine Spa • Bella The Corner Gourmet City National Bank • Cornerstone IGA-Philip Cutlip 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 greenbriergreeters@gmail.com

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.

Who We Are:

In 2009, Smooth Ambler Spirits was founded with the simple goal of producing the best whiskey by using the best of everything available to us. And what began as small craft distiller with a limited, regional reach has flourished into one of the most respected small production distilleries in the U.S., winning coveted awards as well as intense public praise.

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.



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.

Public Meetings

Gbr. Co. Farmland Protection Board

meets on the third Thursday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at 804 Industrial Drive, Suite 5, in Maxwelton. The public is invited to attend. Call 304-520-3221 for more information.

Rainelle Town Council

meetings are held every second and fourth Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Rainelle City Hall. The public is invited to attend.

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.

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Williamsburg

commemorating them.

"As we light these five candles in memory of and in honor of Shaun, Haiken, Aarikyle, Riley, and Kian," read the memorial to the five children held on Dec. 26, at the Greenbrier County Angel Tree. "We light one for grief, one for courage, one for memories, one for love, and one for hope. ... May the glow of the candles' flames be our source of hopefulness, now and forever. By holding these previous children in our memory, in our hearts and keeping the flame burning. They will never be forgotten. RIP Team Shark - Shaun, Haiken, Aarikyle, Riley, and Kian."

Airport Authority Continued from Front Page

out on Friday. They've been in bankruptcy since April, and when they came to pick up some of their computers and stuff out of the office I talked with them, basically they closed all of their airport locations in West Virginia except for Charleston. They closed Huntington, Clarksburg, and I think Parkersburg. I have been in discussion with another rental car company, and they have interest in coming here. We have provided them with all the stuff they've asked for and are waiting to hear back from them. We do still have Enterprise and their other brands, which are National and Alamo, still serving the airport here."

He also noted the closing of the Aviator Restaurant, which operational for only a few months. "In a pandemic I think it's a struggle to get that up and running," said Belcher, "and especially in this time of year." Parrish and Partners Operations Manager Jon Mc-Calmont provided several updates on ongoing projects including the environmental assessment, the taxiway lighting project, and the runway rehab project, saying they are all going wall and progress is being made as it is possible to do so. Belcher noted that the new webpage for the airport is almost ready, but before it can be made active, it will be reviewed by board members in order to make adjustments.

Governor, WV Housing Development Fund announce new program to help renters affected by COVID-19

West Virginia Gov. Jim Justice and the West Virginia Housing Development Fund have announced the creation of a new program that will help renters and landlords impacted by COVID-19.

When open for applications, the Mountaineer Rental Assistance Program will offer 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.

"First and foremost, I want to thank our federal partners for allocating these funds to West Virginia," said Gov. Jim Justice. "This funding is going to be such a blessing to so many hardworking West Virginians who so desperately need it, and I am proud of all the work the Housing Development Fund has done to get this program off the ground."

West Virginia Housing Development Fund stress that the program is not yet open for applications. Please check the Fund's website for updates. Fund officials expect additional guidance on the rental assistance program in the coming days. Funds from the US Treasury are expected to be advanced to the state in late January

According to program guidelines, funding will be reserved for individuals who have qualified for unemployment benefits or who have experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced other financial hardship due directly or indirectly to the coronavirus outbreak, are at risk of being homeless, have been served an eviction notice or are living in unhealthy conditions.

"Safe, stable housing is vital if we are ever to return to some sense of normalcy" said Fund Executive Director Erica Boggess. "The Mountaineer Rental Assistance Program will provide much-needed relief. We stand ready with Governor Justice to help and do all we can for West Virginians impacted by this pandemic."

Some important points about the program include:

• The program is for renter households with incomes no more than 80 percent of area median income (AMI).

• Landlords and owners may apply on behalf of tenants meeting the eligibility requirements, so long as the tenant co-signs the application, the landlord provides documentation to the tenant and the payments are used to satisfy the tenant's rental obligation to the owner.

• Priority will be given to households with incomes of no more than 50 percent of AMI and to households in which one or more household member is unemployed and has been unemployed for 90 days.

The Fund will update its website (www.wvhdf.com) with more information about the Mountaineer Rental Assistance Program as it becomes available. For more information, please call 1-866-623-6284.

PSC takes action on Frontier Bankruptcy petition

The Public Service Commission (PSC) entered Orders in the Frontier Bankruptcy case and the Quality of Service Focused Management Audit. The two Orders require Frontier to upgrade and maintain its systems. The Commission has imposed strict conditions on Frontier to ensure compliance. Frontier has committed to spending a minimum of \$200 million in capital expenditures in the state by Dec. 31, 2023, and deploying fiber to at least 150,000 West Virginia locations by Dec. 31, 2027. If Frontier does not maintain the budgeted levels of capital expenditures the Commission may initiate a proceeding to establish surety requirements. "The Commission is pleased with the resolution of these two cases," said PSC Chairman Charlotte Lane. "These Orders allow Frontier to proceed with its bankruptcy reorganization, emerge a stronger corporate structure and make much needed investments in West Virginia's internet infrastructure." The Commission will maintain oversight to make sure Frontier fulfills its commitments and investments to West Virginia. The Commission's Consumer Advocate Division and the Communication Workers of America, AFL-CIO were intervenors in both cases. Additional information, including both Orders issued this week, is available on the Commission website: www.psc.state.wv.us by referencing Case Nos. 18-0291-T-P and 20-0400-T-PC.

Greenbrier County Magistrate Court Convictions

Austin P. Arbaugh, Crawley, expired registration, fine \$50

Djuma Ibrahlm Salambongo, Harrisonburg, VA, speeding, fine \$5

Dustin W. Cooke, Asbury. speeding, fine \$5 Brian E. Cavendish, Mt. Nebo, speeding, fine \$5 Ryan A. Kershner, Asbury, speeding, NCP, fine \$5 Lauren Ann Hanna, Caldwell, speeding, fine \$8

Debra Jo Cantrell, Ronceverte, 1) striking fixture, NCP, fine \$100; 2) failure to maintain control, fine \$15 Martha T. Hilton, Lewisburg, speeding, fine \$10

Hayley B. Robbins, Rainelle, speeding, fine \$5

For the Record

Deeds

Velma Brackenrich to Bruce Alan Morrison and Monica Sinziana Morrison, 82.08 acres, Frankford District Michael Bates and Dianne Bates to Jerry Bennett, 2.16 acres, Meadow Bluff District

Darrell Bryant and Amanda Bryant to Charles Long, 2.007 acres, Lewisburg District

Judy Poage, Guy Livesay Jr., and Libby Hanna to Austyn Byers, 28,025 square feet, Frankford District Shirley Porterfield to Donald Ernest Buckley Jr. and

Cherie Ann Ryder, 6 acres, White Sulphur District

Sandy Holliday, Winston Gregory, and Amara Johnson to Ruby Holliday, 15,000 square feet, Meadow Bluff District

Ream Interests Inc to Raeann Krajacic and Predrag Krajacic, Lot 17 of the Brookside Subdivision, City of Lewisburg

DNA Holdings LLC to Raeann Krajacic and Predrag Krajacic, Lot 16 of the Brookside Subdivision, City of Lewisburg

Michael Zimmerman and Stephanie Zimmerman to Georgia Mae Shockley and Marcus Wayne Shockley, 0.845 acre, Lewisburg District

RBA, LLC to B&K Properties, 1.07 acre, Lewisburg District

Ralph Sandy and Eugenia Sandy to Jessica Holbrook, two tracts, Lewisburg District

Chelsea Riddell to Anthony Paul Bream and Emily Curtis Snyder Bream, Lot 3B, Fort Spring District

Marc McCombs and Davy McCombs to Matthew Isaac Lemaster, Lots 3 and 4, Quinwood Municipal Tax District

Johnson and Johnson Investments to Patricia Buckridee, Lot 24 of Mountain View Farms, Blue Sulphur District

Tammy L. Jordan to Seed Sower Inc, 2.236 acres, Blue Sulphur District

Randall M. Mitchell and Christine M. Anthony to Paulina Gutierrez and Erin M. Gutierrez, Lot 33 of Lamplighter Valley Subdivision, Lewisburg Municipality

Michael R. Hunter and Pamela Hunter, Earl F. Shrewsbery II and Cynthia M. Shrewsbery, five tracts, Blue Sulphur District

George R. Hibbert and Christine M. Hibbert to Joseph Warren and Carolyn Warren, 21.959 acres, Lewisburg District

Piney Land Company to Edward M. Payne III, Lot 44 of The Greenbrier Sporting Club, White Sulphur Dist.

Jessica Suzette Neal-Carroll to Brian M. Carter and Elisha M. Carter, Lots 13 and a parcel of the Preston Zopp Subdivision, Meadow Bluff District

Kitty S. Morton and David Morton to George Ray Jones and Mylinda Jones, 0.269 acre, Meadow Bluff District

Laramey E. Zimmerman and Robin E. Zimmerman to Gordon Macaulay and Annemarie Macaulay, Lot 16 of Greenbrier Pines, Lewisburg Corporation

City Council

Continued from Front Page

It goes on to state, "It is the intent of the Planned Development District to promote innovation and creativity for specifically designed and detailed Planned Development. It is also the intent to promote the efficient uses of land through well-planned development. A Planned Development shall be a mixed-use development. The mixed-use development shall include significant amounts of commercial and residential uses."

Councilmembers voted to make minor language and grammatical adjustments before the second reading is to be held.

John Lynch and Brian Griffith approached the council on behalf of the Central Greenbrier Little League to ask if upgrades can be made to the ball fields at Hollowell Park using Arts and Humanities funds. Lynch proposed that the senior league field be updated to artificial turf in the center, instead of sand as it is currently, to reduce long-term maintenance costs and to make it playable in rainy weather. However, after discussion, it was determined this would be an improper use of Arts and Humanities funds, and if there was to be any action taken on updating the fields it would have to go up for bids to local contractors instead. A tentative parks meeting is set for Feb. 2 where the project proposal will be discussed in more detail and the financial routes will be reviewed.

In other news, the city received the keys to the new Public Works building and is preparing to make the move from their current spot just up the street. Mayor Beverly White said only minor adjustments need to be made before the space is ready to use, including a fresh coat of paint and some cleaning.

e-mail news stories to news@mountainmessenger.com



Mountain Messenger

The Weekend Newspaper for the Greenbrier Valley

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OPINION

Letter to the Editor **The other side**

Dear Editor:

Time to present some of the other side.

Reporter Bobby Bordelon, has commented in depth on his opinion of the events of 6 May 2021 at the Capitol of the United States.

Bordelon's point 1. "... but, it's our responsibility to organize and make our voices heard." He has neglected to remind his readers that the Democrat Party controlled the Government of WV for 82 years. The Republican Party will duplicate the same control in 2021, and hopefully, into the future because the voters of WV made it happen, with a huge Red Tidal Wave.

Bordelon's point 2. "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 Council member Arron Seams." Mr. Bordelon does not realize that Mr. Seams must be a recent resident of Lewisburg as he is not knowledgeable of the 82 Years of continuous absolute control of WV politics by the Democrat Party, but quotes Mr. Seams as an authority on the subject as Mr. Bordelon states "I agree."

Bordelon's point 3. False Attestation of what was stolen. The Charleston GazetteMail of 17 Jan 2021 article by Maria Young quotes Treasurer Perdue when he was first elected Treasurer (1996) that "The state was truly insolvent when we took office. The teachers' retirement system would have been unable to pay current benefits within 19 months ... All public employees were being turned away from doctors' offices and hospitals" "The first piece of correspondence we received was a letter from the gas company saying that the gas at the governor's mansion was going to be turned off for failure to pay bills ... Every stone we turned over, something ugly crawled out from underneath." Perdue was further quoted saying "I remember walking in here the first day" and I found 70 some thousand dollars missing," he said. "And so on my first day in office, I had to fire two employees." The advantages stolen were not that great, were they?

Bordelon's point 4. Mr. Bordelon's one sided dissertation of the Jan 6 2021 event at the Capitol Building was truly unbalanced as it did not include (A) the failure of the FBI to report the threat to Capital Police, (B) the US Capital Police which; after National Guard Troops were

See "Letter Other Side"__ Page 6

Commentary Confidence in government begins with confidence in our election process

By Mac Warner, West \overline{V} irginia 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 state-



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Commentary WV Senate Democrat statement on school reopening

Out of concern for our students, staff, and families, we continue to closely monitor the reopening of schools. We realize this is a complex matter with many variables unique to each county including public health, student achievement, and home life. The health and safety of our children, our educators and staff, and all members of our community must be based on science applied to local circumstances.

Reopening should be a local decision made by elected county boards of education. Local leaders and health authorities should be consulted and their decisions respected. They have been elected to their positions to make these decisions. The issues facing our schools are complex, directly impacted by the size of the county or region of the state. Roane County is not Berkeley County. Monroe County is not Kanawha County.

Our county boards of education know their students, communities, and schools better than anyone. We should continue to trust them to make these difficult decisions. State government should help achieve this goal by allocating information and resources, not dictating decisions.

Now is not a time for adults to threaten one another.

Letter to the Editor **The party of sedition?** Dear Editor:

As I write this, 25,000 National Guard Troops are assembling in Washington, DC. Twelve states are also calling up their Reserves to protect their capitals. Law enforcement is on alert across the country. Even churches are told to be vigilant. All this, is because of the attempted violent overthrow of the United States Government by Republicans.

The mob that stormed our nation's capital was assembled at the behest of the Republican President, stoked with the Republican lie that the election was stolen.

Even though eye witnesses to Trump's failed coup attempt, West Virginia Congresswomen Carol Miller and Congressman Mooney by their vote both perpetuated the totally unsubstantiated Republican lie there was election fraud. West Virginia Republican Delegate elect Derrick Evans stormed the capital; Republican State Senator Azinger boasts of being present. Attorney General Morrisey promoted the lie the election was stolen. Republican Governor Justice offered cover for Trump instead of condemning him.

Let there be no mistake about it, the troops and law enforcement are on heightened alert to protect us from Republicans, not some lunatic fringe of the Republican Party, but the hard core of the Republican Party.

Trump has been impeached for a second time. We all have heard his seditious words. We all know he is guilty, even Mitch McConnell has said what he did is an impeachable offense. The impeachment is not about Trump.

The importance of the second impeachment vote is this: Will the Republican Party condone sedition? Is there any act, including insurrection, wherein the Republican Party will say "enough is enough?" Can we ever trust our government again to a party that will disavow an honest election and condone insurrection on the basis of unsubstantiated rumors?

Not all Republicans support the violent overthrow of our government. But how do we separate them from the rabble who do? There is a simple test: Either support impeachment or not.

All West Virginians of both parties who love our democracy should call or write Senator Shelly Moore Capito at 202-224-6472, or 304-347-5372 and tell her she must vote to impeach Donald J Trump as it is the only way to save what honor the Republican Party has left.

Paul S. Detch 304-645-1993

Letter to the Editor **'Thank you'**

Dear Editor:

I want to thank everyone involved in the inoculation effort at the Fairgrounds this week. I called the Health Department and asked for information, was told what to do. I am over 80 and my husband is younger but was eligible for the vaccination. We joined the line of cars at the Fairground gate a little before 10 a.m. and were home in Lewisburg a little after 11. Everyone we came in contact with was kind and knowledgeable. We were very impressed with the smoothness of the whole experience. Thanks to our wonderful West Virginia and our Health

Department.

Sarah Allen Lewisburg

See "Commentary Election Process" Page 6

It is wrong to use our children, education resources, and COVID relief as bargaining chips used to force compliance without discussion.

In these difficult times, we must all work together for the good of our children. We call on all of our legislative colleagues to stand up for local BOE control. Local control is the only way to ensure that decisions are in the best interests of our children, educators and staff, and all citizens.

We strongly urge the WVDE and WVBE to work with each county board of education to support the local decision-making authority granted to them by our state laws.

Commentary Representatives comment on New River Gorge National Park and Preserve

Congress has redesignated New River Gorge National River as New River Gorge National Park and Preserve. This new name highlights the park's spectacular features and other national park qualities as well as its traditional recreational opportunities. The new law also allows for the expansion of this natural and recreational treasure.

"I am thrilled that this designation will raise awareness of the great natural resources in my home state and the many opportunities available for outdoor recreation and exploration," said Margaret Everson, counselor to the Secretary, exercising the delegated authority of the National Park Service Director. "My love of conservation and the outdoors stems from lifelong experiences hiking, fishing, hunting and camping in West Virginia. Today's announcement will inspire more people to discover New River Gorge and enjoy the benefits of time spent in nature."

Legislation to redesignate this unit of the National Park System was spearheaded by U.S. Senator Joseph Manchin (D-WV), U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), and U.S. Representative Carol Miller (R-WV) and included in the Consolidated Appropriations Act for Fiscal 2021, enacted in December. The name change was supported by the State of West Virginia Governor's office, county and municipal governments, the tourism industry and local communities.

"The New River Gorge is one of West Virginia's most cherished playgrounds. The whitewater rafting, hunting, fishing, outdoor sports and natural beauty make it one of our most robust tourist attractions. This new designation will highlight West Virginia's unparalleled beauty and resources thereby increasing the international recognition. Over the last two years we have met with outdoorsmen, businesses and local leaders and other interested groups to ensure this designation will promote the beauty and rich history of the New River Gorge, while ensuring that the long-standing traditions of hunting and fishing are protected for generations to come," said Senator Manchin.

"The New River Gorge is such an important part of West Virginia and a real source of pride in our state. I am thrilled my legislation redesignating the National River as a National Park and Preserve was included in the legislative package that became law at the end of last year. Re-designation of the National River to a National Park and Preserve will shine a brighter light on West Virginia and all that it has to offer, and provide another catalyst for our tourism industry and local businesses. I'm grateful to all of the West Virginians - sportsmen, business owners, and constituents - for their feedback and involvement during this entire process. Throughout all of these discussions, it has become clear that this re-designation would bring enormous benefits to the region and those who call it home. As West Virginians, we all know that the New River Gorge is perhaps the best-known landmark in West Virginia because of its breathtaking natural beauty and elements of unique Appalachian history and culture. This designation will allow more people to share in the wild and wonderful adventure West Virginians take so much pride in, and I

See "Commentary New River Gorge"____ Page 10

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BITUARIES

Ronald Wayne Cruse, Sr.

Caldwell-Ronald Wayne Cruse, Sr., 69, passed away Monday, Jan. 18, 2021, at Lewis-Gale Hospital in Salem, VA, after battling cancer.

Ron was born June 29, 1951, in Greenbrier County, a son to the late James William and Eda Jane Fitzgerald Cruse.

He worked for The Greenbrier Hotel over 40 years maintaining most of the Upholstery work you still see throughout the resort today, during that duration he also opened and operated his own shop, Greenbrier Upholstery. In his free time, Ron reconstructed his father's 1954 Chevy pickup truck and it was something he took great pride in. Above all else, Ron loved his wife, sons, and his grandchildren.

Other than his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Duane Cruse.

Survivors include his wife of 48 years, Joyce Marie Cruse; sons, Ronald "Ronnie" Cruse, Jr. and Mark William Cruse and wife Becca; brothers, Jimmy, and Ricky Cruse; five grandchildren, Gavin, Caleb, Tristan, Kyra, and Reina; special nephew, Chad Cruse and wife Emily; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Graveside services will be held at 12 noon, on Friday, Jan. 22, in Rosewood Cemetery Mausoleum, Lewisburg, with Pastor Ike Hughes officiating. Services will be private for the family.

In lieu of flowers, family request donations are made in Ronald's memory by visiting "www.cancer. org."

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

Please send online condolences by visiting www. WallaceandWallaceFH. com

Joyce Faye Burr



KY-Joyce Stanton, Faye Burr, 82, widow of Danny Keith Burr of Stanton, KY, passed away Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2021, at Clark Regional Medical Center, Winchester, KY.

Born in Lewisburg, WV, she was the daughter of the late Robert Ridgeway and Virginia Hanson Ridgeway.

She was a homemaker, loving mother and grandmother.

In addition to her parents and her husband she was also preceded in death by two daughters, Angela Burr and Tammy Burr; sister, Jean Martin; and two brothers, Billy Ridgeway and Steve Ridgeway.

Joyce is survived by daughters, Jenise (Kevin) Babcock and Jacqueline (Ivan) Kirby of Stanton; son, Jonathan Burr of Stanton; six grandchildren, April Babcock (Nathan) Johnson, Josh (Brandy) Babcock, Alanna Babcock, Amanda Babcock, Corey Kirby and Courtney Kirby; brother, Bobby (Detra) Ridgeway of Clintonville; and two sisters, Judi Gazaway of Lewisburg and Jane Ridgeway of White Sulfur Springs.

Funeral services were

held Sunday, Jan. 17, at Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home, Lewisburg.

Visitation was held Sunday before the service at the funeral home. Burial was conducted in Roach Cemetery on Muddy Creek Mountain following the funeral service with Robbie Martin, Jimmy Morgan, Billy Bowen, William Ridgeway, Bobby Joe Ridgeway and Robbie Ridgeway serving as active pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers were Ronnie Martin and Kermit Beglev.

Please send online condolences by visiting www. WallaceandWallaceFH. com

Lorraine Elizabeth Christian Dartt



Lewisburg-Lorraine Elizabeth Christian Dartt, 86. claimed her angel wings after a courageous battle with breast cancer Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021, at the Peyton Hospice House in Lewisburg.

Lorraine was born on July 4, 1934, in Vago, WV, the daughter of the late Roy and Christina Wykle Christian.

Lorraine married John Dartt on Nov. 2, 1973. John predeceased Lorraine on July 9, 2009, after 35 years of marriage.

In addition to her parents and husband, Lorraine was preceded in death by: stepdaughter, Joy Dartt; brothers, Roy Jr., Henry, Joseph, and

William Christian; grandparents, Thomas Henry and Hattie Clemons Christian, and Ernest and Lora Honaker: Wykle: motherin-law and father-in-law, Benjamin and Rosa Dartt.

Lorraine is survived by: brother, Samuel Christian and wife Linda of Lewisburg; sisters, Geri Orton and companion Bill Calkins of Plainfield, VT, Norma Carter of Ronceverte, and Doris Scruggs and husband Curtis of Lewisburg; sister-in-law, Irene Reed Christian of Prince George, VA; and many nieces and nephews, great and great-great nieces and nephews.

Lorraine was a member of the Ronceverte Baptist Church. Her employment included working for Glen Eagle Men's Raincoat Factory in Bel Air, MD, Fairlea Lanes Bowling Alley, and she was a childcare provider for various families in Akron, OH and the Lewisburg and Ronceverte areas. Lorraine was a fun-loving and kind-spirited person who was happiest when doing for others. She loved spending time with family and friends, enjoyed word search books, taking walks, and found comfort in reading her Bible.

There was a walkthrough visitation at Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home, Lewisburg, on Tuesday, Jan. 19.

Due to Covid-19, a graveside service, with Rev. Gary Baker officiating, was held at Rosewood Cemetery in Lewisburg.

A memorial service for Lorraine will be held at a later date.

Special thanks to Dr. Timothy Workman and Hannah Broadwater, FNP and to all the nurses at the Peyton Hospice House for the loving care that was given to Lorraine.

The family also wishes to thank Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home and all her family and friends who sent Lorraine cards, prayers, and love.

Memorial contributions may be made in her name to Peyton Hospice House, 1265 Maplewood Avenue, Lewisburg, WV 24901.

Lorraine was an inspiration to all and will be forever in our hearts.

Please send online condolences by visiting www. WallaceandWallaceFH. com

Phyllis Doe

Lewisburg-On Friday, Jan. 15, 2021, Phyllis Doe, loving mother, grandmother, and greatgrandmother, passed away at the age of 92.

Phyllis was born in Manhattan, NY, on May 30, 1929, as the youngest daughter to parents Pauline and Julius Katz.

She was a proud graduate of the High School for Music and Arts in New York City, and continued artistic endeavors throughout her life, including playing the guitar and singing with a group, acting and theater, and as a juried artist and instructor. She was full of wit, had sharp intellect, and a great sense of fun. She loved world travel and to recount her stories.

Phyllis grew up in Manhattan, NY, but moved her family, son Elliot, and daughters Michele, Denice, and Elyse, to Ridgewood, NJ in 1968. In later years, she settled in Lewisburg, where she loved going to the Greenbrier Valley Theater to see all types of performances, painting in classes at Carnegie Hall and, of course, playing bridge regularly and with great skill with a cherished

group of friends.

Phyllis was predeceased by her brother, Michael Keats; her Sister, Gloria Gordon; and four great loves: her first husband, father of her children, and great friend in later years, John (Jack) Gerard; her second cherished husband, Peter William Doe; her final partner, Paul Maschella; and her beloved son, Elliot Gerard.

What Phyllis loved and was most proud of wer her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren; her son, Elliot Gerard, with grandchildren, Jessica Gerard and husband Gilead Goldfarb, with great-grandchildren, Lena and Daniel, Jaymie Gerard and husband Gebhardt Zurburg, with greatgrandchildren, Samuel and Acadia: her daughter, Michele Gilbert and husband Douglas, with grandchildren Danielle Gilbert and partner Benjamin Riley, Sarah Layman and husband James, with great-grandson Jack; her daughter, Denice Gerard Osbourne, with grandchildren Willow Gerard, Isaiah and Avadney Osbourne; and her daughter Elvse Gerard.

She will be greatly missed by her nieces, Lori Fitzgerald, Melissa Yurukso, Judy Plumber, and Judy Cappello.

The family will hold a memorial celebration at a later (post Covid-19) date and wish any respects to be paid through donations to the Greenbrier Valley Theatre in Memory of Phyllis Doe, P.O. Box 494, Lewisburg, WV 24901.

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

Please send online condolences by visiting www. WallaceandWallaceFH. com



ALook Back =



Photo from the H. R. Gray Collection and courtesy of the West Virginia State Archives.

By William "Skip" Deegans

This week's undated photo shows John Surbaugh measuring shoe heels at the Meadow River Lumber Company plant in Rainelle. For many years, women's high heels were made from hardwood. In 1938, Meadow River's annual capacity for manufacturing heels was 6,750,000. As women's fashion dictated narrower and higher heels, steel and plastic replaced wood because they were less apt to snap. In addition to shoe heels, Meadow River made tongue and groove flooring, furniture, and casket shells. Ash from Meadow River was used to make

Packard automobile frames and maple for Ford's "woodie" station wagons. At the time, the world's largest bus frame was crafted by Meadow River and shipped to the Holy Land. Admiral Byrd, on his second Antarctic expedition, used hickory from Meadow River for his sled runners and airplane skis. Once, employing as many as 500 people, Meadow River's mill shut down in the 1970s.

Sources: The Charleston Daily Mail; Images of Rainelle by Browning, Pendleton and Shelton.

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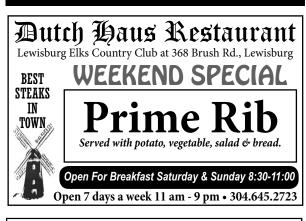
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Interactive Services: ADT Command Interactive Solutions Services ("ADT Command") helps you manage your home environment and family lifestyle. Requires purchase of an ADT alarm system with 36 month monitoring contract ranging \$45.99-\$57.99/mo with QSP (24-month monitoring contract in California, total fees ranging \$1,103.76-\$1,391.76), enrollment in ADT Easy Pay, and a compatible device with Internet and email access. These interactive services do not cover the operation or maintenance of any household equipment/systems that are connected to the ADT Command equipment. All ADT Command services are not available with all interactive service levels. All ADT Command services may not be available in all geographic areas. You may be required to pay additional charges to purchase equipment required to utilize the interactive service features you desire.

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Letter: Other Side

denied by the House and the Senate, failed to mobilize the total capitol police force of 2300 men and women, and (C) the fact that the initial protesters at one entrance of Capitol were escorted in, and (D) that the Speech by the President did not advocate assaulting the Capitol, and (E) that the assault began before the President's speech concluded.

Bordelon's point 5. Mr. Bodelon failed completely to compare, mention, or acknowledge the very recent assault on the White House where supporters of President Trump were totally absent or compare to the Antifa and BLM, infiltration of protesters and subsequent burning, looting, and destroying of private property across Democratic controlled cities where, with military precision using pre-positioned supplies of bricks,

cont. from Page 4 bottles, cars and trucks, to inflict hundreds of billions of damage to private and Federal property; and where police units were forbidden to interfere and/ or support law and order; where National Guard units were offered by the President but refused by the Mayors and Governors; and City, State and Federal officers of the law were killed and injured; and violent offenders were released without charges and police forces were reduced by Mayors and Governors.

Mr. Bordelon should at least address the privilege of Democrats and their supporters to violate our laws at will without consequences, why did he not address this in his commentary?

Respectfully submitted, Frank W. Tuckwiller Lewisburg

Dear Recycle Lady,

Dear Recycle Lady,

Is there a limit on the size of boxes that can be recycled like there is on bottles? My box is $\frac{1}{2}$ inch by $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches. Is this box so small that it could cause problems with your equipment?

Recycle All Boxes

Dear Recycle All Boxes,

No, size doesn't matter with boxes. Our employees would appreciate it if smaller boxes were flattened and placed inside larger boxes. Doing so helps keep the smaller boxes from falling out when transported. An alternative to recycling would be to reuse your boxes. For example, boxes of all sizes can be used to start spring seedlings. When ready to be transplanted, box and all can be put into the ground. With the help of worms and bacteria, the cardboard box will decompose and provide organic material for your plants. See https://greenupside.com/can-yougrow-plants-in-a-cardboard-boxother-garden-uses/ for more information on using cardboard boxes for seedlings.

Dear Recycle Lady,

Why are the environmentalists so

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concerned about the amount of plastic in the oceans?

Wondering Reader **Dear Wondering Reader**,

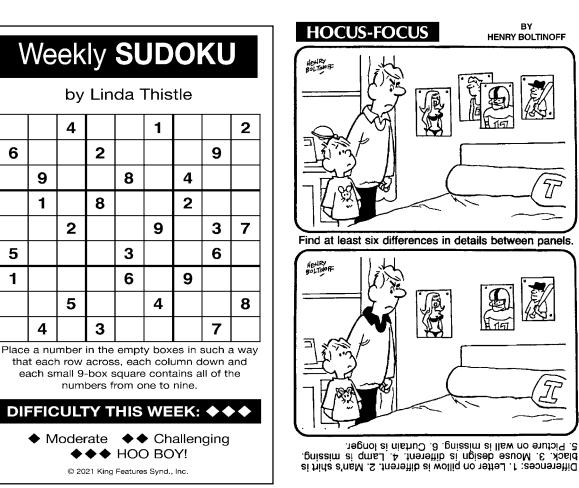
According to https://www.nationalgeographic.org/media/why-oceanmatters/ the ocean is our planet's life support system. It covers over 70% of the surface of the Earth and sustains the lives of over a billion people. The ocean produces half the oxygen we breathe and absorbs 50 times more carbon dioxide than our atmosphere. Only 2.5% of the Earth's water is freshwater, and over half of that is locked away in glaciers and ice caps. This means that over 97% of Earth's water is salt water from the oceans and seas. The ocean regulates our climate and weather patterns by transporting heat from the equator to the poles. It houses the Earth's largest ecosystem and is home to countless species of marine wildlife. The number of species is unknown as 95% of the ocean has not been explored. The highest mountain is not above ground, it is under the ocean. Besides all of this, the ocean is an important source of food and it creates millions of jobs. It's certainly worth taking care of!

The website above has an excellent video on why a healthier ocean means a healthier planet.

Many thanks to the group that cleaned up the hillside on 219 between Taco Bell and Bob Evans. Let's keep it clean so it's a visible welcome to visitors to our communitv.

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





Commentary: Election Process

wide 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.

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 handcont. from Page 4

turned deadly.

Under no circumstances should violence, mayhem, or destruction be tolerated. People who broke

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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

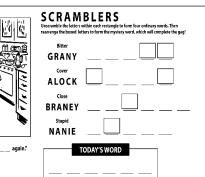
ful of states still question whether their state-specific laws were properly implemented, West Virginia voters are confident and proud of our election success. Our poll workers, clerks and other election officials followed the laws that have been in place for years by our legislature, and adhered to 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 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 the law must be held accountable, and I condemn their actions. While I support small government, and free, safe, and secure one-vote" "one-person elections, I do not support violations 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, January 13th, 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."



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PUZZLE ANSWERS PAGE 8

MOUNTAIN STATE SPOTLIGHT

For 20 years, Purdue Pharma has kept OxyContin records sealed in a WV courthouse. *Now, there's a push to open them.*

By Eric Eyre for Mountain State Spotlight

This story was originally published by Mountain State Spotlight. For more stories from Mountain State Spotlight, visit www.mountainstatespotlight.org.

In three weeks, a West Virginia judge will take up a request to unseal court documents that include details about OxyContin-maker Purdue Pharma's deceptive sales practices.

The contents of the entire court file have remained secret for two decades.

Now, HBO, The Washington Post and a documentary film production company are asking Putnam County Circuit Judge Philip Stowers to unseal court records from a 2001 class-action lawsuit that accused Purdue Pharma of failing to supervise the use of the prescription painkiller OxyContin. The lawsuit was settled in 2007, but the terms of the deal weren't disclosed.

Near the start of the litigation, the two sides agreed to a "protective order" that would allow Purdue Pharma to keep the court records under wraps.

HBO, the Post and PK Films - represented by West Virginia University law professors Pat McGinley and Suzanne Weise, along with Charleston attorney Chris Smith - argued that "the public interest in disclosure of Purdue's aggressive and unlawful opioid marketing practices substantially outweighs continuing secrecy."

"Concealment of its unlawful practices allowed Purdue's profits to soar to billions of dollars, while the opioid epidemic took thousands of American lives and addicted hundreds of thousands," McGinley told the judge in the motion.

McGinley and Weise previously worked with the Charleston Gazette-Mail, HD Media and a Washington Post lawyer to force disclosure of a massive database of pain pill shipments to pharmacies across America.

Stowers has scheduled a hearing for Jan. 29.

The 2001 lawsuit alleged Purdue "encouraged widespread use of OxyContin for off-label uses and doses, while misleading [patients] about the safety and effectiveness of the drug," according to a summary of the case after it briefly was transferred to federal court.

The opioid manufacturer also allegedly enlisted doctors and others "to mislead [patients] to purchase and take the drug, while withholding information about its dangers, particularly its addictiveness," the summary stated.

West Virginia has the highest drug overdose death rate in the nation, and overdoses have spiked during the COVID-19 pandemic.

HBO and the Post are seeking documents, videos and audio recordings that Purdue Pharma has kept under seal in the Putnam case from beginning to end.

In 2019, Purdue filed for bankruptcy in New York, just days after agreeing to a tentative settlement with states, counties, cities and towns that had filed lawsuits against the drugmaker.

In November, a federal judge approved an \$8.3 billion settlement proposal. The agreement, which hasn't been finalized, mandates Purdue can no longer operate as a privately-owned profit-making business.

Later that month, the company pleaded guilty to three felonies, admitting it sold OxyContin to health care providers, while knowing the powerful - and potentially deadly - painkiller was being diverted to drug abusers. Members of the wealthy Sackler family, owners of Purdue, agreed to pay a \$250 million fine to the federal government and divest from the company. The Sacklers haven't faced criminal charges.

McGinley argued that Purdue Pharma's secrecy deal in Putnam County is meaningless because the company pleaded guilty to criminal charges and the firm is being shut down and restructured as a "public benefit trust" that would use any profits to provide free or lowcost opioid addiction treatment and overdose-reversing drugs.

In recent years, judges have unsealed court records that Purdue had fought to shield from the public.

In 2016, a McDowell County judge opened court documents in a lawsuit that former West Virginia Attorney General Darrell McGraw had filed against Purdue Pharma some 15 years earlier. The company agreed to pay the state \$10 million to settle the case in 2004. A Boston-based media outlet had asked the judge to release the files.

Despite opposition by Purdue, judges in Massachusetts and Kentucky also have unsealed court records that the opioid manufacturer had tried to keep hidden.

"These court-sanctioned protective orders shielded Purdue's unlawful conduct, allowing it to continue marketing its opioid medications for

almost 20 years," McGinley wrote in the Dec. 17 motion. "The records...Purdue designated long ago as confidential competitive business records have no current or future relevance."

In a statement emailed to Mountain State Spotlight, Purdue Pharma said it has already made available in bankruptcy court "tens of millions of documents, including thousands of privileged documents relating to its shareholders, further displaying the company's cooperation and transparency in these proceedings."

The company added: "We continue to act with this extraordinary level of transparency because our ultimate goal is to achieve a global settlement that would deliver more than \$10 billion in value, including 100% of Purdue's assets, to address the opioid crisis. Our proposed settlement structure would provide needed funds, as well as millions of doses of lifesaving opioid addiction treatment and overdose reversal medicines, to states, local communities and tribes to help abate the opioid crisis."

Greenbrier Co. residents named to Shepherd University Dean's List

Nine hundred twenty-five students were named to the Dean's List at Shepherd University for the fall 2020 semester. To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must maintain a 3.4 grade point average for the semester and carry at least 15 hours of coursework or be in a professional teaching block.

Sarah B. Fridley of Frankford and Jessica S. Kellison of Renick were both named to the Dean's List.

Located in West Virginia's Eastern Panhandle, Shepherd University is a regional public university accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC).

Ramsey earns a spot on Dean's List at Coastal Carolina University

More than 2,300 undergraduate students at Coastal Carolina University were named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2020 semester, including Zachary Ramsey a Marine Science major from Caldwell.

Coastal Carolina University is a dynamic, public comprehensive liberal arts institution located in Conway, just minutes from the resort area of Myrtle Beach, SC.

Coastal Carolina University offers baccalaureate degrees in 94 major fields of study. Among CCU's graduate-level programs are 27 master's degrees, two educational specialist degrees, and the doctorates in education and in marine science: coastal and marine systems science. The most popular undergraduate majors are marine science, management, exercise and sport science, communication and psychology. CCU boasts a growing array of internship, research and international opportunities for students, as well as numerous online programs.

Campbell named to University of Utah's Dean's List

Claire Campbell, of White Sulphur Springs was named to the University of Utah's Fall 2020 Dean's List. Campbell's major is listed as Ballet BFA.

Campbell was among more than 9,700 students named to the Fall 2020 Dean's List at the U. To qualify, students must earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher in at least 12 graded credit hours during any one term.



Rupert Elementary School receives \$1,000 grant to boost workplace wellness

Rupert Elementary School is pleased to be selected as one of only 20 workplaces statewide to receive a \$1,000 grant to support workplace wellness. These grants are made possible by Actime Set there were also as a supervised of the second state of the second stat

(Active SWV) in partnership with WV Bureau of Public Health Promotion and Chronic Disease (PHPCD). Active SWV is a nonprofit providing an ecosystem of physical activity for the residents of southern West Virginia by offering programs led by trained volunteers from within the communities they serve. One piece of this ecosystem is Workplace Wellness. "We spend a significant portion of our lives at work. It's important we don't wait until we're home to consider our wellness," says Veronica Crosier, Active SWV Workplace Wellness Director, "With these grants, we hope to supply the tools and ignite the inspiration needed for workplaces to kick off a sustainable wellness program for their employees."

Employee health and wellbeing should be a priority for workplaces. A structured workplace wellness program makes this prioritization easy, creating a culture of wellness. When employees' health is valued, employers can expect to see higher productivity, increased morale, and much more. To learn more about workplace wellness grants through Active SWV, contact Veronica Crosier at veronica@activeswv.com.

tive Southern West Virginia and WV Bureau of Health Promotion and Chronic Disease.

By receiving this award, Rupert Elementary School will be better able to support the health and well-being of our staff through creative wellness initiatives such as team and staff challenges and teaching employees how to stay active and healthy. As part of the grant, an employee from Rupert Elementary School

will also receive certification in CDC Work@Health Employer Training. This 6-week evidence-based course gives participants the tools and education to develop and sustain a workplace wellness program for years to come.

"There were a handful of staff members already competing in step and walking challenges. We are very competitive and excited, when competing, and others wanted to join in on the fun. We will be able to provide staff members with step trackers, water tracking bottles, and healthy snacks to encourage an active and healthy lifestyle, while creating staff unity and team building. Staff health is important, and we are looking forward to boosting our workplace wellness. "Rupert Elementary is already a close-knit family, but the planned activities and challenges will only bring us closer. We are excited to get started," says Amber Osborne, Pre-K Teacher and Wellness Champion for Rupert Elementary.

These grants are awarded



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. 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
 3422 Pennsylvania Ave., Charleston, WV 25302

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Virtual chronic pain workshop offered at WVSOM

The West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine's (WVSOM) Center for Rural and Community Health (CRCH), in collaboration with the Greenbrier County Health Alliance (GCHA), will host a seven-week Chronic Pain Self-Management Workshop which began Jan. 21.

The free workshop series, which will take place virtually from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. each Thursday through Mar. 4, is open to all community members and designed to help individuals living with chronic pain to manage their symptoms and daily lives. Participants will learn coping skills, gentle movement exercises, healthy eating habits, how to balance activity and rest, ways to manage emotions and stress, how to improve communication with health care providers and relaxation practices to improve sleep. The series also will allow attendees to connect with others with similar experiences.

Barbara Holt, program manager for WVSOM's CRCH and a master trainer with the program on which the workshops are based, said the series also will be useful for caregivers and loved ones of individuals with chronic pain.

"Sometimes when you live with someone who has pain, you feel helpless because you don't know how to support them," Holt said. "This is not just for people who have pain, it's also for anybody who knows someone who is dealing with it. Participants will learn ways to com-

municate with the person who has chronic pain and to better understand what they're going through."

Holt said that addressing chronic pain is particularly important in West Virginia, where an aging population means an increase in health problems and where alternatives to opioids are being sought for pain management. She said that while the series will include instructional material, it also will be interactive in nature, giving attendees chances to ask questions, talk about individual problems and share ideas with other participants.

"This is a workshop, so everyone participates," she said. "There will be plenty of brainstorming and feedback from the group. Everybody can offer ideas, and there are no right or wrong answers, because



the goal is to come up with the best answer for that person."

The first session will teach attendees how to participate through the teleconferencing system, with the remaining six sessions devoted to the workshop topic.

The series will be led by Lois McCutcheon and Cheryl Workman, AmeriCorps members who work with the GCHA and the CRCH, respectively. The GCHA is a nonprofit partner of WVSOM's CRCH, staffed and supported by the CRCH with nonprofit oversight from a community board of local leaders. The alliance works to strengthen systems, policy and environments to advance health equity through grants management, partnerships and collaborations.

The Chronic Pain Self-Management Workshop is an evidence-based program originally developed by Stanford University through the Self-Management Resource Center and currently in use worldwide. WVSOM's implementation of the program is funded by a State Opioid Response grant through the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources.

Those interested in attending the virtual series may call 304-793-6851 or email self-management@osteo.wvsom.edu to register. Participants will receive a manual and will be asked to fill out a pre- and post-survey. The series can host a maximum of 12 people.



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Power companies request approval to make funds available for assistance with electric bills

Appalachian Power, along with Wheeling Power, filed for Public Service Commission of West Virginia (PSC) approval of a plan to reduce restrictions on the company's Fresh Start Fund in order to help West Virginia residential customers experiencing difficulty paying their electric bills.

In 2018, the company earmarked \$15 million in savings from the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act to establish the Fresh Start fund to provide financial assistance on electric bills of low-income West Virginia residential customers. Approximately \$1.5 million in Fresh Start funds have already been used to assist eligible customers.

In light of severe finan-

cial hardships wrought by the COVID-19 pandemic, the PSC's Consumer Advocate Division (CAD) and PSC Staff proposed that Appalachian Power eliminate the low-income requirement for distribution of the Fresh Start funds. In agreement with the PSC Staff and the CAD, the company filed the proposal and requested the Commission's prompt consideration.

If approved by the Commission, approximately \$13 million in Fresh Start funds will be automatically applied to the accounts of residential customers on their past due amounts of more than 90 days or those residential customers whose accounts are already on deferred payment arrangements.

Customers with past due amounts are encouraged to keep their accounts current. The company will work with customers to set up payment arrangements and make appropriate accommodations.

Appalachian Power has 1 million customers in Virginia, West Virginia and Tennessee (as AEP Appalachian Power). It is part of American Electric Power, which is focused on building a smarter energy infrastructure and delivering new technologies and custom energy solutions. AEP's approximately 17,400 employees operate and maintain the nation's largest electricity transmission system and more than 221,000 miles

LEGAL

(2019-S-00000068 - Greenbrier County - DANIEL HARPER)

To: OCCUPANT, ESTATE OF BETTY JEWEL MACK, UNKNOWN HEIRS OF BETTY JEWEL MACK, BETTY JEWEL MACK, 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 DANIEL HARPER, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2019-S-00000068, ACREAGE .48 (D) S.E. SIDE OF BIG CLEAR CK. RD., located in RUPERT, which was returned delinquent in the name of MACK BETTY JEWEL, 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:

estate. The amount you will have to pay on the last day, March 31, 2021, will be as follow	vs:	
Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest,	\$	185.87
to March 31, 2021.		
Amount of subsequent years' taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with	\$	85.32
interest to March 31, 2021.		
Amount paid for the Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served	\$	1,013.10
and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2020,		
following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2021.		
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale	\$	102.75
to March 31, 2021.		
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff - cashier check, money order or certified check	\$	1,387.04
must be made payable to the The Honorable Bruce Sloan, Sheriff and Treasurer		
of Greenbrier County.		
Cost of Certification of Redemption - cashier check, money order or certified check	\$	35.00

must be made payable to the **The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor**. 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

(2019-S-00000065 - Greenbrier County - LEANNA AGEE)

To: JACK MCCLELLAND, KAYE FERGUSON, CHUCK MCCLELLAND, DIANNA MCCLEL-LAND, KEITH BAILEY, NINA MCCLELLAND, NINA MCCLELLAND, NINA DEAMER, ESTATE OF GARY MCCLELLAND, STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, SUMMIT COMMUNITY BANK, BRIAN MCCLELLAND, ANETTE HALTTUNEN, BRIAN MCCLELLAND, BRIAN MCCLELLAND, BRIAN MCCLELLAND, 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 LEANNA AGEE, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2019-S-00000065, S SIDE OF US 60 HINES, W.V. 113X240X168X337, located in MEADOW BLUFF, which was returned delinquent in the name of MCCLELLAND NINA K, 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 of distribution lines to efficiently deliver safe, reliable power to nearly 5.4 million customers in 11 states. AEP is also one of the nation's largest electricity producers with approximately 31,000 megawatts of diverse generating capacity, including 5,200 megawatts of renewable energy. LEGAL

Notice of Public Hearing February 25, 2021

Via Teleconference because of the Covid-19 Pandemic For information on how to participate, contact Lewisburg City Hall 304-645-2080 by 4:00 on Thursday February 25, 2021

The City of Lewisburg Board of Zoning Appeal will hold its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, February 25, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. by teleconference, to hear the following applications: Agenda:

- 1. Call to Order:
- 2. Approval of the minutes
- 3. Comments from the public
- 4. **Public Hearing:** Eric Hall, 1599 Washington Street East, request for variance 6' privacy fence on back of property
- 5. Comments from the Commission
- 6. Comments from the Planning and Zoning Officer
- Adjournment

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Zoning Appeals, will be held Thursday March 25, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

LEGAL

(2019-S-00000066 - Greenbrier County - LEANNA AGEE)

To: DIANNA MCCLELLAND, JACK MCCLELLAND, KAYE FERGUSON, CHUCK MCCLEL-LAND, STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, BRIAN MCCLELLAND, SUMMIT COMMUNITY BANK, NINA K. MCCLELLAND, NINA K. MCCLELLAND, NINA DEAMER, ESTATE OF GARY MCCLELLAND, KEITH BAILEY, ANETTE HALTTUNEN, BRIAN MCCLELLAND, BRIAN MCCLELLAND, BRIAN MCCLELLAND, 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 LEANNA AGEE, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2019-S-0000066, AC .86 (D) LOT 133 US 60 HINES HOLSTEIN 85X106X79, located in MEADOW BLUFF, which was returned delinquent in the name of MCCLELLAND NINA, 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.

	less any unearned interest.								
You may redeem at any time before March 31, 2021, by paying the above total									
	must be made payable to the The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.								
	Cost of Certification of Redemption - cashier check, money order or certified check	\$	35.00						
	of Greenbrier County.								
	must be made payable to the The Honorable Bruce Sloan, Sheriff and Treasurer								
	Total Amount Payable to Sheriff - cashier check, money order or certified check	\$	2,554.20						
	to March 31, 2021.								
	Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale	\$	688.00						
	following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2021.								
	and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2020,								
	Amount paid for the Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served	\$	1,171.44						
	interest to March 31, 2021.								
	Amount of subsequent years' taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with	\$	280.37						

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 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.greenbriercounty.net or by contacting the Assessor's office at 304-647-6615. Lowell Rose.

Greenbrier County Commission President

LEGAL

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 <u>lockerfox.com</u>. 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/



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:

be as 1	tonows:								
\$	351.60								
\$	244.12								
\$	1,152.72								
\$	688.00								
\$	2,436.44								
\$	35.00								
You may redeem at any time before March 31, 2021, by paying the above total									
less any unearned interest.									
WV State Auditor's Office,									
	\$ \$ \$ \$								

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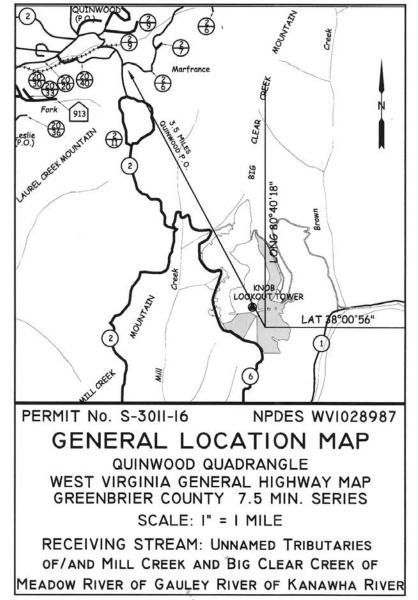
Notice is hereby given that Princess Polly Anna & JCT Enterprises, LLC, PO BOX 886, LEWISBURG, WV 24901, has submitted an application with the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, (WVDEP) 1159 Nick Rahall Greenway, Fayetteville, West Virginia, 25840 for a Phase I release on Permit Number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



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BOE Emergency Session Reviews County Plans for In-Person Learning

The West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE) met this week in emergency session to discuss the counties that continue to remain closed to in-person learners. Only three of West Virginia's 55 counties have failed to offer this option.

Upon the review of data from local and national health officials and Governor Jim Justice's Executive Order permitting schools to return to in-person instruction, the WVBE issued updated requirements for in-person instruction options during its last regular meeting (Jan. 13).

To monitor this progress, the WVBE requires State Superintendent of Schools W. Clayton Burch to submit a report each Monday updating each county's inperson instruction status.

"Our children, families, communities and our state need to have students physically present in schools to benefit from all of the supports the education system offers," said WVBE President Miller Hall. "Our schools are safe and it is time that we move to consistent in-person instruction to protect, address and advance the academic, social/emotional and developmental well-being of our children."

"We have to give our families the option to return to school in-person," said Superintendent Burch. "We are hearing overwhelmingly from families, communities, educators and others about the dire need to return children to the classroom in-person, and we have to respond. It is our duty to provide an equitable and quality education to our families. In-person instruction is the best means to ensure students' academic and extended needs are being addressed and that more consistent instructional delivery is achieved."

Nothing in the WVBE's action to require an in-person learning option deprives local decision making to close individual schools when warranted. Counties are expected to continue to work with their local health departments to suspend in-person learning for specific classrooms or schools if specific health needs related to that classroom or school are identified irrespective of the county's color on the DHHR County Alert System Map. The Board has also instructed the State Superintendent, WVDE staff, and all county-level education leaders to continue to provide educational information about the benefit and safety of the COVID vaccination to teachers, education staff, community members and residents throughout the state. The WVBE will meet again on Tuesday, Jan. 26, at 10 a.m. in a special meeting to consider action against counties that continue to choose to not comply with the WVBE's Jan. 13, 2021, action. "To date I have not heard a justifiable reason for these counties to not offer an in-person option." said WVBE Vice President Tom Campbell. "If that does not change, I am prepared to take action on the 26th." For more information, contact Christy Day at the West Virginia Department of Education Office of Communications at 304-558-2699 or Christy.Day@k12.wv.us.

Commentary: New River Gorge

Today's HOT

Country!

know it will be treasured and enjoyed for generations to come," said Senator Capito.

Greenbrier Valley's Talk

and News Headquarters

"I am honored to help re-designate the New River Gorge as a National Park and Preserve," said Representative Miller. "The New River Gorge is home to all West Virginia has to offer - our beauty, small businesses, and tourism opportunities. This re-designation is a crucial step in reinvigorating our economy. It will preserve and protect the New River Gorge for generations to come and make our state an even better place to live, work, and raise a family."

A rugged, whitewater river flowing northward through deep canyons, the New River is among the oldest rivers on the continent. The national park and preserve includes more than 70,000 acres of land along the river which showcase the cultural and natural history of the area.

"We feel fortunate to play a role in preserving for future generations some of the most signifi-



Your Classic

Hits Station

Superintendent of New River Gorge National Park and Preserve Lizzie Watts stands in front of the new park sign at the park's administrative headquarters in Glen Jean.

cant natural and cultural resources in our country," said Lizzie Watts, superintendent of the park. "We appreciate all that the community has done in support of these efforts."

The new law also expands the abundance of available recreational opportunities. Approximately 90 percent of the land is in the national preserve which permits hunting, a traditional use of the area, including 368 acres in the

formerly off-limits Grandview area. The law also allows for the possibility of purchasing an additional 3,700 acres of land to add to the preserve in the future.

The 53-mile stretch of the New River between Bluestone and Hawk's Nest Dams became a unit of the National Park System in November 1978. The park is administered together with the Gauley River National Recreation

Area and Bluestone National Scenic River which were both established in 1988. The combined sites span five counties in southern West Virginia: Fayette, Nicholas, Raleigh, Summers and Mercer attract more than one million visitors annually. In 2019, park visitors spent more than \$60 million in nearby communities, which supported 846 jobs and had a cumulative benefit to local economies of \$70 million.





Tock





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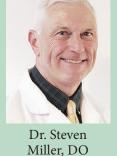
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