



Susie Caldwell (right) completed her very first dog transport seven years ago and she has been driving ever since

Local woman helping animals reach 'fur'-ever homes, rescues

By Sarah Richardson
"I'd say I've driven at least 1,000 dogs, and I've been doing this for seven years," said Susie Caldwell. "There was a husky that I got to hand over to her new owner, and we met down in Hart's Run. The new owner drove here from Lexington to be on the last leg of the trip, and I actually got to see this lady hug her dog for the first time."
Under the radar, massive groups are working to save lives and reunite families right under our noses and in plain sight. These groups are animal rescue transport organizations and the countless volunteers that make it possible.
A niche that many don't think about, these transport

groups focus on getting animals from one rescue to another, or to their foster homes, permanent homes, or reunited with their owners. Volunteers sacrifice their time, and offer to drive in stretches to get these animals from point A to point B.
One of these drivers is Caldwell, who lives in Lewisburg. An avid animal lover, she has four dogs of her own, a foster dog, and a cat.
Sometimes multiples times a month, Susie volunteers to drive the animals for sections of their journey, scheduling pickups with the leg before hers and drop-offs with the leg after hers. She also will keep dogs on overnight stays for "slumber paw-ties" until they can finish their trip.

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Ronceverte Mayor won't seek re-election; updates on Island Park flooding, Rudy's, dog park

By Bobby Bordelon
The upcoming city elections, recent flooding of Island Park, the restructuring of the Rudy's restoration, and a potential dog park each got ample discussion during the Monday, Mar. 8, Ronceverte City Council meeting.
Mayor David Smith announced he would not be seeking re-election this year.
"Most of you know that I do not plan to run," said Smith. "My 15, 16 years of involvement, with two terms on the council and two terms as mayor, are a really important part for me. I keep thinking of all the projects we've gotten done, projects we're looking to, but shoot-

I could stay here until I was 100 years old and [we] would still have projects going. At some point I need to do other things. ... This will make things a little better - I'm going to give up three positions here at the end of June. [That] will give me a good bit of free time to deal with the other 20 [positions I'm involved in]."
Although Smith will not be running, the race for mayor could be competitive. Mentz noted, "I do have three people at this time who have signed up to [run for] mayor and zero so far for council, but we're early in the game." Smith voiced support for many of the current

See "Ronceverte Mayor" Page 5

Revitalizing Planning Commission one option for Rainelle improvements

By Bobby Bordelon
The potential expansion of the town through a revitalized Planning Commission, a spring clean up, the Midland Trail, and more were the main topics for the Rainelle Town Council meeting on Monday, Mar. 8.
Similar to the last meeting, a video was published to Ron Fleschman's personal Facebook page rather than on the Town of Rainelle's page.
The resignation of the Planning Commission's previous president

sparked discussion around starting the committee anew.
"There's a lot of things that the Planning Commission needs to be working on," explained Councilmember Danny Milam during the Planning Commission report. "To be honest with you, the things that [Town Council] needs to be working on ... our planning commission has to be involved and taking care of a lot of those things. We [basically] don't have a planning commission right now."
Councilmember John Wyatt noted the mayor might

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GCC presentations show technology improvements, COVID impacts for county departments

By Bobby Bordelon
During the Tuesday, Mar. 9, meeting of the Greenbrier County Commission, each of the county's departments presented a budget proposal to the commission.
Although most of the departments did not ask for a substantial change to their budgets, outside of a cost of living increase in salary for their employees, the presentations included a status update and general information about each department's operations. This includes:
• The Greenbrier County Humane Society moved to an appointment-only system, which took a while for many residents to get used to. Approximately 400

dogs and 350 cats were surrendered over the past year, with a majority of dogs being strays, while cat surrenders were half strays and half owner surrenders. This year also marks the seven year anniversary of not euthanizing for space.
• The WVU 4H Extension has moved to mostly virtual settings amid the COVID-19 pandemic, missing the State Fair of West Virginia and other opportunities for interaction. However, the Courthouse Farmers Market continues, with Commission President Lowell Rose noting "it's worked very well down there at the fairgrounds, other than fair week, which

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BOE presentations highlight issues created by pandemic

By Bobby Bordelon
Similar to last week's high school presentations, the Greenbrier County Board of Education heard several school improvement presentations and reviews for local elementary schools on Thursday, March 4. Each presentation came with a mixture of disappointment with the remote learning results and hope for the immediate in-person return to class.
"[The schools and staff have] risen above," said Superintendent Jeff Bryant. "It validates how important a teacher in a classroom is."
For the local elementary schools, more students are returning to in-person classes as vaccination rates rise. Many parents are looking to send students back for the fourth nine weeks.
As caseloads spiked in fall 2020, many of the schools had to once again completely shut down, sending all of their students to remote learning. Several principals noted this was visible in progress and grade reports from the first nine weeks to the second. However, this also comes with the added hope of a return to full-time, in-person learning getting the students back on track.

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Federal COVID relief bill passes

By Bobby Bordelon
The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 is headed to President Joe Biden for a signature as of Wednesday, Mar. 11.
Passed by both the House of Representatives and the Senate, the approximately \$1.9 trillion stimulus bill contains \$1,400 stimulus checks for many Americans, a significant expansion of child tax credits, COVID-19 relief packages, and much, much more. This includes benefits to local governments throughout West Virginia.
"West Virginia local governments are essential in the fight to end the COVID-19 pandemic because of the essential services they provide to their communities," said West Virginia Senator Joe Manchin. "But local governments have been stretched thin by providing the essential services West Virginians depend on while facing drastic cuts in revenue as a result of this public health crisis."
Despite every Republican voting against the bill, including West Virginia's Senator Shelley Moore Capito and West Virginia District 3 Representative Carol Miller, Democrats rallied behind its passage. Certain initially included provisions, such as a federal

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Leprechaun headlines bucket drive for Friends of Ronceverte

By Bobby Bordelon
A leprechaun, blessing box, a \$500 scholarship, and supporting an active local nonprofit are the reasons for a downtown Ronceverte bucket drive in front of Wild Child this Saturday.
"Friends of Ronceverte volunteers will be there, [including] a goofy leprechaun," explained Friends of Ronceverte organizer Tonya Hazelwood. "Everybody is going to be decked out in green, very Saint Patrick's Day. We are going to be passing out golden coins, bracelets and treats to anyone - children, elderly people, whoever."
Scheduled in town for Saturday, Mar. 13, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the funds collected will support several Friends of Ronceverte projects, such as a scholarship and beautification projects.
"We're hoping to get a big push for a [\$500] scholarship we want to do annually for a Ronceverte Greenbrier East graduate," Hazelwood explained. "Some of the money will go towards Friends of Ronceverte for beautification, but some of it will be for the scholarship."
Friends of Ronceverte has been involved in several projects and partnerships looking to improve downtown. Hazelwood pointed to recent discussions about a potential dog park as one place they would like to get involved. Another recent example is a newly installed blessing box on Main Street, across the street from Wild Child.
"The blessing box is the brainchild of West Virginia Helping Hands, the new nonprofit organization, [guided by Amy Hubbard]," Hazelwood explained. "Their point is to help the unfortunate, homeless, needy people in the area. ... It brings something to Main Street, it brightens it up, and it helps people, so it's a plus, plus, plus."
The partnership with Helping Hands, Friends of Ronceverte, and Loudermilk Construction led to the

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Animal Transport

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"Sometimes it's one night, sometimes it's a week," she said.

"I regularly check that West Virginia Transports Facebook page, and if I see they are coming past Lewisburg I think, 'I'll do leg number such-and-such, maybe Beckley to Lewisburg,' and I'll go to Beckley and come back, or, I'll take a dog to Beckley to meet with the next leg. They are approximately an hour, an hour and fifteen legs each. Sometimes there are people who may have to go that direction anyhow, so they will do six legs. And they do. They will do as many legs as they can, and they want to. A lot of times they may bring their spouse or a friend with them."

Locally, Susie estimates there are maybe a dozen or so other volunteers who participate in driving animals. "It seems like every time I go to meet somebody it's like, 'Oh! I didn't know you transported,'" said Caldwell. "When I lived in Oklahoma City there were hundreds [of volunteers] out there."

After she retired from nursing, Susan became a professional pet sitter. One day, on the group website for sitters, someone was reaching out looking for a driver to help with a transport.

"I thought, 'Yeah, I could do that!' and that's how I got into this."

While it's mainly dogs that find themselves on these transports, it's not unheard of to transport cats, pigs, and small mammals.

"I even transported a couple of goats one time," Susie said.

When an animal ends up at a rescue for whatever reason, maybe they were abandoned, found as a stray, or were a runaway, the rescue will reach out to a transport group and fill out a transport application. Transport coordinators then work to schedule a multi-leg route to get the animal where it needs to be.

The coordinators then devise a runsheet with each leg listed in order along the route; post it to Facebook, and volunteers pick up the legs that they want to drive. There are a variety of Facebook pages that focus on finding drivers on a state-specific basis.

"Most of the time the legs fill up pretty quick," Susie noted.

However, if there is a leg where nobody has offered to drive, the coordinators have lists of volunteer drivers all around the country who they will call to fill a gap.

"For example, they will have a list of people who live along I-64 in West Virginia," said Susie. "They have the list of drivers along that route, and if they post a runsheet and people are not signing up for a certain leg then they will send an email or call and ask, 'Hey, can you do this leg?'"

These transport organizations have headquarters all over the United States, and their coverage span covers coast to coast, and



Susie completed this transport of two beagles in January. Both dogs went to their new homes the next day.

even overseas on some occasions.

"There's Liberty Ride, she's located in Montana but coordinates transports all over the United States. There's also Kindred Hearts Transport Coordination (KHTC). Those are two really big ones, but there are so many others that are getting into this," said Susie.

There is a fellow in Maine who mainly coordinates Pointer transports, another where a woman primarily focuses on Dachshunds, and many more that will work to coordinate a transport for any animal that needs a ride. These groups, combined with a strong volunteer driver force, ensure that no animal gets left behind.

Susie stresses the importance of microchipping your pets, as that's a main way rescue facilities attempt to find a pet's owner. One such case is an upcoming transport where a blue pit bull is traveling from California to Virginia to be reunited with their owner in a massive, multi-legged caveat involving a slew of volunteers across the nation.

"She got lost from her owner, broke out of her fence," said Susie. "He looked and looked and looked, but he was [in the process of] moving to Portsmouth, Virginia. Because this dog had a microchip, when she was found they were able to scan it for a chip and called him to say they had found her."

The finders submitted a transport request, which put the dog on the radar of the transport groups, who were quick to organize. Transport organizers came up with a plan that is roughly 30 legs long running from LA to Portsmouth to get this dog home.

"She will have some overnights along the way," Susie added, as they try not to tax the dog by having too much transport time at once. At the end of each leg they also get a 10-minute reprieve and an opportunity to have a potty break and some water.

"A typical day for a dog in transport is maybe 12 hours," she said. "With every stop we work in that 10 minute break for

them."

While this journey from California to Virginia is an exceptionally long one, a usual transport may run for a couple of days, typically starting on a Saturday morning and running through legs until Sunday afternoon or evening.

However, not all transported dogs are necessarily going straight to a new permanent home.

"A lot of times they may not be coming back to their forever home, and what we say is "fur"-ever home, but they're coming to a foster home destination. That animal will live in the home and will be taught some daily manners, potty training, crate training as needed, socialization skills, and things like that."

The foster home is also beneficial because it provides the opportunity to test how the animal is with different sorts of people, how they get along with

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Rubber Ducky Race, Festival Pageant return for 2021

The Ronceverte River Festival is pleased to announce the 2021 Great Rubber Ducky Race will return this summer. The ducks will go in the water at 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 12.

Also returning this year is the Festival Pageant, which is set to be held Sunday, Apr. 25, at the Dutch Haus banquet room at the Lewisburg Elks Country Club. This year's pageant has categories from birth to the age of 21. If you would like to compete in one of the categories available, please send your inquiry to roncevertefestivalpageants@gmail.com. The deadline for entries is Apr. 10.

The Ronceverte River Festival queen will compete at the 89th annual convention against 80 or more fair and festival queens in January of 2022. Phases of competition include Event Promotion where the contestant has 30 seconds to promote her festival, a Judge's Interview, and Evening Gown. The WVAFF organization represents over 200 Fair and Festival events and Associate members throughout West Virginia. Together they are a vital part of West Virginia's tourism economy.

Tickets for the ducky race will be available in the beginning of April at many of our usual outlets, and will be sold on our website roncevertewv.org. Tickets will be limited in number, and the total of prizes has yet to be determined.

We would like to thank our fantastic sponsors for their support for more than 30 years. This year we will not be asking them for their usual donations. We understand the impact the previous year may have had on our local businesses and don't want to be an additional burden. Cash prizes for winners will be provided by the River Festival Committee. We are accepting donations for additional prizes. If you would like to provide a Duck Race Prize, you may find us on Facebook, or call 304-647-8864. Donors will have their name or business printed on the tickets with their prize donation if we are notified of your intent before Apr. 1.

Disbarred attorney convicted of negligent homicide after fatal crash, receives home confinement

By Sarah Richardson

Former attorney E. Layoyd Morgan pled no contest to the charge of negligent homicide according to a criminal judgment order filed in Greenbrier County Magistrate Court on Jan. 14. The charge stems from a vehicle crash that occurred last year on Apr. 3, 2020, where Morgan, who was allegedly under the influence of alcohol, drove his Dodge pickup truck off the side of Ronceverte Hill and the passenger, Amelia Braden (Winsby), was ejected from the vehicle and succumbed to injuries she received.

On Mar. 20, the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals temporarily suspended Morgan's law license after reviewing a 22-count Statement of Charges that were considered by a Hearing Panel Subcommittee of the Lawyer Disciplinary Board. The charges ranged from dishonesty, misappropriation of client funds, mishandling cases, and more. Documents state that Morgan had committed 134 instances of violating 19 different Rules of Professional Conduct.

On Oct. 16, the Supreme Court of Appeals ordered that Morgan's law license be annulled and that he issue refunds to multiple entities, as well as pay for the costs of the court proceedings.

According to the criminal complaint regarding the Apr. 3 accident, C.R. Smith of the Greenbrier Valley Sheriff's Office was driving north on U.S. 219 and drove over a piece of plastic in the roadway. He stopped to remove the debris, and while doing so he noticed Morgan's wrecked

truck over the hill. Smith then made contact with Morgan, who stated that "he was ok, but need to find a female that was with him." Smith asked Morgan if he was drunk, to which he said yes.

The complaint notes that Winsby was located deceased approximately 100 yards from the vehicle.

Other officers on scene noted they "could smell a strong presence of an alcoholic beverage coming from (Morgan's) breath, he had bloodshot eyes, slurred speech, and had trouble keeping his balance while standing and walking."

Morgan repeatedly refused to take any type of BAC test, and officers had to gain a search warrant to take Morgan to Greenbrier Valley Medical Center for a blood test.

Morgan was arrested and originally charged with DUI causing death and was held in Southern Regional Jail before being released on bond. He was placed on home confinement as part of the terms and conditions of the bond.

Due to Morgan's history as a lawyer practicing within Greenbrier County, local magistrates were recused from presiding over the case. A special prosecutor, Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Santa "Sonny" Boninsegna, Jr. of the Wyoming County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, was assigned to the case. Magistrate Judge

Cynthia Kelley of the Pocahontas County Magistrate Court presided over the hearing.

Morgan's plea agreement states, "The State of WV and the defendant along with Defense counsel have reached a plea agreement in which the defendant, Mr. Morgan, will enter a plea of guilty to the charge of misdemeanor negligent homicide under WV Code 17C-5-1 with the State recommendation that the defendant be sentenced to a term of 12 months in the custody of the Regional Jail Authority. The sentence to be suspended and Mr. Morgan to be placed on home confinement for a period of 12 months being given credit for time served. Mr. Morgan will complete the substance abuse requirements through the county Day Report Center with no community service required."

The plea agreement also stated, "The State has spoken with the mother of the victim who will be satisfied with the resolution of the charge as well."

Magistrate Kelley accepted the plea on Jan 4, 2021.

Boninsegna stated that "The State agrees with the entering of a no contest or Kennedy vs Frazier plea in the above styled matter. The State did further agree that any substance abuse treatment shall be after the

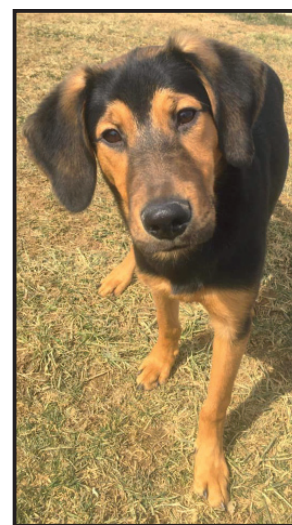
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e-mail news stories to news@mountainmessenger.com

PICK OF THE LITTER

MICKEY

Mickey is a 10-month-old male hound mix and weighs 25 pounds. This cutie has a unique coat pattern and deep brown eyes.



These and other animals are available at the Greenbrier Humane Society, located at 151 Holiday Lane off of Rt. 60 West in Lewisburg. They are closed Sunday and Monday, and are open from 11 a.m. through 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

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

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

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

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Briefly

American Heritage Music Hall, Inc.

Open to the public, all welcome, handicap accessible. Admission \$7 Tuesday nights, \$10 Saturday - Audience provides food. Door opens at 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Located at 496 Island Park, Ronceverte. Jam & Dance every Tuesday from 7 to 10 p.m. Saturday, Mar. 13 - Thomas Taylor Band. Saturday 27 - Ivan Combs & The Outlaws. Call the Music Hall at 304-645-4667; Bill Evans at 304-392-6079; Grace Poe at 304-992-5852.

AA meetings

are held Saturdays at 10 a.m. via Zoom meeting. (Contact 304-647-0677 for Zoom details.) Find listings for other meetings in West Virginia at aawv.org.

Addiction Screenings available

If you or a loved one is struggling with substance abuse, take the first step towards overcoming addiction. Call 1-800-431-1754 for free addiction screenings or referrals. For more information visit <https://www.narcononnewliferetreat.org/blog/strange-side-effects-of-covid-19.html>

Conviction

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determination of the need for treatment by the Greenbrier County Day Report Officers."

It was determined that Morgan will receive credit for 286 days of time already spent incarcerated and served on home confinement, he will participate in substance abuse treatment if recommended by Greenbrier County Day Report, and he was ordered to pay costs and fees of \$170.25.

Animal Transport

Continued from Page 2

other animals, and other placement factors.

"They do come to us with their vaccines up-to-date, that's one of the rules," said Susie. Along with having all their shots, transported animals have to complete a two-week-long quarantine, if they aren't already spayed or neutered that is scheduled, if they are crossing state lines they have to get a medical certificate to stay in compliance with USDA guidelines, and more. The rescues perform this legwork, which is then verified by transport coordinators before the animal is cleared to start their trip.

But that's not all the rules, the transporters themselves also have to follow a specific set of guidelines to keep themselves and the animals safe while on the road. All dogs must have two leashes, either one slip lead and a regular collar or a harness and a collar, and the dogs must be tethered in the car. Susie recommends a large carabineer to connect the leashes to the metal prongs of a car's headrest. The reason for doing this is in the event of an accident, the dog remains secure in the vehicle.

Drivers also cannot leave the dog unattended in the vehicle for any length of time. Susie stresses the importance of having a bathroom break before trips for this exact reason, because if you drive alone you won't get a break until you have passed the dog off to the next transporter.

There are special rules when it comes to transporting litters of puppies, Susie explained, since they are too young to be fully vaccinated. They must remain in a crate while in the vehicle, and during potty breaks there are no paws allowed on the ground (NPOG) so a sheet or tarp must be used.

On any given weekend, rain or shine, there are hundreds of these drivers out on the road working to get animals where they need to be. Without fanfare, volunteers like Susie change the lives of the animals they transport, as well as the lives of the people who end up reunited with or with a new four-legged family member.

If you would like to volunteer as a driver, please email news@mountainmessenger.com or call 304-647-5724.

Bucket Drive

Continued from Front Page

second blessing box in Ronceverte.

"We're always doing [projects], and this ties into the blessing box," Hazelwood said. "We're going to landscape it for shrubbery and landscaping and flowers. ... That is city owned property, the city allowed us to put it there. ... [We] enlisted the help of John Loudermilk, of Loudermilk Construction, to build these boxes. I approached the city myself about this particular spot, ... then of course, I painted it. It is stocked completely full, there are people going to town on putting stuff in there."

After the Saturday bucket drive, the leprechaun will continue making rounds through Greenbrier County.

"The leprechaun that will be here on Saturday will also, on Wednesday, St. Patrick's Day, will be going to the two day cares in Fairlea, Little Learners and Lit'l Rascals, and will be visiting children on behalf of Friends of Ronceverte, giving them treats," Hazelwood explained.

Pausing for a second, Hazelwood then said with a laugh, "It's me, I'm the leprechaun. I've got green glitter from one end of my shop to the other - I ordered a costume that was so plain and boring. I blinged it out, the beard and the eyebrows are phenomenal. It's been so much fun!"

To get in touch with the organization, message their Facebook page, "Friends of Ronceverte."

Find us on Facebook

BOE Presentations

"If you listen to what all is going on in the last two LSIC presentations, you know our schools are doing good things," said Board President Jeanie Wyatt. "You know they're doing well, considering what all we've gone through, and in-and-out, all the changes that have been made, they've adapted well. ... Yes, the scores aren't perfect, but they shouldn't be. They're all trying, making improvements, that's all we can ask of them."

Crichton Elementary School

Crichton Elementary School Principal Donna Nickel celebrated many of the work arounds the students and teachers have come up with, such as take-home science experiments, a successful "Halloween in the Halls," and some long-term class improvements.

"This is what I'm really proud of - the longitudinal data for fourth grade [shows] they have come a really long way," Nickel said. "From 2019 to 2020, [you can see] how much they have improved."

Although Nickel was also thrilled to announce Frankford had "no discipline referrals," this does not mean that the school hasn't seen COVID-19 related issues.

"Due to time constraints I'm not going to go over each one of those, but as you can see we are still struggling in every grade with math," Nickel said. "... We know that writing is a weakness."

She also noted fourth graders were doing better in math after struggling the previous year.

Hopeful about the rest of the year, Nickel thanked the staff and the board.

"We are a unique, small school with a staff that understands the special needs of our school," Nickel said. "We are blessed to have a staff that provides a safe and caring environment for our students and the parents are always appreciative of what we do."

Rainelle Elementary School

"We are attempting as much normalcy as possible," said Principal Kim Tincher. "The kids are great. They are following the rules as best they can. ... Enrollment is considerably down - it's down from the first year I started at Rainelle. We had 245, 247 the first year I was there. Now we're down to 188, 190. It's fluctuating."

Testing scores during COVID-19 have been down, but not outside of similar school scores.

"The writing scores are a little low, but overall we are comparable with the state and with the county, so I'm not concerned," Tincher said. "Our math scores are looking better than I thought they would. ... Rainelle, for some reason, always pulls through, but we have some work ahead."

With only one major exception that staff is working with "as closely as we can ... on getting him some help," there have been no serious discipline problems.

"I have one major issue at school [where] this child has had a traumatic life and you really want to take them home with you can try to raise them yourself but you can't. I think he may have fractured my shin last week. ... We're working as closely as we can ... trying to work on getting him some help. You can't help what goes on out of school. ... Other than that we have no discipline problems."

Changes have also come to the school, such as a third 3D printer for students to experiment with. This also includes the cancellation of the annual Run for the Wall event. Tincher also thanked a teacher, Rebecca Canterbury, for working on a grant that allowed the school to create a walking program for students, with social distancing in place. Although the program began last year, Tincher plans for its return as the weather warms up.

"They go out and walk, or walk in the gym, and they're listening to podcasts," Tincher said. "They're about different things, science and social studies and everything you can think of on these podcasts, plus physical fitness. She did that last year and wants to work that into this year."

Ronceverte Elementary School

Ronceverte Elementary School has dropped from 100 remote students to 47 as the year progressed, with a student coming back every week "all year long."

"We have some families that have been all-stars at it - they do everything you ask them to do, they participate in every meeting," said Principal Andrea Stewart. "Then we have some families that we're trying to track down because we can't get them to participate in anything or respond to any of our things. ... We thought, when we were going to go to the A/B schedule, it was going to be a nightmare for us. ... It actually allowed us to do a couple of really cool collaborative activities, especially with the related arts."

Ronceverte's students have also seen less progress as a result of the pandemic.

"The largest issue is the kids don't understand how much repetition there is with kindergarten," Stewart said. "They're just teaching the letter of the week and the activities that come with it, they're not going back every week and making sure the kids remember the letters and the sounds. That has been a challenge, but the teachers have gone above and beyond with that."

Similar to other schools, Stewart was grateful for

the remote technology allowing teaching to continue through the year during the challenges.

"Our teachers have done some really creative things through class dojo," Stewart said. "They communicate constantly on that. ... The fifth grade even incorporated some at home science experiments remotely. They would send all the materials home with the kids and [they] would do the experiment at home with a parent's help. Several of them would film the child doing the experiment and send it back to the teacher."

Rupert Elementary School

Principal Jenny Harden began her presentation with good news for Rupert Elementary School - despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the school is growing.

"I am excited to share that enrollment last year was 176 students," said Harden. "Enrollment this year is ... 203. We are growing, which is very exciting to me. We have gone from 53 remote learners at the beginning of the year to ... 35. I believe we have five more coming back next week."

Despite dealing with "difficulties" in the past week, Harden hopes the return to school provides the support the new and old students need.

"Our data is not something to scream and shout about, however, we are growing."

Afterschool programs are also doing "well," helping toward this goal.

Harden also thanked Mindfulness West Virginia and Save the Children for providing the school with 1,200 well-stocked meal boxes for area families.

Smoot Elementary

"Slow progress is better than no progress," explained Principal Molly Judy. "This year has been daunting and remote instruction is certainly not as good as direct instruction. ... We're going to get these kids back anyway we can."

While providing specific data on many of the individual classrooms, Judy compared the beginning of the year to the current nine weeks, highlighting the growth of each class. For example, in one kindergarten class, 29 percent of students could identify letters at the beginning of the year. This has grown to 71 percent.

One of the common rewards for well performing students is a field trip, something that has not happened this past year. Instead, movie days have been held in the gym, with staff dressing up.

"We had shirts made that say 'We're all in it together,' and that's how we feel," Judy said. "I'm so blessed to have a great staff at Smoot Elementary."

White Sulphur Springs Elementary School

"I am the principal at White Sulphur Springs Elementary School, this is my first year," said Tina Campbell. "I thoroughly enjoyed it, even though it is a pandemic school year."

Campbell explained that, as of "December of 2020, we had 311 students, 200 [in-person] and 111 remote. In person enrollment has gone up to 240 and our remote is down to 70. Three more are coming back in person tomorrow - everyday we're getting two or three more coming back in person. We do have several that are waiting for the fourth nine weeks."

COVID-19 exposure shutdowns also impacted learning and grades for White Sulphur students.

"The percentage of A's went down from the first nine weeks, that's with the remote learning I believe," Campbell said. "Once we're getting the students back in, there's more in person, the grades are going back up. ... Despite all the in and out [of in-person learning] of the second nine weeks, we were really surprised to see that the students were showing growth."

See "BOE Presentation" ____ Page 9

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Mountain Messenger

Tax Tips

- Remember: midnight, Thursday, April 15, 2021 is the deadline to file your income taxes



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OPINION

Commentary

Transportation bill can propel economy forward

By U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito for USA Today

It's important that legislation address the diverse transportation needs of rural and urban communities.

Transportation infrastructure matters. It matters to our economy, our communities, our health and our safety. Our nation's surface transportation system brings jobs and new opportunities, enables communities to grow, connects us to our friends and family, and joins all sectors of the economy to customers at home and abroad.

That is why one of my top priorities as ranking member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee is to develop a bipartisan surface transportation reauthorization bill.

The legislation is more than building our roads and bridges. It can help strengthen a recovery from a pandemic that has devastated communities across this country. Transportation infrastructure can drive economic growth while creating jobs and improving the quality of life for all Americans.

The Environment and Public Works Committee has a strong record of developing a surface transportation reauthorization bill in a bipartisan manner. Last Congress, we were successful in passing one out of committee 21-0, which reflected give and take on certain issues.

Recently, I met with President Joe Biden, Vice President Kamala Harris and Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg, along with several of my colleagues, in the Oval Office to discuss this issue and the need to develop legislation in a bipartisan way.

To achieve this goal, we need to make sure any surface transportation reauthorization bill provides for long-term investment, gives states flexibility, and expedites the delivery of projects to improve the safety and resiliency of our roads and bridges, among other principles.

Federal investment along with investment from state and local governments and the private sector is essential to meet our current and future transportation needs. A multi-year surface transportation reauthorization bill will provide certainty to states, giving them the confidence to make investment decisions and carry out projects that address these needs. We need to be fiscally responsible and thoughtful with spending levels, and avoid partisan lightning rods.

It's also important that the legislation address the diverse transportation needs of rural and urban communities. As the top Republican on the committee, part of my job is to provide a policy framework that recognizes the different transportation needs across the country while

See "Transportation Bill" ___ Page 7

Letter to the Editor

Bills infringe on private property rights

Dear Editor:


Private property has long been seen as a right in the United States and West Virginia. This right has been enshrined since our founding by law and tradition. Unfortunately our West Virginia legislature appears poised to seriously infringe upon private property rights in West Virginia. Recently two bills were introduced in the WV state legislature, Senate bill SB538 and House bill HB 2853. These bills would force non-consenting property owners into oil and gas drilling units where they would be forced to accept the lease terms dictated by the operator, in most cases a large out of State corporation. This "forced pooling" sometimes called "unitization" is being introduced under the pretext that it would improve efficiency for gas and oil extraction in West Virginia. In reality it improves the bottom line for these oil and gas drilling companies at the expense of West Virginia property owners.

These "forced pooling" bills do not require gas and oil drilling companies to negotiate in good faith with property owners or make reasonable offers to all owners in the drilling unit prior to applying the compulsory aspects of the proposed legislation to force property owners into a lease. It allows up to 35 percent of all owners in a proposed drilling unit to be forced in by the Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, which is a commission made up of industry representatives and members of the executive branch of the state government appointed by the Governor. There is no landowner or private property representative on the board. Furthermore these sorts of Commissions are notorious for their typically one sided approach to an issue, usually assisting industry with little regard to the potential harm being caused to the public. The most recent example of a similar Commission controlled situation was the large scale power failures experienced in Texas during the recent cold snap. Tens of people died so the actions of these unrepresentative commissions can have serious consequences. Unfortunately at the end of the day there is usually a lot of finger pointing with no accountability. Are we headed for the same sort of outcome in our oil and gas drilling industry?

When a non-consenting owner - who may own their acreage in its entirety and have no desire to have oil and gas drilling conducted at all; they just happen to have their property within the boundaries of the proposed drilling unit - is forced in they receive no upfront payment and they receive a 12.5% production royalty which can be reduced by post-production expenses. As a result the net proceeds received by the landowner would likely be 2-4%, not 12.5%. This is even more one sided when you know that in most areas of the country where oil and gas minerals are produced, places such as Texas, Louisiana and Oklahoma, the typical royalty rate paid is 16-25%.

The industry says they need this to be competitive in

See "Property Rights" ___ Page 7



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The Back Pew

By Stephen Baldwin



Let's get right to it. Here's a rundown of the latest issues brewing in Charleston.

ACCESS TO THE CAPITOL. While stores, restaurants, and schools are open in-person at 100% capacity, the capitol remains closed to the public. It's time to change that. The capitol should be reopened following the mask, distancing, and sanitary guidelines everyone else follows. The public must have a voice in what is happening to our state this legislative session.

FORCED POOLING. Alongside the WV Farm Bureau, I want to call your attention to several "forced pooling" bills (SB538 and HB2853) which have been introduced by leadership in the supermajority. "Forced pooling" is a tactic used by energy companies to gobble up land and property/mineral rights. Under these bills, landowners would not have the right to sell or keep their own land. They would be forced to sell if a majority of their neighbors were selling. This is an assault on landowners, especially farmers in our state. I will fight these bills just as I have every other year.

LICENSING. A series of bills (HB2006, 2007, and 2008) reducing licensing requirements passed the House recently. What's the impact? Funeral service directors, electricians, architects, and more professionals would see their licensing requirements slashed. Bill sponsors say it would attract workers from other states. Would you want an unqualified funeral service director from another state to come here and care for your loved ones? No. These bills are dangerous.

HOPE SCHOLARSHIP. Should public money be given to people for private education? HB2013 says yes, setting up education savings accounts. Students who want to homeschool or attend private school would be given \$4,600 per year by the state for their educational expenses. The total cost of the bill is \$100+ million. Each student is unique and deserves to find the option that best nurtures his/her development. At the same time, I am also concerned about the enormous cost of the bill as well as the negative effect it will have on our public schools. (A delegate recently said counties would still receive partial funds for students who get an ESA; that is false.)

50/50 CUSTODY. In each particular family law case, the judge determines what custody arrangement is in "the best interest of the child" and rules accordingly. Some parents feel that system is broken, with fathers in particular feeling shortchanged. HB2363 was introduced to replace "best interest of the child" with "50/50 custody." I do not support it, because 50/50 custody is not always in the best interest of the child. Every case is unique, and judges need discretion to do what's best for each child.

HARM REDUCTION. The Senate passed a bill (SB334) restricting "harm reduction" programs this week. "Harm reduction" programs are run by county health departments in our region as a way to curb the spread of infectious diseases like HIV and to move folks with substance use disorder into recovery. The intent of the bill's sponsor, Senator Eric Tarr, was admittedly to ban all such programs. However, he lacked the votes to do that, so the bill instead makes it exceedingly difficult for the programs to be able to operate. Our drug problem is only getting worse; we cannot afford to get rid of any tools that help us recover.

VACCINES. My focus in terms of COVID response continues to be securing more vaccines. If we can continue to vaccinate citizens at a high rate, then we can get back to doing the things we love which have been unsafe for the past year. The flow of vaccines from the federal government continues to improve each week. I am in regular touch with our federal representatives to push for that. And after a brief interruption of vaccines to our local area from the state, that situation is rectified. Do your part by signing up for a vaccine at www.vaccinate.wv.gov or 833-734-0965. Everyone age 16 and up can register now and then be called upon when it's your turn.

MASKS. After COVID cases bottomed out recently, our local health departments report increases over the past 10 days. We cannot let our guard down now when we are so close to defeating COVID. Let's continue to wear our masks and socially distance unless we are with our immediate family or amongst a small group of fully vaccinated citizens.

That's the view from the back pew, where it is my privilege to serve you!

(Senator Stephen Baldwin is the Minority Leader and a local pastor. Reach him at 304-357-7959 or stephen.baldwin@wvsenate.gov. Follow him on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram @BaldwinForWV)

the county courthouse or city hall, but do internet-based legal ads work for the average resident?

Placing legal ads on a website works if the ads are easy to find and are available for a long period of time.

It also works if everyone has access to affordable, reliable high-speed internet service. And there's the rub; many parts of West Virginia and other states don't have that. Add to that the problem of internet outages. They happen. Some people in West Virginia have been without internet service in their homes since the ice storms of last month, when phone and cable lines went down.

There's also the fact that online legal ads can be buried in a user-unfriendly website. That would be a great place to hide important information.

Sure, there is some self-interest when newspapers object to limiting or eliminating some legal advertising. Newspapers make money on legal ads. Some smaller newspapers could face closure if that income dried up or was reduced greatly - a development that could cost the state jobs. Legal advertising is a reliable source of

See "Legal Ads" ___ Page 7

Letter to the Editor

Democrat stimulus bill

Dear Editor:

Today, March 10, 2021, is a momentous day for America. In both the House and the Senate, the stimulus bill passed because Democrats voted for it. The money will spread across the country and begin to revive the people who have suffered due to the Covid-19 virus. The numbers are mind boggling.

In the next few weeks, most children, college students, and adults will receive \$1400 checks. Only those who have a high income will not receive a check. This money will flow to people who are hungry, unemployed, and losing their housing. It will go to parents who are almost without hope, and to small businesses that have gone bust, or cling to the edge. Parents will receive greatly increased family tax credits and child care funds.

There will be \$176 billion for Covid-related expenses, health care and vaccinations for everyone. Another \$350 billion is for the states to assist with employment, service cuts, and other Covid-related needs. \$178 billion will go to public schools, technical training facilities, and colleges. There is \$17 billion for Veterans.

There are also funds for increased unemployment insurance, to help renters and homeowners, farmers, small businesses, vital industries, and increase disaster relief. This money will expand economic security, and provide health care and vaccinations to ease the pain of the virus.

It will take time for the funds to reach all these groups, but Americans no longer have to wonder who will provide the help they need while the Covid-19 virus continues to sicken and kill. This bill isn't perfect. It will not solve everyone's problems, but it is a serious commitment to the American people to help them in this time of crisis.

Nan Issenberg,
Lewisburg

Commentary

Legal ads work for people

From the Charleston Gazette-Mail

Every so often, someone in the West Virginia Legislature or elsewhere gets the idea that state and local governments should stop running legal advertising in newspapers. It's an expense that can be done away with in the internet age, with no harm done to the public's ability to know what's going on in their area, right?

Not really.

That idea has come up again this year in the Legislature, with two bills that would limit the amount of public notice that is published in print.

House Bill 2715, introduced by Delegate Geoff Foster, R-Putnam, would order the State Auditor's Office to establish a website centralizing all postings of legal advertisements required by law. It allows state and local governments to publish Class II and Class III legal notices once in a local newspaper, instead of the current requirement of two or three weeks if the notice also is placed on the state Central Legal Advertisement website for the time period otherwise required by law.

Thus, it wouldn't eliminate the requirement for legal ads in local newspapers, but it would reduce their frequency.

Foster's bill does not apply to Class I legal ads, which are published only once.

The bill was referred to the House Judiciary Committee.

Then there's Senate Bill 318, introduced by Sen. Robert Karnes, R-Randolph. It would eliminate the requirement that the state treasurer publish the full list of the unclaimed property registry and, instead, require that the information be included in a publicly available online database. The treasurer would need to provide published notice that the database is available. That legal ad would give directions on how to access the database.

SB 318 has been referred to the Senate Finance Committee.

These seem like reasonable proposals on the surface, but, when you dig deeper, the two bills share common flaws. They appear to work for people in the Capitol, at

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.

Greenbrier County Airport Authority

will meet at the Airport Terminal Tuesday, Mar. 16, at 2 p.m. In Person for Board Members and Media Meeting and Due to Pandemic Public can attend by Zoom. Public Conference Zoom Meeting ID Phone only: 1 929 436 2866 Meeting ID: 416 793 4372 or by Computer and iPhone Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4167934372>

On the agenda:

- Approval of Minutes - Jan. 19, 2021 regular meeting; Jan. 21, 2021, special meeting
 - Financial Reports
 - July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020 Audit has begun
 - January 2021 and February 2021 - Financial Reports
 - CARES ACT - Grant draw & payment report update
 - Report on Federal funding and new stimulus grants, loans and expenditure rules.
 - Bank Account Balances Review and Transfers - Bills paid January 2021 & February 2021
 - Consideration of establishing Airport Development Account - Motion to create and set aside funds towards maintenance and upgrade of facilities.
 - Parrish & Partners - Jon McCalmont
 - Project update
 - Grant Applications status and Approval 2021 update
 - Review of Designs for Entrance Sign
 - Airport Directors Report – Mr. Belcher, Airport Director
 - Update Fuel Sales & Passengers
 - New ATC Manager update
 - FAA part 139 Inspection 2021
 - Rental Car Service status update
 - Snow events
 - Resturant Operations
 - Status of Discharged Former Employee FAA Complaint
 - Equipment and Transportation purchase and sale
 - Personnel
 - Consideration of Motion for Executive Session
 - To consider the health of personnel
 - To consider matters involving or affecting the purchase, sale or lease of property, advance construction planning, the investment of public funds or other matters involving commercial competition
- This meeting is held in compliance with West Virginia Open Meeting Act. Call Brian Belcher, Airport Director 304-645-3961 ext. 221 for information on meeting

Ronceverte Mayor

councilmembers, should they sign up to run again.

“I feel like, right now, we have an amazingly strong council,” Smith said. “We’ve got Kathy King, who is super involved in nonprofits in town, as well as her years of experience with the board of education and being president of the board. Cherie Davis, who serves on a number of committees and heads our library, we’ve got Leah Sills and Deena Pack, who have doctorates of jurisprudence and are involved in a number of activities and things involved in town. Gayle White, who has been mayor before, and is on a number of committees. Hopefully those people are going to run and keep the council strong.”

Both Sills and Davis were appointed to fill seats of previous councilmembers, Barbara Morgan and Adam Rosin, respectively.

•••

Greenbrier County saw a state of emergency due to flooding last week, and Ronceverte was no exception. Island Park saw a huge amount of flooding during and after the rainfall.

“The flood did a fair amount of damage to the park, especially at the amphitheatre,” Smith said. “The most that’s probably ever happened, even 2016 didn’t do as much damage as this one did. ... the building and the garden got a few inches, but nothing in the garden itself or in the hightop, thank goodness.”

In a door-to-door survey, no Ronceverte residents reported any substantial water damage. City Administrator Pam Mentz noted, “the water got close but didn’t get into any basements or do any bad damage. Most of the businesses on the avenue got by okay.”

Smith also complimented the work of city crews both during and after the flooding.

“Our guys were incredible, they were amazing,” Smith said. “They jumped right at it. ... Literally the next day, after the water got off the park, they had cleaned up all the debris. The mud is still there, and they are working on that. The debris is gone, other than the leaves and some stone.”

•••

During citizen’s comment, Chris and Jorge Rodriguez-Stanley announced they would be returning to Los Angeles in several months, revising the plan for the Rudy’s restoration project.

“Because of the delay and all the stuff happening, we’re going to be going back to Los Angeles at the beginning of June,” said Chris Rodriguez-Stanley. “We still are committed to the project and bringing the building back, it’s just that, given the circumstances, that’s what we’re going to have to do right now. ... We have to regroup and start again.”

Chris Rodriguez-Stanley looked, in the meantime, to join the efforts in getting a dog park in the city, saying “in the next three months while I’m here, [I want to] work on getting a dog park in Ronceverte. We would be the only park in the county, the only park in the region. It would bring people here.”

Sills expressed support for the project.

“I think that is a great idea, getting in a dog park,” Sills said. “I’m sorry things aren’t working out with your building, but that you’re still committed to sticking with Ronceverte and seeing it out at some point. Thanks for all your great ideas and your enthusiasm.”

Previous discussions around a park have begun, but have not been finalized.

“The Bendix location would be a good location to be able to put a dog park at some point, once that gets

Lewisburg City Council

will meet Tuesday, Mar. 16, at 7:30 p.m. via Teleconference. For information on how to participate, contact Lewisburg City Hall at 304-645-2080 by 4:30 p.m. on Mar. 16. On the agenda:

- Visitors’ reports: (10-min. limit per subject not on agenda)
- Approval of Minutes - Feb. 16, 2021 - regular session Mar. 9, 2021 special session
- Ordinance:
 - Consider and Act on Planning Commission Petition to amend the Zoning Ordinance by rewriting the Planned Unit Development portion of the zoning ordinance by, among other things, changing allowed uses and densities, public hearing.
 - Ordinance 290, amend the Zoning Ordinance by rewriting Planned Unit Development portion of the zoning ordinance, among other things, changing allowed uses and densities, 1st reading.
- Resolutions:
 - Resolution 482, budget revision #1, FY 2020/21
- Communications from the Mayor
 - Appointment to Parks Commission
- Communications from Interim City Manager:
 - E voting proposal from Secretary of State’s office
 - Approval of election officials/poll workers
 - Monthly report
- Communications from City Council Members
- Communications from Boards and Commissions
 - Planning Commission report
- Communications from the Police Department:
- Communications from the Fire Department:
- Communications from Council Committees
 - Finance Committee
 - Report from Mar. 9 & 10, 2021 meetings
 - Approval of audit contract
 - Task Order #34, City Hall brick repair
 - Mills Group, City Hall brick repointing
 - Amendment to Task Order # 32 for the South Lafayette Street storm sewer project
 - US 219 North Sidewalk Phase 3, pay application 2 and schedule
 - Stratton Alley Storm water Project, drawing & bid form
 - Cost of Living increase
 - City Manager’s salary
 - Treasurer’s salary
 - Purchase of Ventrac equipment for Public Works
 - Approval of 911 Center Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD report software) payment
 - Coal Severance Fund Budget Fiscal year 2022
 - General Fund Budget Fiscal year 2022
 - Public Works Committee
 - Report from the Director of Public Works
 - Hollowell Park Junior Field Synthetic Turf bids

done,” said Chris Rodriguez-Stanley. “Also the space ... behind the basketball courts and behind the skate park, and whatever area behind there ... already. I know that there is legal situation, there’s more than just the fundraising part of it, but I am fully prepared to take on the fundraising. I was contacted by a local group that was wanting to get involved in the dog park project already who have some fundraising experience.”

Noting some potential issues the project has already faced, Smith thanked Chris Rodriguez-Stanley for taking it on.

“The problem [with the basketball court area] is property lines get really [hazy] there,” Smith said. “... It can be difficult, ... folks could never find it. ... [However, right now] people do walk their dogs in the ball field, which is not good because we’ve got ... folks who don’t clean up, even though we’ve got things for them to clean up all over the park. ... But we’ve got some other places and we can definitely do some looking. Thank you all.”

In other business:

- Work on the city’s water project continues. Engineer Bob Hazelwood with E.L. Robinson explained work is ongoing on Walker Street and on West Edgar, between Maple and Cedar streets. About 200 feet of pipe were laid on Monday and contractors, Lynch Construction and Pro Contracting, are “not having any problems or issues with the existing water lines or utilities.”

- The council could return to in-person meetings next month, depending on vaccinations and comfort level with social distancing and masks.

COVID Bill

Continued from Front Page

\$15 minimum wage phase-in, were opposed and eliminated by some Democratic senators, including Manchin, but the final bill was passed by the slim Democratic majorities in both houses.

The package includes \$4 billion in direct funding to West Virginia, and more through federal programs and grants. Small businesses are eligible for the \$1 billion Paycheck Protection Program, broadband expansion will receive \$138 million, as well as \$2 million for internet hotspots to boost availability, \$260 million is allocated for West Virginia child care, \$677 million for local funding to cities and counties, and more.

Greenbrier County governments are expected to receive approximately \$6.72 million dollars. Specific towns were also allocated funds, including:

- Alderson - \$470,000
- “Falling Spring,” aka Renick - \$80,000
- Lewisburg - \$1.58 million
- Quinwood - \$110,000
- Rainelle - \$630,000
- Ronceverte - \$690,000
- White Sulphur Springs - \$980,000

According to Manchin’s press release, the funds and the bill:

- may be used to cover: expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic, lost revenue related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure.
- includes “commonsense guardrails” to ensure this funding is not used to shore up pension funds or fill budget holes created under certain conditions.

- will be distributed in two parts: the first half will be issued within 60 days; the second half will be distributed roughly 12 months later.

See “COVID Bill” Page 12

For the Record

Deeds

James Robert Mills and Brittany Salters to Steven Jackson and Thelma Jackson, 0.424 acre, Anthony Creek District

Elizabeth Bradley, Theresa Twohig, et al, to Stacy Eisenman and Carrie Eisenman, 178 acres, Blue Sulphur District

Archie Hopkins Martha Hopkins to Chris Holliday and Sharon Holliday, 9.448 acres, Fort Spring District Robert James Higginbotham to WVSOM, Lot 10, Fairfield Addition, City of Lewisburg

The Woods at Stonehenge LLC to Walter Sturek and Kristina Sturek, 24.453 acres, Lewisburg District

Sarah Jean Mayberry to Dennis Keith Diem and Karl Edwin Diem, two properties, Irish Corner District Robert Anderson and Melissa Anderson to Roger Garland Hinkle Jr., three tracts, Frankford District Helen Mary Lebeau to Millie Messimer, Lots 11 and 10, Garden Heights Addition, Lewisburg District

James R. Feury Mahala M. Feury to Josiah Solak and Alyson Solak, 3.27 acres, White Sulphur District

George Lemon and Sandra Gail Settle Losch to Black Forest Land Co., 5.79 acres and a parcel, Lewisburg Municipality

Jill Young to Edwin Lachance, 0.992 acre, Lewisburg Corp District

Fairview Associates LLC to DNA Holdings LLC, Lot 12A of Pinnacle Subdivision, Lewisburg District

Fairview Associates LLC to DNA Holdings LLC, 12 B of Pinnacle Subdivision, Lewisburg District

Harold L. Fry Jr. to AP Properties LLC, Tract 1: Lot 3, Fort Spring District

Greg S. Weikle and Donna S. Weikle to Jason Bradley and Brittany Bradley, 5.433 acres, Irish Corner Dist.

Elizabeth Jean Trout to William Spellmeyer, Lot 56, Quinwood Heights Subdivision, Meadow Bluff Tax Dist.

Angela Lynn Stone and Randall Lee Stone Sr. to Casey Goodson and Macie Goodson, 20,000 sq ft, Old Alderson Independent District

Greenbrier County Magistrate Court Convictions

Richard L. Davis, Melbourne, FL, possession of controlled substance, fine \$100

Barbara G. McMillion, Alderson, 1) driving suspended, fine \$100; 2) expired MVI, fine \$10

Lori Ann Holliday, Frankford, no insurance, fine \$200

Larry D. Woods, Lewisburg, no seatbelt, fine \$25

Joshua D. Holliday, White Sulphur Springs, 1) driving left of center, fine \$15; 2) driving suspended, fine \$100

Ernest E. Bennett, Rainelle, no seatbelt, fine \$25

Oshea R. Boone, Lewisburg, shoplifting, fine \$25 - mandatory civil penalty to be paid directly to victim \$50

Cory E. Myers, Rainelle, no seatbelt, fine \$25

Aaron D. Brown, Gap Mills, speeding, NCP, fine \$18

Erick L. Jack, Marlinton, speeding, NCP, fine \$18

Walter W. Adkins, Jr., Alderson, driving suspended, NCP, fine \$100

Michael Houchins, Rainelle, no operators, NCP, fine \$25

Henry L. Morgan, Williamsburg, unauthorized use of dumpster, fine \$50

Justin A. O’Dell, Rupert, 1) failure to electronically register deer (spike), fine \$20; 2) illegal possession of wildlife, fine \$20

Justin A. O’Dell, Rupert, killing doe without license Class N, fine \$30

Edwin L. Morgan, Jr., Ronceverte, negligent homicide, death within 1 year as result of injury received by reckless driving, NC, jail 12 months - suspended, Home Confinement 12 months (credit for time served 286 days). Defendant will participate in substance abuse treatment if recommended by Gbr. Co. Home Confinement.

Cody Logan O’Conner, White Sulphur Springs, 1) improper registration, fine \$50; 2) driving suspended, fine \$100

Johnathan L. Collins, Rainelle, battery, NCP, fine \$100, jail 6 months credit time served 6 months

David L. Forshee, Brentwood, TN, speeding, fine \$25

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Soup luncheon scheduled in Williamsburg

Come share with the Williamsburg Flying Falcons 4-H a variety of homemade soups (chili, chicken noodle, vegetable, broccoli cheese and many more) and a peanut butter or a grilled cheese sandwich. Choose from a variety of homemade desserts and a drink

as well on Sunday, Mar. 21 at the soup luncheon. The lunch will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Williamsburg Community Building. The cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. The proceeds will help send club members to camp and on their annual

club trip. If you have any questions, please call 304-645-6867.

Directions to Williamsburg: I-64, exit 161, North on Rt. 12, East on Rt. 60, first left onto Sinking Creek Road for 9 miles (stay on the 2 lane), Community Building on the left.



Greenbrier County Committee on Aging Board President Gloria Martin (left) and Treasurer Vicki Dove

OBITUARIES

Oran Clarence Pack



Ronceverte-Oran Clarence Pack, 78, went to be with his Lord and Savior on Wednesday, Mar. 3, 2021.

Born Oct. 16, 1942, at Streeter in Summers County, he was a son of the late Donald Oran Pack and Myrtle Ellen Lilly Pack.

Other than his parents he was preceded in death by a brother, Lester Pack.

Oran worked 43 years at The Greenbrier Hotel in the upholstery shop. He was a member of Bruffey Memorial United Methodist Church. Oran loved hunting and spending time with his family and friends.

Surviving are his wife, Rosa Lee Adkins Pack; daughters, Janet King (Billy) of Organ Cave and Jeanette Adkins (Eric) of Ronceverte; son, Oran Pack, Jr. (Linda) of Fairlea; grandchildren, Justin Wayne Huffman of Ronceverte and Amber Guthrie (Eric) of Ronceverte; great-grandson, Chase Guthrie; sisters, Beatrice Rowe of Missouri, Brenda Redden (Charley) of Raleigh, WV, Retha Armstrong (Duncan) of Coal City, WV, Rita Bryant (Glen) of Delaware, Linda Bryant (Howard) of Beaver, WV; brothers, Harold Pack (B.J.) of Shady Springs, Clayton Pack (Kathy) of Beckley, Roger Pack (Caroline) of Elgin, SC, and Donnie Pack (Francine) of Beckley.

Funeral services will be on Sunday, Mar. 7, at 1 p.m. at Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg with Pastor Mark Smearman officiating.

Visitation will be from 12 noon until time of service.

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

Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

Dallas L. Ware



White Sulphur Springs-Dallas L. Ware, 87, of White Sulphur Springs, passed away peacefully March 5, 2021 with loved ones by his side.

He was born Dec. 24, 1933, at White Sulphur Springs to the late Omel H. Ware and Lena Loving Ware.

Preceding him in death were his parents; his wife, Barbara Ware; sons, Steve Ware and Barry Ware; brothers, Ralph Ware (Jenny) of Ohio, Carl Ware of Maryland and Roy Ware (Nancy) of North Carolina; sisters, Alice Herpy of Ohio, Easter Graham (Bobby) of Virginia and Dorothy Ware of White Sulphur Springs.

Those left to carry on the opinionated, stubbornness of the Ware

Clan and to cherish a lifetime of beautiful memories are daughters, Brenda (Joey) Scott and Stephanie (Bob) Bowling, all of White Sulphur Springs, and Bridget (Keith) Coughenour of Pennsylvania; brother, Junior Ware of White Sulphur Springs; grandchildren, Joseph W. Scott, Jr. (Crystal), Melissa Scott Olczak (Casey), Ryan Callison and Alayna Coughenour; 9 great grandchildren, Dakota Phillips, Timber Scott, Carrington Phillips, Kierston Baker, Austen Scott, Olivia Burdette, Grant Burdette, Owen Olczak, Piper Olczak, and Brier Callison; great-great grandson, Paxton Phillips; a very special niece, Shannon Ware (Cathy) of Virginia and many more nieces and nephews that he cared for.

Dallas was well known in the area, for his great plumbing business as well as the owner of Skate City of White Sulphur Springs. Dallas enjoyed golfing and traveling across the United States with his family. But he also enjoyed talking to people and conjuring up stories that he would continue to tell or when he thought you believed him.

Go enjoy that swing, Dad, with Barry and Steve. Until we see you again. "Love you, Daddio."

Dallas has donated his body to the Osteopathic School of Medicine and a private memorial service was held on Wednesday, Mar. 10.

In lieu of flowers, donations of sympathy may be made to HospiceCare, 1265 Maplewood Avenue, Lewisburg WV 24901.

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

Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

Joan Craig Martin Tuckwiller



Joan Craig Martin Tuckwiller, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, volunteer and friend passed peacefully in her sleep at her home on Saturday, Mar. 6, 2021.

She was born Sept. 25, 1931, in Ronceverte, the daughter of the late Jackson Kirby Martin and Virginia Richmond McCrary Martin.

She was pre-deceased by her husband of 68 years, John Franklin Tuckwiller; and her sister, Jacqueline Martin Holland.

She is survived by her four children and their spouses, Emily Ann Tuckwiller Shirey and Bob Shirey, Jack Tuckwiller and Kathryn (Boots) Tuckwiller, Matthew Ross Tuckwiller and Lynne McClung Tuckwiller and Amy Craig Tuckwiller Wolf and Wilbur Earl Wolf III; her eight grandchildren and their spouses, Jenny Shirey Murray and John Murray, Christine Shirey Fosdick and Mark Fosdick, John Tuckwiller and Caitlin Tuckwiller, James Franklin Tuckwiller and Anne Bowling Tuckwiller, Slayter Tuckwiller and fiancé Taylor Rae Ward, Reese Tuckwiller and fiancé Sydney Kinstler, Wilbur Craig Wolf and Kira Oshaben Wolf, and Rachel

Margaret Wolf; and her eight great-grandchildren, Orian Post, Audra Murray, Oliver Murray, Gwendolyn Fosdick, Steven Robert Fosdick due in April, Hayden Cieniewicz, Madeline Quinn Tuckwiller, and Wilbur Alan Wolf and last but not least her beloved Scottie, Sugar. From childhood days in Ronceverte, she always had a Scottie as a pet, roughly 12 during her lifetime. She also had nieces and nephews from her sister, Jackie - Martin Holland, Lorri Payne, Nick Holland and Ginny Condrey.

Joan graduated from Mary Baldwin College in 1953 with a BA in Biology minor in Zoology. Joan lived a life of service through her church and her community. At Calvary Methodist Church, she sang in the Choir, was a Sunday school teacher for over 40 years, a Vacation Bible school teacher, UM Women's circle member serving in many offices including President. In addition, she served as Richland's charge treasurer for 20 years. She served on the WV United Methodist Women State Conference Board in several capacities including Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation and at the Greenbrier District level.

Joan was a sustaining member of Lewisburg House and Garden Club and at the state level served in all offices leading up to and including President of West Virginia Garden Club from 1989-1991. Working in conjunction with the WV Department of Natural Resources and WVGC, she served as Assistant and then Coordinator of the WV Wild Flower Pilgrimage from 1982-2015. With all of her children being involved in the Central Willing Workers 4-H club it was just natural that she became the leader of the club and received several club Leader of the Year awards. She also was a WV 4-H All Star and member of the Greenbrier County 4-H All Stars. Also, within WV Extension she was an active member of the Richland's CEOS club serving in various capacities including President several times.

She enjoyed riding her horse, Dolly on the family farm in her younger years and in later years playing bridge weekly with her Tuesday bridge club ladies. There was always a large vegetable garden each summer and beautiful flower beds to be tended around the yard.

A private family memorial service will be held on Friday, Mar. 12, at Wallace & Wallace Lewisburg Chapel with burial to follow in Calvary United Methodist Cemetery beside her husband, John.

Due to COVID precautions we will be live streaming the service at 2 pm and ask if you wish to participate at home through Wallace and Wallace Funeral Home's facebook page.

In lieu of flowers or food, the family welcomes well-wishers and friends to contribute to the Calvary Cemetery Association, c/o Treasurer Jim Jefferies, 142 Maple Grove Subdivision Rd., Lewisburg, WV 24901 or Greenbrier County 4-H All Stars, c/o Treasurer Jerri Gillespie, 258 Carriage Hill Drive, Lewisburg, WV 24901 or the Greenbrier County Humane Society, 151 Holiday Lane, Lewisburg, WV 24901.

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

Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

Treasure on the Mountain raffle tickets now available

The Greenbrier County Committee on Aging is once again partnering with the Snowshoe Foundation to sell Treasure on the Mountain raffle tickets. The ticket price of \$125 includes entrance to the raffle, complimentary food and non-alcoholic drink, eligibility for the Early Bird drawing of \$1,000 on Apr. 30, and a chance at prizes totaling \$300,000!

The event takes place Saturday, Aug. 7. You do not have to be present to win, but there is a lot of excitement and fun, only 5,000 tickets are sold

and each ticket has two chances to win.

The Snowshoe Foundation benefits the community through scholarships and grants to multiple community projects. Sales of tickets also benefits the local area by assisting the Committee on Aging to fund their programs such as homebound meal delivery, transportation for medical appointments and other services provided for senior citizens. To purchase tickets, call Vicki at 304-645-1931 or the Committee on Aging, 304-392-5138.

Dear Recycle Lady,



Dear Recycle Lady,

How long has plastic been in our environment? When was plastic discovered?

Looking for Information

Dear Looking for Information,

According to [www.thoughtco.com](http://www.thoughtco.com/history-of-plastics-1992322) › history-of-plastics-1992322, the first man-made plastic was created by Alexander Parkes, who demonstrated it at the 1862 Great International Exhibition in London. He called the material Parkesine. It was an organic material derived from cellulose. Once it was heated, Parkesine could be molded and it would retain its shape when cooled. The first mass-produced, totally synthetic plastic was invented in 1907 by Belgian-American chemist Leo Baekeland, who also created Bakelite. Since Baekeland's product was a totally synthetic plastic, meaning it contained no molecules, it is considered to be invented rather than discovered. There are some plastics today made from an organic polymer, however, most plastics are made from petrochemicals. Plastic pollution was first noticed in the ocean by scientists carrying out plankton studies in the late 1960s and early 1970s, according to freetheseocean.com.

Dear Recycle Lady,

What is Earth Hour and when is it?

Environmentalist

Dear Environmentalist,

Earth Hour was organized in 2004 by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and has been held every year since. It encourages individuals, communities and businesses to turn off non-essential electric lights for one hour, from 8:30 - 9:30 p.m., on the last Saturday of March. Earth Hour began in Sydney, Australia and has grown to include more than 7,000 cities and towns across 187 countries and territories. Its purpose is to raise awareness on energy consumption and the effect on the environment. This year Earth Hour will be held on Saturday, Mar. 27, from 8:30 - 9:30. Let's join in and turn off non-essential lights during Earth Hour and help save the Earth.

Dear Readers,

Here's some really good news. On Feb. 13, the Empire State Building's 102 stories were run entirely by wind energy, says [https://www.earth.gizmodo.com](https://www.earth.gizmodo.com/the-empire-state-building) › the-empire-state-building. Using wind energy has saved 450 million pounds of carbon dioxide, which is equivalent to an entire year of emissions from New York's taxi fleet. The retrofit will save \$2.4 million in energy costs the first year. It is expected that, over time, the owners will save over \$4 million yearly.

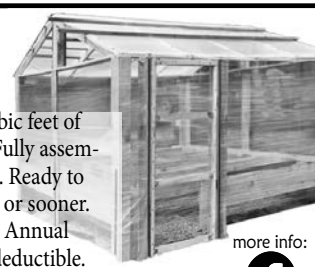
Have questions about recycling, or interesting information about recycling?

Send questions or requests to recyclelady@greenbrier-swa.com. Dear Recycle Lady is sponsored jointly by the Greenbrier Recycling Center and Greenworks Recycling.



Be Prepared With Your Own Food Supply!

12x12 structure with 100 cubic feet of year-round growing space. Fully assembled with dirt and irrigation. Ready to plant. Delivered by April 1st or sooner. \$1200 each. All sales for our Annual Spring Fund Raiser are tax deductible.



Barker Adams Foundation

The Barker Adams Foundation is a non profit that exists to train, mentor and support veterans, those with drug dependency and under employed individuals.

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WV Poison Center celebrates National Poison Week and Mr. Yuk's 50th birthday

cont. from Page 4

The West Virginia Poison Center (WVPC) joins poison centers and poison prevention partners across the country in celebrating National Poison Prevention Week Mar. 21 through 27, 2021. This year also marks Mr. Yuk's 50th birthday.

This year's West Virginia Poison Center's Poison Prevention Week focuses on how to be poison safe at home.

"The West Virginia Poison Center is committed to safeguarding the health and well-being of every American through poison prevention and free, confidential, expert medical services," said Carissa McBurney, Community Outreach Coordinator. "Our poison center responds to calls 24 hours a day, seven days a week in order to help those who have been exposed to toxic substances."

The West Virginia Poison Center also reaches out to West Virginia communities with information about how poisonings occur and ways to prevent them. "Prevention is the best possible way to stay poison safe," McBurney says.

In 2020, the West Virginia Poison Center received nearly 16,000 poison expo-

sure calls. The majority of our calls involve children, but anyone at any age can be poisoned. "Poisonings can occur at any time and to anyone, however most poisonings occur at home" McBurney said. Other locations poisonings occur are in the workplace, schools, healthcare facilities, and elsewhere. In addition to the public, health care professionals rely on West Virginia Poison Center medical experts in poison information to assist in poisoning exposures. In fact, over 20% of initial calls come from health care providers. The WV Poison Center has remained open 24 hours a day throughout the pandemic.

Celebration of National Poison Prevention Week is a great opportunity to highlight how people can prevent poisonings as well as raise awareness about the immediate availability of medical experts at the West Virginia Poison Center.

"If the unthinkable happens, it's good to know help is just a phone call away," McBurney concluded. "Save the West Virginia Poison Center's number in your cell phone and post it in your home. 1-800-222-1222."

Enhance your speaking voice in new community education class at New River CTC

New River Community and Technical College is offering a new community education class with author and presenter Belinda Anderson. "Engaging Listeners by Enhancing Your Voice" is designed to help participants enhance their speaking voices, gain confidence and make presentations more distinctive.

The three-week community education class meets at 10 a.m. on Saturdays starting Apr. 10, either through an internet conference call connection or by landline telephone - high-speed internet is not required. The hour-long conference calls will include lecture, time for questions and participant sharing, and group e-mail follow-up as needed.

"The class is being offered in this format as a convenience, but it's also perfect for this course because it's all about the voice," Anderson said. "Right off the bat, we've removed the nervousness about what impression you are making visually. You can learn how to become a more engaging speaker while wearing your house shoes."

The West Virginia Library Commission sent Anderson on a reading/speaking tour throughout the state after the publication of her first book. She has spoken in settings ranging from the state capitol rotunda to

an art gallery to a university auditorium. In addition to readings and presentations, she has taught workshops for all age groups.

"Taking this class is really an opportunity for personal growth in your ability to use your voice in any situation, whether you are reading a poem to an audience, delivering a report or representing yourself in a conversation," Anderson explained. "It's not about changing your voice - it's about enhancing your voice."

Tuition for the class is \$75, and the registration deadline is Mar. 26. Participants will be emailed the conference call number and access codes after registering for the class.

Visit www.newriver.edu/community for information on upcoming classes or register for the course or contact Gloria Kincaid (304-793-6101, gkincaid@newriver.edu) or Andrea Vest (304-929-3318, avest@newriver.edu).

Learn more about Anderson and her work online at www.BelindaAnderson.com.

New River CTC's Workforce Education Division provides community education classes and employable educational opportunities including noncredit courses, workforce development programs and customized training.

Red Cross Blood Drive set at WSS Library

An estimated 38 percent of Americans are eligible to give blood or platelets, but of those, less than 10 percent actually donate each year. If you are healthy and eligible, please make an appointment to give blood at the Apr. 1 Red Cross blood drive held at the White Sulphur Springs Public Library between the hours of 1 and 6 p.m.

Donors do need to sign up at rcblood.org/appt, or you can also call the library at 304-536-1171 to make an appointment. The library is located at 344 W. Main Street in White Sulphur Springs.

Most donations take about an hour, so book your appointment, roll up your sleeve and become a part of the lifesaving mission of the Red Cross, the White Sulphur Springs Public Library and the White Sulphur Springs Lions Club's whose volunteers make these drives run smoothly.

In light of the pandemic, the Red Cross is taking the following steps to ensure donors and volunteers safety. Donors and volunteers will be asked to wear a face mask at all times during the drive. Staff and volunteers will wear gloves throughout the day, changing gloves often. Volunteers, staff and donors will have their temperature checked before entering the drive. Hand sanitizer will be available at various points throughout the library. Donor beds will be sanitized between every donor. Only blood donors will be allowed in the drive. The American Red Cross is encouraging donors to use RapidPass which allows you to start the blood donation process from the comfort of your home or office and

save time at the donation site. RapidPass can be found at www.redcrossblood.org/RapidPass and must be completed on the day of the blood drive.

Currently the White Sulphur Springs Public Library is providing services on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Hope to see you at the Blood Drive on Thursday, Apr. 1. Please call 304-536-1171 if you have any questions.

Letter Private Property

West Virginia. That is a lie. Gas production in West Virginia is up 800 percent since 2009. In addition, drilling in West Virginia has resulted in more total gas production than in our neighbor state of Ohio. The truth is more likely summed up by what a senior gas company executive once said to me several years ago, "We love doing business in West Virginia because they are too stupid to know what they have and will sell out for a song." He assumed I worked for another gas and oil company. Now apparently some legislators are willing to sell out for nothing at least as far as the landowners are concerned.

The ultimate irony here is that the same

arguments which are being proposed to take away peoples private property with little or no compensation, all in the name of what is good for the public at large and the state are the same arguments which are being used by the proponents of the Green New Deal to take over private property to prevent the burning or use of fossil fuels.... I suppose some of our legislators and the oil and gas companies are too short sighted to see that they are essentially laying the legal foundation for this to occur.

*Robert Pierson
Walkersville, WV
President, Appalachia Chapter
National Association of Royalty Owner*

Legal Ads

cont. from Page 4

income in a time when other ad revenue is diminishing.

But counties make money on legal ads, too.

At a meeting last year of the House Judiciary Committee, Don Smith, executive director of the West Virginia Press Association, said many counties more than make up the costs of legal ads with publication fees they assess to the subjects of those ads.

For delinquent property tax notices, for instance, counties assess a \$25 publication fee at the time the property owner pays the back taxes or when the property is sold at public auction.

For example, Boone County reported that it paid \$4,923 for legal ads during the 2018-19 budget year, but it collected a total of \$69,725 in publication fees. That works out to more than \$14 received for every \$1 spent on legal ads.

What private enterprise, county gov-

ernment or school board would turn down a return on investment of 14-to-1?

To quote from the Press Association's statement on legal advertising, "West Virginia newspapers are part of their communities. They represent hundreds of jobs across all 55 counties. A local newspaper is an invaluable partner for businesses and industries and the primary source of news for residents. Legal advertising in newspapers effectively delivers the notice to the public.

"Legal advertisements for public notices should appear in local newspapers where West Virginians look for news."

No matter how newspapers and legislators go back and forth about legal ads in newspapers, the fact is that legal ads work for the people. It's a filter-free way to inform the public about delinquent taxes, plans to build roads, sample ballots and many other important items of public interest.

Transportation Bill

cont. from Page 4

balancing important national goals. It's critically important that we do not create a prescriptive, one-size-fits all approach.

How states choose to prioritize their needs will be different. This is where flexibility comes in.

I strongly support using core formula programs as the primary way to delivery federal funding. These programs give states like mine the flexibility to use the funds to address unique transportation needs.

Any new programs, especially competitive grant programs, that could potentially take funding away from core formula programs, must allow for all states to compete fairly and put forward innovative ideas.

The surface transportation system is what binds us together. It's through this connected system of roads and bridges that basic necessities have been delivered to hospitals, pharmacies and grocery stores to help combat the pandemic.

We must keep the federal interest focused on providing a connected network of roads and bridges to ensure that all communities and the economy can thrive.

We also should be forward leaning when it comes to tackling the transportation needs of today and tomorrow. Driving innovation will be critical to support-

ing the surface transportation system of the future.

It will also aid in our efforts to reinvest in the existing system. An example, from my state of West Virginia, is the recent announcement from Virgin Hyperloop to build and operate a certification facility in Tucker and Grant counties.

This partnership between a West Virginia coal community and Virgin Hyperloop - a company that is taking us into the future with transportation technology - demonstrates how leaning into innovative approaches incrementally and thoughtfully can deliver economic growth.

I am optimistic that we can move a bipartisan surface transportation bill across the finish line, but I want to temper my optimism with a word of caution. The strong bipartisan support that exists will not extend for a multi-trillion dollar package stocked full of ideologically driven, one-size-fits-all policies that tie the hands of states and communities.

I stand ready to be a partner in advancing infrastructure legislation in a bipartisan way. We've done it before, and we can do it again. After all, we share the same goal of getting a bill across the finish line that addresses the transportation needs of our entire nation.



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Veterans Upward Bound


FREE

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April 6 - June 8

Call Curtis Pauley for information.
304-646-0684

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT



Greetings to New and Existing Patients,

At Greenbrier Audiology, we work with our patients to improve patients' quality of life by addressing individual hearing losses. That process involves understanding each patient's hearing needs and goals, prescribing hearing aids, and counseling on how to get the most out of hearing aid capabilities. ***We truly appreciate the trust our patients put in us to help them hear their best.***


Today, we're writing you because Widex has released a new hearing aid that redefines what is possible in terms of sound quality in a hearing aid. You truly must "hear it to believe it," and now you can. WIDEX MOMENT™ has redefined pure, natural sound. It doesn't sound like a hearing aid; it lets you appreciate the world of sound as it is. It can help you reconnect to the sounds of your life: music, the laughter of friends, and conversations with loved ones.

Hearing aid technology has taken a huge leap forward with WIDEX MOMENT™. As your trusted hearing professionals, we urge you to open your mind to the possibilities of updated hearing solutions.


We would like to extend an invitation to new and existing patients to our Widex Open House Event on: Tuesday, March 23rd, 2021.

Appointments are limited, so please call us today at 304-647-4327 to schedule your free hearing consultation and risk-free 14-day trial of WIDEX MOMENT™.


Warm regards,



Kristin D. Shockey
Doctor of Audiology



Emily Miller
Doctor of Audiology



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Lewisburg, WV 24901
(304) 647-4327

www.greenbrieraudiology.com

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FOR RENT: Two, 1 bedroom apartments available near Osteopathic School in Lewisburg. \$750-\$800 monthly rent. First and last month rent due at move-in. Nonsmoker. 304-645-1993 M-F 9am-5pm for details

FOR SALE

MEN'S CHEST OF DRAWERS, solid wood, very well made, in excel-

lent condition, measures 42-in wide x 56-in tall x 20-in deep. \$125 Will text photos upon request. Call 304-536-2279.

FIREWOOD, split seasoned, and in the dry. Delivery available. For more information call (941) 735-2119.

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NOTICE: Landscaping services, cleanups and trimming, brush clearing,

gravel and mulch. Free estimates. Licensed and insured. EXTERIOR SERVICES. 304-661-3655.

WANTED

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



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Industrial Electrician VA or WV Journeyman's Electrical License Required, some PLC knowledge and AC/DC drive experience preferred, rotating shifts, must have own tools; health, dental and vision benefits, 401k, and paid vacation available.

Please send resume to – P.O. Box 196, Low Moor, VA 24457 or email david.nicelyii@westrock.com or denise.meggison@westrock.com.

Do you want government taking more control?



Elected officials are looking to make big changes

The West Virginia Legislature is considering taking Greenbrier County legal ads and public notices out of the Mountain Messenger and onto a state government-controlled website in Charleston.

- Delinquent tax lists
- Property sales
- Election ballots
- Voting changes
- Tax increases
- Project bids
- Family court
- Government budgets
- Government financial statements
- Zoning changes and other public notices

Contact your legislator today and tell them you want your legal ads and public notices in the Mountain Messenger:

Stephen Baldwin
(304) 357-7959
stephen.baldwin@wvsenate.gov

Jack Woodrum
(304) 357-7849
jack.woodrum@wvsenate.gov

Barry Bruce
(304) 340-3131
barry.bruce@wvhouse.gov

Todd Longanacre
(304) 340-3129
todd.longanacre@wvhouse.gov

KEEP YOUR LEGAL ADS IN GREENBRIER COUNTY

Fourth Way Properties

Check out available properties at 4thwayproperties.com

FOR RENT

MONTHLY FURNISHED ROOMS SUNSET TERRACE MOTEL

106 POMERY CIRCLE, LEWISBURG
Monthly furnished rooms with small refrigerator, microwave TV, internet, WiFi, and coin operated laundry room. Pet friendly, quarter mile from downtown Lewisburg local shops and restaurants. All utilities included plus security deposit. Check out our website 4thwayproperties.com for pictures and more.

\$750 Monthly, **\$375** Weekly

124 FEAMSTER ROAD

DOWNTOWN LEWISBURG, WV

1 bedroom apartment.. Walking distance to downtown restaurants, shops, and the WVSOM. Pet friendly, additional deposit required. All utilities included plus security deposit. Check out our website 4thwayproperties.com for pictures and more.

\$725 Monthly

Call Terry or Isela @ **(304) 647-8943**

SE HABLA ESPAÑOL

Email us at FourthWayProperties@yahoo.com

LEGAL

PUBLIC ONLINE AUCTION

Secure Store - 135 Maple Carriage Drive, Lewisburg, WV 24901, has a possessory lien on all of the goods stored in units 295 and 266. The auction will end on 03/24/2021 at 12 noon. All these items of personal property are being auctioned online through lockerfox.com. These auctions will run until March 24, 2021. Pictures of the units can be inspected online. Cash payments only. For more details visit www.lockerfox.com/storage-auctions/us/

LEGAL

PUBLIC ONLINE AUCTION

Secure Store - 38515 Midland Trail East, White Sulphur Springs, WV 24925, has a possessory lien on all of the goods stored in units 29 and 131. The auction will end on 03/17/2021 at 12 noon. All these items of personal property are being auctioned online through lockerfox.com. These auctions will run until March 17, 2021. Pictures of the units can be inspected online. Cash payments only. For more details visit www.lockerfox.com/storage-auctions/us/

LEGAL

Advertisement and Expression of Interest for Advertising & Public Relations Services

Pursuant to WV Code 5B-21-4(e), the West Virginia Tourism Office is seeking Expressions of Interest from qualified agencies to provide marketing, advertising and public relations services to the Tourism Office. Interested agencies can visit WVtourism.com/contracts to obtain a copy of the Request for Expression of Interest and submission requirements. Expressions of Interest must be received no later than 5 p.m. local time on April 23, 2021.



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Why Not Rent It Once A Year?

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FOR RENT NO WAITING LIST

One Bedroom, Section 8 Apts. Elderly 62+ Handicapped or Disabled, Regardless of Age. All Utilities Included. On Site Laundry Facilities. Apply At **Hinton House Apts.** 495 Stokes Drive. Office Hours M-F 8-4. 304-466-5299

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- Social Areas

Country living with city conveniences. All common areas have been remodeled and redecorated. We welcome you to stop by and see all of the improvements that have been made. One bedroom apartments for the elderly, near elderly and handicapped. HUD approved. Non-assisted living. Rent based on income.

A staff member is on call 24/7 for emergencies.

To request an application Call **304-645-1308** Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 3:00 pm.

LEWISBURG MANOR

Independent Living

344 Court St., Lewisburg, WV 24901

PUZZLE ANSWERS

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

S	N	E	M	A	V	L	L	E	H	S	E	E	N	E	D
W	O	R	C	O	L	T	O	R	E	R	E	H	V	A	E
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SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Pirate
2. Swerve;
3. Sucrose;
4. Scold

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Stonerise receives 2021 Customer Experience Award from Pinnacle Quality Insight

Stonerise, one of West Virginia's leading providers of transitional and skilled nursing care, is proud to announce that they are the recipient of Pinnacle Quality Insight's 2021 Customer Experience Award. Qualifying for the award in the category Overall Satisfaction, Stonerise displays a continued dedication to providing Best in Class senior healthcare services.

"The Pinnacle Award is a testament to the quality of care our team members provide each day," said Stonerise Chief Executive Officer Larry Pack. "Patient and family satisfaction is part of the Stonerise mission and I am proud that our care centers have been recognized as one of the best."

The following Stonerise centers in southern West Virginia are recipients of the 2021 Customer Experience Award™: Stonerise Beckley, Stonerise Lewisburg, Stonerise Lindsdale, Stonerise Princeton, and Stonerise Rainelle.

Qualifying for the award, the Stonerise centers displayed a continued dedication to providing Best in Class care through culinary, safety, communication, cleanliness, and maintenance services.

Throughout its 12-year history, Stonerise has placed a strong emphasis on ensuring that the individual needs of every patient are met. Over the course of 2020, a sampling of Stonerise customers and their families have participated in monthly telephone interviews that include open-ended questions, as well the opportunity to rate Stonerise in specific categories.

Every month, Stonerise has gathered its real-time survey results to gain a better understanding of the patients' needs and make improvements when necessary. By qualifying for the Pinnacle Customer Experience Award, Stonerise has satisfied the rigorous demand of scoring in the top 15% of the nation across a 12-month average. Clients can achieve this Best-in-Class distinction on a monthly basis in many categories designed to accurately reflect each patient's experience.

For more information about the awards, visit <https://pinnacleqi.com/awards/about>.

Aircraft upgrade to improve service in southeastern WV

HealthNet Aeromedical Services' Base 9 in Lewisburg has received an upgraded helicopter. This will improve service to patients in the southeastern region of the state.

Since 2015, the Base 9 flight team has operated a single-engine EC-130 helicopter. The base's new EC-135 twin-engine aircraft has an increased weight capacity, rear patient loading, and is Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) capable which allows the aircraft to fly in and above the clouds.

"Having twin engines and IFR flight capabilities allows our flight teams to reach many patients that other helicopters simply cannot. In our rural areas and when minutes matter, these advanced aviation capabilities save lives," said Clinton Burley, president and CEO of



HealthNet Aeromedical Services. "This aircraft represents Charleston Area Medical Center's continued investment in healthcare delivery in southern West Virginia." The EC-135 joins HealthNet

Aeromedical Services' current Airbus-exclusive fleet, consisting of two EC-145 helicopters, five EC-135 helicopters, and three EC-130 helicopters. An additional EC-145 is set for delivery in early May 2021.

BOE Presentations

cont. from Page 3

Campbell also highlighted a tailgate held with a number of local businesses and institutions for students, allowing them to see what kind of businesses flourish locally. This included the White Sulphur Springs Public Library, Food Lion, First Citizens Bank, Sugar Bears Fun Shop, Gillespie's Floral, and White Sulphur Baptist

Church. Frankford Elementary School

"It's about one year ago we were starting the conversations about COVID and March 13 will mark the one year of [lockdown] and shutting down the schools," said Principal Linda King. "It's not hard to believe that it's been a really hard year for everyone, ... especially for our county board and our leadership team. I thank you for all that you've done. ... We are in a pretty good place in Frankford."

Frankford began the year with 195 students, with 58 remote and 142 in-person. That number continues to fall with 26 remote, 169 in person.

Several COVID-19 shutdowns impacted student performance for Frankford in the second nine weeks after a strong start.

"We had a great start to our year and we really felt that we were on a good track with regard to student achievement until November, when the remote days started to outnumber the in-seat days," King said. "Many students received a failing grade in the second grading period, but it was the result of just not completing the work that was to be done remotely. ... Having a consistent schedule and 100 percent capacity will definitely give us the time that we need toward the mastery of grade-level content, so we're feeling very good about that."

King offered specifics. "I am most concerned about first and second grade reading, fourth grade math, and writing proficiency in fourth and fifth grades," King said. "We're just starting writing in third grade but we

have an exception team there. ... Some remote students have done an exceptional job with the remote program this year, but as a whole, in seat students have performed better academically than remote students."

Despite all of this, the school year has seen improvements. Attendance is "good," and several of the COVID policy changes have come with other impacts. For example, morning bus hall is now held in classrooms instead of all together in one location. The calmer, smaller tone could be the new normal, setting a less hectic start to each day. This and teachers changing classes, rather than students, has reduced discipline problems.

"Discipline problems have been nonexistent. We have had zero instances and it's just been wonderful. I have found that this has freed up a lot of my time, which allows me to help teachers with the remote grading, anything they could be needing help with."

Lewisburg Elementary School

"I want to start out by praising our students," said Principal Leann Piercy-McMillion. "When I walk in and see three year olds walking in our building and they're wearing their masks, every single day. They're not fighting us. They will literally walk in the side door and they will say 'I forgot my mask!' ... They are rocking this, they're doing better than the adults [in many public places]."

Piercy-McMillion explained "as of today, we have 91 remote learners, which is about 20 percent of our student body. ... They're gradually starting to come in. Some of the ones that are remote will stay remote for the rest of the year."

With discipline infractions way down and a future return to full time, Piercy-McMillion hopes improvement is in the future.

"Is it where we want it to be? Absolutely not," Piercy-McMillion said. "We know we have deficits and the teachers are doing everything they can to meet the needs of the kids. Right now we are trying to deal with the social and emotional issues that we're confronted with our little kiddos. ... I'd like to say it looks really good, but it doesn't. We're aware of that and we're doing everything we can when we have the kids in the building."

She emphasized phone calls instead of other methods to reach the parents and guardians of struggling kids and making them feel welcome, encouraging them to reach out.

Piercy-McMillion also thanked three individual staff members, including Math Interventionist Robin Skillern, Head Custodian John Woodrum, and Fourth Grade Teacher Kate Taylor, for their special projects during the pandemic. This includes Skillern's grant writing efforts, Woodrum's special efforts to keep the school safe during the pandemic, and Taylor's reading sessions for the students and her "singlehandedly" helping teach staff how to use Google Meets.

"Thank you all for giving us the opportunity to come in, talk to you, and brag about our school," joked Piercy-McMillion. "We are still learning at Lewisburg Elementary School and we are still having fun. That's what's so important about this year, is that we can make everything as much fun as we can for the children and ... they're learning while they're in the building."

LEGAL

CASE NO. 21-0032-E-IMM
APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY and
WHEELING POWER COMPANY,
public utilities,
Charleston, Kanawha County.
Application for approval of a written plan for a Middle-Mile
Broadband Infrastructure Expansion Project and Associated Cost
Recovery, pursuant to W. Va. Code §24-2-1p(t).

NOTICE OF FILING AND HEARING

On January 20, 2021, Appalachian Power Company (APCo) and Wheeling Power Company (WPCo) (together the Companies), filed an application, duly verified, for approval of a written plan for a middle-mile broadband infrastructure expansion project (the Project) and associated cost recovery, pursuant to W.Va. Code § 24-2-1 p(t).

The Project is a middle-mile broadband infrastructure expansion project in APCo's service territory in Logan and Mingo Counties pursuant to legislation to expand the availability of broadband services and technology in West Virginia.

The application is on file with and available for public inspection at the Public Service Commission, 201 Brooks Street, in Charleston, West Virginia.

The Companies anticipate charging the following surcharge rates for its customers:

Customer Class	cents per kWh	\$ per kW
Residential	0.015	.023 to .034
Small Commercial	0.010	.029 to .053
Large Commercial		.029 to .053
Industrial Tariff		
Industrial Special Contract	Various	Various

The average residential customer using 1,000 kWh per month would experience a rate increase of \$0.15 monthly or \$1.80 yearly under the Companies' proposal.

These rates represent the following average project-related increases to become effective June 1, 2021, unless otherwise ordered:

	MONTHLY		YEARLY	
	(\$)INCREASE	(%)INCREASE	(\$)INCREASE	(%) INCREASE
Residential	66,907	0.121	802,878	0.121
Commercial	26,272	0.096	315,267	0.096
Industrial	6,965	0.018	83,584	0.018
Resale	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0

The only resale customer in West Virginia is Black Diamond Power Company, Inc. The proposed increased rates and charges related to the project will produce approximately \$1.2 million annually in additional revenue, an increase of 0.08%, during the first rate year.

The increases shown are based on averages of all customers in the indicated class. Individual customers may receive increases that are greater or less than average. Furthermore, the requested rates and charges among the various classes of customers are only a proposal and are subject to change (increases or decreases) by the Public Service Commission in its review of this filing.

The Commission set a procedural schedule, including a hearing date on the Application, if necessary, that will begin at 9:30 a.m. on April 28, 2021, in the Howard M. Cunningham Hearing Room at the Commission's offices at 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia. Depending on the state of the COVID-19 pandemic at the time of the hearing, the entire evidentiary hearing may be held by videoconference. The Commission will issue further instructions regarding this matter at a later date. If no opposition to the Application is received, the hearing may be waived and the Commission may issue a final order within 150 days of the Application filing date.

Anyone desiring to intervene should file a written petition to intervene within 20 days following the date of this publication unless otherwise modified by Commission order. All requests to intervene should briefly state the reason for the request to intervene and comply with the rules on intervention set forth in the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. The Commission will receive public comments until the beginning of the hearing. All written comments and requests to intervene should state the case name and number and be addressed to Connie Graley, Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323. Public comments may also be filed online at <http://www.psc.state.wv.us/scripts/onlinecomments/default.cfm> by clicking the "Formal Case" link.

APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY and
WHEELING POWER COMPANY

LEGAL

Nominating Convention Citizens Party Lewisburg, WV 24901

A Citizen's Party Convention is being called for the purpose of nominating candidates for the offices of three Councilmembers for four year terms and one Councilmember for a two year term for the June 8, 2021 Municipal Election on March 15, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at Shelter #1 at Dorie Miller Park.

Signatures of five qualified voters calling for the convention:

- TAMERA L. PENCE
- Carol Harwick
- Lindsay Jones
- Beverly White
- Rhylis Johnson

LEGAL

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF RANDOLPH COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

IN RE: M. M. DOB: 06/15/2005 CASE NO.: 18-JA-119
IN RE: H. M. DOB: 05/23/2014 CASE NO.: 18-JA-120
IN RE: W. M. DOB: 06/10/2016 CASE NO.: 18-JA-121

Respondents,
Maranda McElroy

ATTENTION: Maranda McElroy

You have been named as the mother of one or more children who are the subject of the above styled matter involving a petition alleging the abuse and neglect of the children, whose mother is Maranda McElroy. It appears after due diligence the Petitioner has been unable to locate your current whereabouts. You have the right to counsel at every stage of these proceedings. An attorney has been appointed to represent you. His name is Brent Easton, at P.O. Box 267, Davis, WV 26260, and his phone number is 304-940-2627. These proceedings can result in the permanent termination of your parental rights if you fail to or make an appearance in this matter. A Status Hearing is scheduled in this matter for Maranda McElroy for March 29, 2021, at the Randolph County Circuit Court at 3:30 p.m., and a Disposition Hearing may follow immediately thereafter. A copy of said Petition can be obtained from the undersigned Circuit Clerk at his office.
Randolph County Circuit Clerk
Philip D. Riggelman
Randolph County Courthouse
Elkins, WV 26241
304-636-2765

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Veer
WEVERS

Sugar
CORUSES

Chide
CLODS

"They're the famous _____ team."
TODAY'S WORD

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Boy is moved. 2. Golf club is missing. 3. Tree is added. 4. Golf shoes are different. 5. Hedge is missing. 6. Zipper is added.

Super Crossword RIDING ON EMPTY

ACROSS

- 1 Veg-o- (Ronco product)
- 6 Cesar who played the Joker
- 12 Stocking material
- 16 Counterpart of a column
- 19 Neighbor of Minneapolis
- 20 Hybrid ride
- 21 Falco of "Outside In"
- 22 Dramatist Levin
- 23 Start of a riddle
- 26 Engage in, as a trade
- 27 Chilling Chaney
- 28 English actress Diana
- 29 Astronaut Grissom
- 30 Charisma
- 32 Like a triangle with three unequal sides
- 34 Respected
- 38 Fashion's Wintour
- 39 Riddle, part 2
- 43 Emotes, e.g.
- 46 Pupil locale
- 47 Young tiger
- 48 Tijuana "two"
- 49 Riddle, part 3
- 57 Earthy hue
- 58 Chaperones, typically
- 59 Hot dog roll
- 60 Part of SWAK
- 64 Work unit
- 65 It often follows "Co."
- 66 Use a kayak
- 68 Like snakes
- 69 Untidy type
- 71 Riddle, part 4
- 76 Parallel (with)
- 77 Cake layers
- 79 "To clarify ..."
- 80 Suffix with Taiwan
- 82 TV's Longoria
- 83 Calm
- 85 Backwoods denial
- 86 Inventive Edison
- 89 Male sheep
- 90 Riddle, part 5
- 94 Toothpaste box org.
- 97 Memento of Molokai
- 98 Haughtiness
- 99 Spots
- 100 End of the riddle
- 108 Roll-call call
- 109 "30 Rock" star
- 110 Seasons of falling leaves
- 114 Sneakers brand
- 117 Hwy. offense
- 118 Part of SWAK
- 119 Roll-call call
- 120 Fellow
- 121 Riddle's answer
- 127 LGA info
- 128 German Mr. Abbr.
- 129 Join a class
- 130 Rebound on a pool table
- 131 Comfy room
- 132 Female sheep
- 133 Entertainer Charles Nelson —
- 134 Revival shouts

DOWN

- 1 Whippers
- 2 Specially formed, as a committee
- 3 Disney princess from "The Princess and the Frog"
- 4 Bank acct. accrual
- 5 — Yards (Orioles' stadium)
- 6 Got long again, as a mown lawn
- 7 Phil of protest songs
- 8 Bon — (witticism)
- 9 Outer: Prefix
- 10 Match cheer
- 11 Salem locale
- 12 Teacher of martial arts
- 13 Boise locale: Abbr.
- 14 Peruvian capital
- 15 Maintain
- 16 Matured
- 17 City near Epcot
- 18 Attacks from ambush
- 24 Skye of the screen
- 25 Mongolian tent
- 31 Shriver of tennis
- 33 Final
- 34 Actor Buchholz
- 35 Overlooks
- 36 Humorist Ogden
- 37 Cato's 750
- 40 Small brook
- 41 Actors' aids
- 42 Melancholy instruments
- 43 Certifies (to)
- 44 Actor Sheen
- 45 Did a slowish ballroom dance
- 50 — chi ch'uan
- 51 Novelist O'Brien
- 52 Emmy winner Susan
- 53 Internet auction site
- 54 StarKist fish
- 55 In a little bit
- 56 Confront
- 61 Shirley's TV roommate
- 62 Give a lift to
- 63 Balls of fire
- 66 Hoodwink
- 67 Pathological plant swelling
- 70 Bric-a- —
- 72 Prefix with potent
- 73 Tire (out)
- 74 Cry buckets
- 75 "Pronto"
- 78 Swiped
- 81 Special ability, for short
- 84 Fancy pourer
- 86 Yours, in the King James Bible
- 87 Equine, in tot-speak
- 88 Really, really
- 91 Special ability
- 92 Street stray
- 93 Biblical brother of Jacob
- 94 Humiliated
- 95 When delivery is expected
- 96 Nigerian, e.g.
- 101 Nurtured
- 102 Bill tack-ons
- 103 "Movin' —" ("The Jeffersons" theme song)
- 104 Shipping container
- 105 Chiefly
- 106 Cashews and pecans
- 107 Cornell's city
- 111 Mother, in Spain
- 112 Stocking material
- 113 Appears
- 115 Tennis star Arthur
- 116 Whole bunch
- 118 Actor Ferrell
- 122 Sooner than, to bards
- 123 Ending for butyl
- 124 — Lanka
- 125 Fa-la linkup
- 126 Water flow stopper

A Look Back

By William "Skip" Deegans

Built by James C. Shanklin and designed by Charleston architect John Norman, Roncerverte's Grand Theatre opened in 1937 after replacing the old framed Grand Theatre. The new theatre was modern in all aspects with air conditioning, an advanced sound system, and unusual interior acoustical construction. A few seats were equipped with theatrophone equipment so those patrons who were partially deaf could enjoy the performances. The seats and backs were upholstered in gold mohair and varied in four widths.

This week's 1954 photo shows John Norman, his wife Ruth, his son Jack Norman, and his daughter-in-law Doris Norman. The occasion of the photo is Jack's graduation from Harvard Medical School.

John grew up in North Carolina, and attended North Carolina Agricultural and Technical Institute (now North Carolina State University) and Carnegie Technical Institute (now Carnegie-Mellon). He moved to Charleston and became West Virginia's seventh licensed architect in 1922. When



Photo Courtesy of West Virginia Archives and History from the Norman Family Collection.

he designed Shanklin's Grand Theatre, movie theatres in West Virginia were segregated. African-Americans entered through a side door of the Grand to access the balcony where they were allowed to sit. The theatre ceased operation in

the 1960s and, while still standing, continues to deteriorate.

Sources: *The Covington Virginian*; *Historic Movie Theatres Of West Virginia* by Dr. Kelli Shapiro, *Charleston Daily Mail*.

THANK YOU FOR READING THE MOUNTAIN MESSENGER

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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MENU

THEATER 8
MOVIES
Showtime: 7:45 pm
R

MENU

NEW RESIDENTS WANTED BY: Greenbrier Greeters

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- 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
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WV Department of Arts, Culture and History to begin accepting entries for annual Juried Quilt Exhibition

The West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History (WVDACH) will begin accepting entries for the 2021 West Virginia Quilts and Wall Hangings Juried Exhibition on Monday, Mar. 29 through Monday, May 3 at 4 p.m. This is the 40th year for the exhibition which will open Friday, May 28. The free summer-long exhibition will be displayed through Sept. 13.

Quilts and wall hangings can be mailed, or hand delivered to Cailin Howe, exhibits coordinator for the department, at the Culture Center, State Capitol Complex in Charleston.

Quilts and wall hangings, handmade or machine made, by West Virginia residents are eligible for the exhibition. Special consideration will be given to hand-quilted entries. Entrants may submit one quilt and one wall hanging. There is a nonrefundable fee of \$20 per entry. Quilts and wall hangings shown previously in a Department of Arts, Culture and History Quilts and Wall Hangings juried exhibition are not eligible.

The prospectus and entry information for the 2021 Quilts and Wall Hangings Juried Exhibition can be found at <http://www.wvculture.org/museum/Quilts/quilt2021/2021QuiltProspectus.pdf>.

For more information about the exhibit or to request a printed prospectus, contact Howe at 304-558-0220 or cailin.a.howe@wv.gov. COVID-19 protocols will remain in place with hand deliveries.

Carnegie Hall adds new classes to spring education roster; scholarships available



Left: Students will make a bicycle handlebar basket in new Carnegie Hall class. **Right:** Carnegie Hall class teaches fashion design illustration

Carnegie Hall has added new classes - some of which the Hall has never offered before - to its spring education roster. Scholarships are available for youth under 18 and adults over 50 thanks to United Way of the Greenbrier Valley and the Mary B. Nickell Foundation.

Some of the brand new offerings include weaving a bicycle handlebar basket, collage, fashion illustration, needle felting, and open studio stained glass. The spring roster also includes acrylic painting, weaving a stadium basket, reed weaving, clay for kids and teens, wheel throwing clay for teens and adults, and harp for beginners.

In addition, the Hall continues to offer Tuesday afternoon classes for homeschool and virtual school students. The sessions available include Celtic Day, beginning harp, slime lab, basket weaving, local fossils, clay class, acrylic painting, and Build DaVinci's Machines. Scholarships also are available for these classes.

All of these classes are small and in-person. Participants are socially distanced and required to wear masks in the Hall. Participants may register at carnegiehallwv.org.

In addition, master pianist Barbara Nissman's "Behind the Notes" series of online conversations and performances is available until Apr. 30. Nissman created the 12-part series in her lovely home studio in Greenbrier County. All proceeds from the series support Carnegie Hall.

Carnegie Hall is a nonprofit organization supported by individual contributions, grants, and fundraising events, such as its annual gala and Taste of Our Towns (TOOT). The Hall is located at 611 Church Street, Lewisburg, WV. For more information, please call 304-645-7917 or visit www.carnegiehallwv.org.

Featured artist at Greenbrier County Library: Mariette Lyall



Greenbrier Artist Marietta Lyall will exhibit her art at the Greenbrier County Library during the months of March and April. "Home from School" is one of the paintings currently on display.



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The Greenbrier Artists Group continues to display paintings in the Greenbrier County Library in Lewisburg. Every two months a different artist is featured.

During March and April, Marietta Lyall will exhibit a variety of paintings, many of them done during this crazy, pandemic year. She has also included a few "gelli" plates, a creation involv-

ing various layers of heavy paint, leaves, feathers, and other objects to make interesting designs.

Marietta has been a member of the Greenbrier Artists for many years, serving as the secretary for the nonprofit. She has won many awards locally and in Virginia, and her art is exhibited in homes from Florida to the west coast. She is a member of Tamarack and a lifetime member of the WV Watercolor Society. She also maintains a display of her art on Washington Street in the Allstate Office window near city hall. She has a working studio near Lewisburg.

If you would like to see more of her work, please call 304-645-1359 and leave a message.

Hopefully, the Greenbrier Artists will soon be able to meet again on Thursdays at Carnegie Hall to paint and have classes to promote art in the community.

Please stop by and enjoy the revolving exhibits at the library. Their current hours are Tuesdays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

GCC

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hopefully we'll have this year. ... Hopefully everything works well through this summer."

- Greenbrier County Sheriff Bruce Sloan thanked his officers, staff, and the staff of various emergency responder organizations for their "great job" during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- With a new system for the Greenbrier County Circuit Clerk's office, the cost of electronics has been reduced by over \$8,000. Although the salary increases take over that, the presentation also highlighted that due to the over 100 expected criminal cases to soon be indicted and the continued backlog of cases over the past year, the office is expected to be extremely busy in upcoming months.

- Greenbrier County Assessor Joe Darnell thanked the commissioners for the many precautions taken at the courthouse to protect workers from COVID-19.

- Greenbrier County 911 Center and Emergency Management Director Mike Honaker noted it "was a challenging task to develop" the budget this year. In a typical year, the 911 center receives around 25,000 calls - over the past 12 months, this has increased to over 30,000, due to a "significant increase in drug overdoses, domestic result, and suicides." In addition, emergency responders are preparing to shift to a new technology system, greatly impacting how quickly they can respond to calls.

- During the presentation for the Greenbrier County Clerk Robin Loudermilk's office, Rose said "In West Virginia, and especially in Greenbrier County, elections went extremely smoothly and extremely well. Robin and her group were on top of everything if issues popped out."

- Presenting on behalf of the Health Department, Rose explained the pandemic is far from over, with vaccinations continuing and complemented their efforts.

Work on the budget is expected to begin on Wednesday, Mar. 10.

In other business:

- Bids for the demolition of the old county jailhouse were opened. Rose explained "this is for demolition of the old jail building, in preparation of the addition on the end of our [courthouse]. We're trying to get

this down and out of the way before the contractors view that project." The bids included prices for both the jail building and another building located north of the courthouse, ranging from 73,000 to about 98,000. Rose said "it would appear Lynch Construction has the low bid at \$73,000. ... We've got the four bids, we'll look over those and make sure everybody has their paperwork in order."

- A proclamation celebrating the 150th birthday of Summer County was approved by the commission.

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2021 Carnegie Hall Creative Youth Exhibit online: prize winners announced

For the first time ever, Carnegie Hall's Creative Youth art exhibit has gone online and is available for everyone to enjoy. 2021 is the 28th year Carnegie Hall has celebrated Youth Art Month in March with the Creative Youth exhibit.

Beverly Kucera, an eighth grade student at Eastern Greenbrier Middle School, won Best in Show for her mixed media piece entitled Shoes. This is the first time in more than a decade that a middle school student has won Best of Show.

Ella Berry, a fifth grade student at Rainelle Elementary, won the Carnegie's

Choice Award for her mixed media piece entitled I'm Not a Hamster.

Art teachers at 16 public and private schools in Greenbrier County submitted a total of 97 entries to the juried show. A team of jurors selected award winners from the artwork submitted.

Artwork was organized by grade (4-5, 6-8, and 9-12) into six categories: drawing, mixed media, painting, photography, printmaking, and a new category for digital artwork. You can view the exhibit on Carnegie Hall's website at <https://www.carnegiehallwv.org/copy-of-creative-youth>.

Deadline for 2021 Youth Congressional Art Competition Submissions Extended

The deadline to turn in submissions for the 2021 Youth Congressional Art competition has been extended to Friday, Mar. 19. The competition is open to high school students only. Exceptions will be made for schools that have 7th through 12th grades on one campus. Artwork submissions can be mailed, or hand delivered to the Culture Center in Charleston and must be received by staff no later than March 19. Proper COVID-19 procedures will be in place for dropping off artwork.

The West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History (WVDACH) is scheduled to open the exhibit on Friday, April 9, 2021 at the Culture Center.

Submitted artwork can be in any one of the following categories: paintings, drawings, collages, prints, mixed media, computer generated and photography. Each entry must be original in concept, design and execution and may not violate U.S. copyright laws. Each student can submit up to two entries.

Artwork must be two-dimensional. Each piece of artwork can be no larger

than 26 inches high, 26 inches wide and 4 inches deep. Even when framed, it must still measure no larger than the above maximum dimensions. No framed piece should weigh more than 15 pounds.

The winner from each congressional district will have their artwork displayed at the United States Capitol for an entire year in the Congressional Art Competition, as well as receive a \$100 Blick Art Materials gift card. The three first place winners will have their artwork framed by the WVDACH. A Blick Art Materials gift card is also awarded to second place winners in the amount of \$75, and in the amount of \$50 to third place winners.

Each entrant must submit a student information and release form with a teacher's signature. Students can get entry forms with a complete list of rules and guidelines from their school's art teacher(s), or by contacting Cailin Howe, WVDACH exhibits coordinator, at (304) 558-0220 or Cailin.A.Howe@wv.gov.



"I'm Not a Hamster" by Ella Berry



"Shoes" by Beverly Kucera

COVID Bill

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"Since the beginning of the pandemic, I have advocated for funding to support local governments directly and I am proud to have secured \$677 million for cities and counties across West Virginia in the latest COVID-19 relief package," Manchin said. "For the first time in as long as I can remember, local governments have the flexibility to use these funds to fix and upgrade sewer, water and broadband infrastructure with-

out all of the bureaucratic red tape. This evening, I discussed the benefits of this funding with local leaders from across the state who truly understand the incredible impact this funding will make for our communities. I am committed to advocating for West Virginia's local governments and will continue to work directly with them to ensure they are supported as we continue to battle the COVID-19 pandemic."

Rainelle

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have the power to appoint new board members, with both Wyatt and Acting Mayor Bill Bell encouraging people to get involved. Currently, Milam said, many of the people coming to the meetings are primarily interested in progress on ATV trails.

need to think about is [us getting] these riverbanks cleaned off. That had a lot to do with [water] not being in these houses. I think we should give ourselves a pat on the back."

"There are a lot of things the town needs to do to grow and prosper," Milam said. "There's a lot we could do now if we make things happen. ... One of the many things we've got to deal with is that the town's not big enough. I'm talking about size wise and population wise. ... We don't even have enough people now to elect our next council that's willing to run."

• Greg Ingram, the mayor of Montgomery, VA, and executive director of the Midland Trail Association, spoke to the Town Council, highlighting the current efforts to revitalize the Midland Trail. Currently, the trail is not operational, in part due to lack of federal funding. Ingram looks to work with towns along the trail to improve lodging and expand motorcycle accessibility. Ingram also provided council with information about a potential website for Rainelle.

Milam hinted at one possible project for the new Planning Commission - expansion.

• The ongoing contract between Rainelle and the Greenbrier County Sheriff's Department was continued by council in the absence of the town's police department. No progress in hiring for the town department was announced.

"We need to expand quite a bit," Milam said. "That will help us do a lot of things, as far as government, financing, several different things that will help us grow and bring in more business."

• Bell is seeking volunteers in order to do a spring cleanup around town. He explained "not just for our town but outside of town. Some of the properties between here and [Lewisburg] are terrible looking and, quite honestly, some of them are in our own community. We need to take a good, hard look at our town ordinances and what they say about some of that. It's not fair to your neighbors."

In other business:
 • Discussions continued around the town's upcoming drainage project with Thrasher Engineering, reviewing how the current design could have handled last week's flooding. Milam also noted, "We were pretty close to having water in some of the houses. It did get in some of the basements and driveways and things like that. One of the things that people in town

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