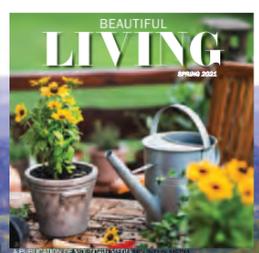


# Mountain Messenger

Beautiful Living  
In this issue



\$1.00

April 10, 2021

Vol. XXXVIII, No. 15

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

## Aquatic Center gets a roof

By Bobby Bordelon

The roof of the Greenbrier Valley Aquatic Center has been placed!

Construction began last summer after being delayed at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, with the project moving along to laying the foundation in November 2020. With the roof installed, the project is expected to continue smoothly towards a Labor Day opening.

"Progress on site is coming along nicely, particularly with good weather," said Director of Community & Donor Engagement Jamie Hamilton.

With the steel structure in place, the next section for work was the roof, enabling workers from one of the many contractors, including Terradon, Lynch Construction, Radford and Radford, Sons and Seibert, Greenbrier Electric, and Southern Air to be able to work regardless of the weather.

"We've had a few folks ask why we would install a roof before excavating

the pools," reads a social media post on Mar. 31. "Today is a great example of why. It can rain all it wants out there, its perfect digging weather in here!"

In February, Gaylean and Hamilton announced more fundraising would be needed to bring the project together due to COVID-19.

"The projections our board has made now, thinking of every possible conceivable expense this

project will face at this date and beyond, we're looking at about a 13 percent cost increase relative to what we originally expected," Hamilton explained. "That is equivalent to about an \$800,000 increase in what we expect this facility to cost."

Since then, the funding has not been totally raised, but Hamilton noted they have received tremendous support and are working on a potential solution.



The new roof for the Greenbrier Valley Aquatic Center is the first major physical structure installed for the building.



Construction crews can be seen excavating the pools.

## Old jailhouse comes down for courthouse expansion

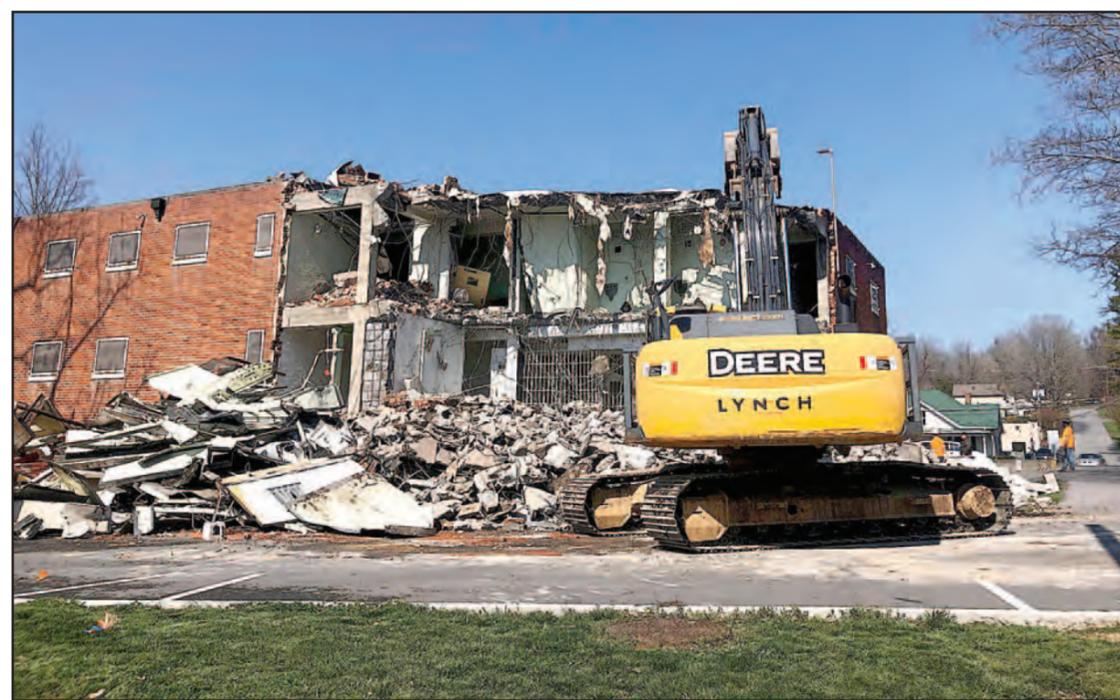
By Bobby Bordelon

Lynch Construction is hard at work tearing down the old Greenbrier County Jailhouse. Located behind the courthouse and near the recently moved Sears building, the demolition is part of the preparation for a major addition to the Greenbrier County Courthouse.

The jailhouse was used primarily as a holding cell for law enforcement in Greenbrier County. Previously the facility kept inmates for a longer period, but this has not been the case for years.

"When Southern Regional Jail was opened, the county ultimately started transferring any overnight inmates to Southern Regional instead of keeping them here," explained Greenbrier County Commission Assistant Kelly Banton. "So we became a holding facility instead. ... Our last group of people were actually [held] in there Mar. 26."

The demolition of the jailhouse means those arrested See "Old Jailhouse" — Page 2



The removal of the old jailhouse will leave only the foundation when all's said and done.

## Bills sponsored by Greenbrier Co. reps pass both houses of legislature

By Bobby Bordelon

Throughout the legislative session, the Mountain Messenger has highlighted a number of bills sponsored by Greenbrier County representatives that passed one of the legislative chambers. This week, the roundup will take a look at all of the locally-sponsored bills that have been passed by both the Senate and the House of Delegates.

Although a few of these bills are not officially enacted into law, needing a signature by Governor Jim Justice or a chamber vote to resolve an amendment, they have each been considered and approved in some form by both chambers.

Delegate Todd Longanacre sponsored:

- H.B. 2093 would require the Veterans Affairs Medical Foster Home Program to provide an annual report to the governor and provide exceptions for homes reviewed by the program. The House passed the bill 98 yeas and two absents, with Bruce voting yea and Longanacre not voting, then was unanimously approved by the Senate.

- H.B. 2874, extending waiver of veterans' initial business registration fees and annual business fees to active-duty military members, their spouses, and immediate family, was passed by the House with no nay votes on Mar. 24, then unanimously approved in the Senate on Apr. 7.

- H.B. 2791 would allow county boards of education to allow home or private schooled students to enroll or take classes in the county's vocational schools. Passed by the House on Mar. 3 (96-2-2), with yeas from Bruce and Longanacre, then unanimously in the Senate on Apr. 5.

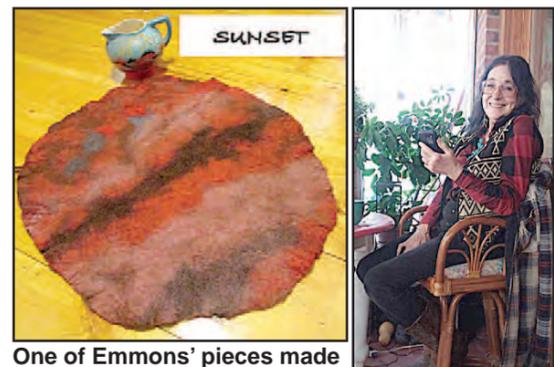
- H.B. 2260 sets new rules around procurement of child placing services, ensuring "performance-based payment methodologies must be used in child placing agency contracting" and the department "shall actively monitor the child placing agency's compliance with the terms of contracts." The bill passed in both the House and the Senate without a single nay vote in late March.

See "Legislative Update" — Page 4

## Serenity Fiber Art: From the Other Side of the Mountain

Local artist and rug maker M. Jane Holt Emmons has a saying, "Do what you love and love what you do."

Jane has been a member of Tamarack and has shown her art form in felting since 2009 in Art Galleries in and around West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, California, and Hawaii. She and her husband John are currently refurbishing a carriage house into an Art Studio on Big Draft Road in White Sulphur Springs.



One of Emmons' pieces made from Alpaca fleece

M. Jane Holt Emmons

Her plans are to eventually hold classes and share with others the art of felting and the Serenity of creating your own personal art.

"I have learned the importance of living with See "Serenity" — Page 3

## Water plant explains notice sent to customers this month

By Sarah Richardson

Customers of Lewisburg city water received a notice with their regular monthly bill for April noting that the water system "violated drinking water monitoring requirements within the past year." Three types of required monitoring were noted on the report: failure to report sodium, lead and copper rule monitoring, and failure to report lead consumer notice. While this report may sound scary, the water system levels were never in a dangerous zone, and two of the report failures were actually simple paperwork violations.

For the lead and copper rule monitoring, "We did the test and everything was fine," said Lewisburg Water Plant Chief Operator Randy Johnson. "Everything was always well within EPA regulations, however, we just got the paper to the state too late, but our water meets all state requirements very well."

See "Water Notice" — Page 2

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Greenbrier Valley's Talk and News Headquarters



Today's HOT Country!



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Today's Rock

Old Jailhouse

Continued from Front Page



The old structure was not in great condition and needed removed in order to make room for courthouse improvements and expansion.

in Greenbrier County will be temporarily kept in a holding cell inside the courthouse before going to Southern Regional Jail.

"We only used a few of the cells, we didn't use all of them the last couple of years. The third story was used as storage."

After the recent moving of an old Sears home off the expansion lot, Lynch Construction began the jailhouse demolition process.

"If you'd been by in the last couple of weeks, you'd notice the windows had been busted out," Banton said. "They weren't really busted, they were actually removed. The asbestos removal took place, there were multiple floor tiles that were taken out, the caulking that was around the windows, and I think there was some sealant on the roof. That was all properly removed and disposed of."

Next comes the dramatic demolition, with excavators and crews tearing the building down piece by piece, cell by cell, and rebar-reinforced wall by rebar-reinforced wall. The result will leave only the foundation.

"That was part of the contract and the rest of it is to demolish and remove, leaving the foundation in as a whole," Banton explained. "Our goal is to have it dig ready for another contractor when we bid out the addition. We didn't want to pull the concrete out and have erosion problems with the soil."

In addition to the upcoming courthouse expansion, the building was either due for renovations or a demolition due to several issues with the upper levels.

"It had leaks and everything else. ... These are hallways that went all the way around the cell blocks. It is actually the second floor. It's not the third floor, it's the second floor. You have to think about the water that was

in there from rain, it's just crazy to think about."

The building also carries a spookier reputation, Banton noted, with rumors and jokes that the jailhouse was a place for the spirits of those passed.

"A lot of them say the place is haunted," Banton said. "You've got a couple of deputies, grown men, that wouldn't go on the third floor at night."

When only the spectre of the jailhouse remains, the commission can move forward with the planned expansion of the courthouse, including a new home for the Greenbrier County Sheriff's Office.

"I'm excited to get started on the next phase [of courthouse improvements]," Banton said. "It's getting real. ... It's sad we were using it for so long - over the years the condition of it had deteriorated. It's well needed."

Water Notice

Continued from Front Page

The same goes for the failure to report lead consumer notice, "It was a paperwork violation, we just didn't get it in early enough but all the levels were always fine."

The failure to report sodium report error stemmed from a change in operations at the lab used to check water levels. "It's never been to where it's been a danger," said Johnson. "Our old lab last year neglected to test the sample due to a lot of changes on their end, but we also neglected to double check that. However, we've never had a high reading there."

The plant has made corrections following this incident to ensure accurate reviews and better communication in the future.

"If there was ever any sort of real danger there would be an immediate notification," Johnson explained. He emphasized that in the case of a true emergency they have a multi-tiered notification system that includes media outlets, direct phone calls, and more. He encourages everyone to call City Hall at 304-645-2080 and check that their phone number is up-to-date for their water account, as this database is one of the resources used to notify consumers.

Special statewide tiger trout stockings scheduled

Anglers looking for an exciting fishing adventure in West Virginia will have opportunities to catch tiger trout this spring. Gov. Jim Justice announced that the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) will stock this unique sport fish in lakes and streams around the state for the first time in decades.

"This is just the latest example of the unique, world-class fishing opportunities we're providing in West Virginia for anglers from our great state and all over the country. I could not be more proud," Gov. Justice said. "I've been a fisherman my entire life. I've probably waded in just about every stream across West Virginia, and I can say that there's never been a more exciting time to get out and cast a line. I encourage all West Virginians to take advantage of this great opportunity to make lifelong memories with your family and friends; fishing for these incredible tiger trout on our pristine West Virginia waters."

Through the months of April and May, the WVDNR will stock 25,000 tiger trout, some of which are trophy size at four pounds. They will be stocked with other trout species at a rate of 10% in scheduled stockings around the state.

Tiger trout are a cross between brook and brown trout and are known for unique markings that look like tiger stripes. Brook and brown trout are from different genera, which makes tiger trout a rare occurrence in nature. Stocked tiger trout have been raised at WVDNR's hatcheries.

"We are thrilled to bring this special trout stocking to West Virginia's lakes and streams," said WVDNR Director Stephen McDaniel. "Our great hatchery staff have worked hard to make this possible for the first time in many, many years. It's a fishing experience unlike any other and I give a big thanks to the staff and Governor Justice for his leadership in making outdoor opportunities like this possible."

In addition to the special tiger trout stockings, a 15% lodging discount will also be available at West Virginia State Parks receiving stockings through April. The promo code "SPOTTED" can be entered at checkout at WVstateparks.com. Some exclusions apply. Details can be found at WVstateparks.com/deals.

All anglers age 15 and older who want to fish for trout are required to have a West Virginia fishing license with a current trout stamp and a valid form of identification. Licenses and stamps can be purchased online at wvfish.com. All anglers also must follow West Virginia's fishing regulations, which can be found online at wvdnr.gov.

Juanita Hodges celebrating 90th birthday



Mrs. Juanita (John) Hodges will be turning 90 years old on Wednesday, Apr. 21, 2021. Although our family would like to throw her the biggest party in Ronceverte, we are playing on the side of caution with COVID and not planning such. **HOWEVER, WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE HER FLOODED WITH BIRTHDAY WISHES!!**

Cards can be sent to: Juanita Hodges, c/o Brenda Beard, 435 Matthews Road, Ronceverte, WV 24970. If you have her phone number, please give her a call.

**LET'S MAKE THIS HER HAPPIEST BIRTHDAY EVER!!!**

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PICK OF THE LITTER

MACKIE

Mackie is a one-year-old lab and pit bull terrier mix and weighs 60 pounds.



SALLY

Sally is an eight-year-old female hound mix and weighs 35 pounds.



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

## Organ Cave Community Center

will host a Flea Market Friday, Apr. 16 and Saturday, Apr. 17 from 7 a.m. until ? each day. Set up fee is \$10 and proceeds will benefit the community center. The community center will not be responsible for accidents. Call 304-645-6098 for information.

## 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 Dance on Apr. 10 features Midnight Special Band; Saturday Dance on Apr. 24 features Virginia Magic Band. For more information 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>

## Opening dates announced for Monongahela National Forest Recreation Sites

Monongahela National Forest has announced the 2021 opening dates for developed recreation sites across the Forest. Please be advised that these dates may change based upon local conditions. Visit the Forest's Recreation Conditions Report at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/recreation/mnf/recreation> for the most current information.

Visitors are urged to recreate responsibly by following precautions recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, such as wearing a mask, social distancing and avoiding crowds, along with local health and safety guidance. For tips from the CDC on preventing illnesses like the coronavirus, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/>.

Picnic shelter occupancy across the Forest is limited to 25% of the shelter's normal occupancy or 10 people, whichever is more. Occupancy limits are posted at each shelter. Office facilities are also limited to 25% capacity. Monongahela National Forest continues to offer virtual services and the public is encouraged to call Forest offices, visit our website, and follow the Forest on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MonongahelaNF/>.

Opening dates for recreation sites on the Marlinton-White Sulphur Ranger District (304-536-2144) in the White Sulphur Springs area:

- Blue Bend Recreation Area - Apr. 5
- Blue Meadow Group Campground - Apr. 5
- Lake Sherwood - Lake open year-round
- Lake Sherwood Recreation Area West Shore Loop - Apr. 12
- Lake Sherwood Recreation Area remaining campground loops - May 24
- Lake Sherwood Recreation Area Group Camping - May 24
- Lake Sherwood Recreation Area picnic area, picnic pavilion and swimming beach - May 21
- Lake Sherwood Recreation Area boat ramp and trailhead - Open year-round.

Opening dates for recreation sites on the Marlinton-White Sulphur Ranger District (304-799-4334) in the Marlinton area:

- Day Run Campground - Apr. 5
- Highland Scenic Highway - Road open; toilets open Apr. 5
- Pocahontas Campground - Apr. 12
- Rimel Picnic Area - Apr. 5
- Tea Creek Campground - Apr. 5
- Williams River Developed Dispersed Campsites (Sites #21 to #30 located upstream of Tea Creek Campground) - Apr. 5.

Roadside camping, also called dispersed camping or boondocking, is available in many areas of the Forest year-round. For more information about recreation facilities, contact the District Office near the location you would like to visit. Contact information is listed at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mnf/about-forest/offices>.

## Suits

In Re: The Marriage of: Christina Conklin Tulloh and Dennis P. Tulloh  
In Re: The Marriage of: Kayla Marie Martin and Eric Keith Martin

In Re: The Marriage of: Jessica Ann Bryant and Dustin Bryant

In Re: The Marriage of: Justin Wayne Graham and Audrey Ann Graham

In Re: The Marriage of: Tessa Renee Burns and Jonathan Andrew Burns

In Re: The Marriage of: Albert Wyatt Fury and Stephanie Mae Fury

In Re: The Marriage of: Rusty Dale Andrews and Teresa Jane Andrews

In Re: The Marriage of: Jessica Dawn Offenberger and Michael Offenberger II

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## Public Meetings

### Gbr. Co. Farmland Protection Board

meets on the fourth 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.

### Historic Landmarks Commission

will meet Monday, Apr. 12, at 5 p.m. via Teleconference to hear the following applications. For Information on how to participate contact Lewisburg City Hall at 304-645-2080 by 4 p.m. Apr. 12. On the agenda:

- Approval of Minutes - Mar. 8, 2021
  - Comments from the public:
  - Appalachian Headwaters Inc., 122 Courtney Drive - replace roof, construct retaining wall, replace windows, remove 2 chimneys and replace rear deck
  - Roger Pence, 185 Green Lane - install wood and wire 6' fence
  - Elizabeth Wickline, 204 Randolph Street - paint exterior of house
  - Robert Pollard, 471 Church Street - replace steps, and paint handrails
  - James DeHaven, 1255 Washington Street East - relocate shed with Hardi board siding painted to match garage and reroof shed same as the house
  - Patrick Shen, 1574 Washington Street East - expand back porch, add paver patio, paint and shingles to match existing house
  - Joan Yarid, 885 Washington Street - demolition of garage, upgrade drainage to parking lot, repave parking lot, repair sidewalks and add 6" wooden fence matching existing fence and add landscaping
  - Old Stone Presbyterian Church, 644 Church Street - remove 3 tab shingled roof and install Williamsburg Gray Owens Corning architectural shingles and repair underlayment
  - Paul Lindquist, 1030 Jefferson Street North - replace front gutter, replace damaged shutters, replace 1st and 2nd floor porch floors and paint them gray, paint gables Classic White and add vents to soffit where needed
  - Travis Eads, 721 Jefferson Street - extend kitchen and upstairs laundry room, enclose breeze way
  - Communications from members
  - Updates from the Planning and Zoning Officer
- The next Historic Landmark Commission Meeting will be held Monday, May 10, with deadline of Friday, Apr. 23.*

### Greenbrier County Commission

will meet Tuesday, Apr. 13, at 10 a.m. in Commission Meeting, Room 132. LIVE STREAM FROM <https://www.facebook.com/gbrcourthouse/> On the agenda:

- Regular Business
  - Approve Minutes of Mar. 23, 2021 regular meeting Minutes & Mar. 25, 2021 special meeting minutes
  - Settlements of Estates
  - Exonerations/County
- Financial Approvals
  - Arts & Recreation Transfer
  - Budget Revisions
  - Line Item Transfer
  - Pay Bills
- New Business
  1. Discussion and possible action for potential Greenbrier Broadband Council
  2. Consider two new hires for the 911 center
  3. Consider signing the Agreement in regards to Meadow River Trail
    - Treadway Dirt Work
    - Chapman Technical group
  4. Consideration on first reading of an ordinance authorizing the leasing of the Greenbrier County courthouse from the Greenbrier County building commission and the payment of lease rentals related thereto.

### Lewisburg Finance Committee

will meet in regular session Tuesday, Apr. 13, at 7 p.m. via teleconference. For information on how to participate, contact, Lewisburg City Hall 304-645-2080 by 4:30 p.m. on April 13. The following topics are scheduled for discussion:

- Greenbrier Historical Society - sidewalk request on Randolph Street next to the Barracks
- Arts & Humanities Grant Request - WV Jazz Orchestra
- Video Lottery Grant Request - GEHS Project Graduation
- Fire Department - Bid approval for Forcible Entry Equipment
- Chapman Technical Group Task Order No. 34: Hydrology & Hydraulics Study for proposed Raw Water intake relocation
- US 219 North Phase 2 Pay Application 1
- US 219 North Phase 3 Pay Application 3
- Storm Water bid approval for project in the alley behind City Hall
- Water Distribution bid approval for new building - informational only
- Street Paving - North Court Street
- Public Works - Comprehensive Vehicle Plan
- City Hall - Bid approval for rental space repairs (Massie's Insurance)
- Water Fund Budget Preparation and Approval for Fiscal Year 2022
- Contribution for State wide Broadband Upgrade
- Cares Act Comprehensive Expenditure Plan
- Communications from members
- Approval of Minutes - Mar. 9, 2021 & Mar. 10, 2021

## Tax Tip

- **Remember:**  
*Deadline to file both Federal & State taxes has been extended to May 17, 2021*



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## Greenbrier County Magistrate Court Convictions

Grayson John Joly, Norfolk, VA, passing in no-passing zone, NC, fine \$25

Michael A. Delozier, Rupert, no seat belt, fine \$25  
Brandon M. Brown, Harrisonburg, VA, speeding, fine \$5

Kacie A. Walker, Meadow Bridge, speeding, NCP, fine \$10

Patrick Kris Walker, Ronceverte, no seatbelt, fine \$25  
Anthony William Griffith, White Sulphur Springs, 1) destruction of property, NCP, fine \$50, jail 7 days credit for time served; 2) domestic battery 2nd offense, fine \$50, jail 90 days - suspended and placed on 12 months unsupervised probation

Michael W. Adkins, Rainelle, injuring or tampering with vehicle, NCP, fine \$50, jail 30 days - suspended and placed on 12 months unsupervised probation  
Phillip M. Blankenship, Lewisburg, possession of controlled substance, fine \$100

Jonathan D. Manka, Scott Depot, contributing to delinquency of minor x2, NCP, 1) fine \$50, jail 21 days - suspended and placed on 12 months unsupervised probation; 2) fine \$50, jail 21 days - suspended and placed on 12 months unsupervised probation \*jail & probation to run concurrently

Danny J. Rowsey, Covington, VA, reckless driving, NCP, fine \$100, jail 5 days - suspended and placed on 10 months unsupervised probation

Dylan R. Campbell, Gap Mills, DUI, NCP, fine \$100, jail 15 days credit 1 day - remainder suspended and placed on 12 months unsupervised probation

Wesley A. Adkinson, Caldwell, 1) driving suspended 2nd, NCP, fine \$100; 2) failure to stop at red light, fine \$15

Joe Wilbert Bland, Jr., White Sulphur Springs, driving suspended, fine \$100

Jessica R. Flanagan, Charmco, speeding, fine \$5

## For the Record

### Deeds

Haley Marie Smith to Kay E. Shirey, Unit 9, Townhouse Cluster A, Lewisburg Municipality

Ronald and Heather Magliochetti to Billy and Tessa Mitchell, 1.263 acre, Fort Spring District

James and Elizabeth Christie to Robert Rose and Rebecca Rose, 32.59 acres, Frankford District

Diann Haynes to Danny Rood Jr. and Leslie Rood, 25,074.98 sq ft, Frankford District

Bonnie Ramsey Larue to Teresa Wittkamper, 1.87 acre, Irish Corner District

Shelby Jean Wilson and Susan Lynn Surber to John Michael Surber, Lots 41, 42, 43, and 44, Huddleston Hills Addition, White Sulphur Springs

Pamela Jane Williams to Z. Keith Crookshanks and Annetta Crookshanks, 14.595 acres, Williamsburg District

WRB Properties LLC to Five Gee's Land Company LLC, two parcels, White Sulphur District

E.R. Robinson Jr. and Martha Maria C. Wise to Valorie Quick, 11.64 acres, Williamsburg District

## Serenity

Continued from Front Page

nature," she said. "For me, the nature of things is reflected in three categories: serenity, nature, and Native American. In 2009, I begin working with Alpaca fleece from our own small herd of Alpacas. The felt makers' art emerges from the crude to the sublime. The rugs I create have a special place for me that connects me to the earth, the spirit within and to all living things. It is the essence of all everything beautiful."

You may view this artist and her art at SerenityFiberArt.com.

## Mountain Messenger

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# OPINION

## The Back Pew

By Stephen Baldwin



Nothing surprises me in Charleston anymore, but I continue to be amazed at what happens in the people's house.

**PERSONAL INCOME TAX.** Late on Wednesday night, the Senate super-majority passed a personal income tax repeal by a vote of 18-16. It's basically a hybrid of the Senate Republican plan and the governor's plan. It increases the sales tax to 8%. We literally began debating it 30 minutes after it was introduced... with NO NUMBERS about how much it costs. It now goes to the House, where I don't think it will be very well received due to tax increases in it.

**BUDGET.** Later on Wednesday night, the Senate also passed a budget. It includes money for personal income tax reform, 1.5% across the board cuts, an increase of \$4 million for the Supreme Court, a cut of \$7 million to tourism, and cuts to all colleges & universities.

**EMERGENCY POWERS.** The legislature passed two bills dealing with the governor's emergency powers. HB2014 requires that any federal emergency funds over \$150 million which aren't specifically earmarked must be spent by the governor and legislature working together. I voted yes. HB2003 limited the governor's ability to extend states of emergency without legislative input. I voted yes. (Both of these bills came in response to the pandemic.)

**DISAGREEMENTS OVER POWERS.** When should the legislature be called into session during an emergency? The House version of HB2003 required the legislature to be called into session anytime an emergency lasted more than 60 days. The Senate version required the governor to justify extending an emergency to the legislature, but did not trigger an automatic legislative session. I supported the Senate version, because automatically calling this legislature into session during an emergency would be disastrous.

**MINI-INSURRECTION.** Because the House and Senate couldn't agree on those two different versions, the bill went to a conference committee composed of three delegates and three senators. I was appointed by the Senate President to the committee. When we arrived at the meeting, over 30 delegates lined the halls chanting, yelling vulgarities, and attempting to intimidate senators into changing their votes. That isn't how democracy works. I'm deeply disappointed in the disrespectful conduct of the delegates. Because they refused to compromise, the bill died and the governor's powers remain unchanged. That is on their hands.

**TRANS KIDS.** Some bills give you heartburn; this bill gives me heartache. HB3293 prevents transgender children from participating in school sports. The bill gives me heartache because half of all trans kids strongly consider suicide. They are the most vulnerable citizens of our society, often subject to violence, bullying, and alienation because they are different. There have been zero issues with trans kids trying to gain a competitive advantage playing sports. This bill is unnecessary, and it's also mean-spirited because it further alienates a segment of the population that attempts suicide at a very high rate. The legislature should let the kids play and keep politics out of it.

**BROADBAND.** Before this session began, I said



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broadband was my first, second, and third priority. Apparently, I was alone. The budget includes no money for broadband. We were able to get an amendment passed to get surplus money for broadband, but that's not guaranteed. We are moving towards passing one broadband bill which will do some good things - consumer protections, defining "unserved" and "underserved" areas (which would help more areas access federal funding), "open access" provisions on polls/lines to increase options, and empowering the state broadband council. It's helpful but not a game-changer, which is what we need.

**DEAD BILLS.** Several controversial bills appear to have died - the elections bill which moved early voting and purged voter rolls, the hospital certificate of need bill which threatened rural hospitals, the monuments bill which put the legislature in charge of historical monuments, and the bill which rolled back above ground storage tank regulations imposed after the chemical spill in 2014.

Next week, I'll give a final and full wrap-up of what happens in the final days of the session. We are scheduled to conclude at midnight on Apr. 10. 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)*

## Commentary Gov. Justice provides vaccine update, urges younger West Virginians to get vaccinated

During Monday's press briefing, Gov. Justice called upon younger West Virginians, urging them to sign up to be vaccinated as soon as possible, with COVID-19 numbers slowly creeping back up across certain areas of the state.

"We've got more people in the ICU, we've got more people in our hospitals, we've got more active cases," Gov. Justice said. "This thing is not going away without a last push on its side. But we can make it go away by getting vaccinated. So please, everyone, especially younger folks, listen to me when I tell you; you've got to get vaccinated.

"Our medical experts are confirming that the COVID variants that are out there now are really starting to attack our younger folks, so we need to watch," Gov. Justice continued. "We've lost eight individuals since last week and, of those eight individuals, one was 42, one was 45, and one was 50."

The Governor pointed out that, despite West Virginia's nationally renowned success at providing vaccinations for those desiring them compared to other states, less than one-half of West Virginia's overall population has received at least one dose of the vaccine to date.

"We've got to move that up," Gov. Justice said. "Younger folks, please listen to me. We need you to get your shot. It could very well save your life."

Also on Monday, Gov. Justice reported that West Virginia has now successfully administered 881,592 doses after receiving a total allotment of 930,090 doses from the federal government to date; an overall administration rate of 94.8%.

West Virginia currently boasts a first dose administration rate of 100.3%, which exceeds 100% due to extra doses being extracted from vials of the vaccine, and a second dose administration rate of 87.6%.

- First doses: 528,119 administered / 526,570 allotted
- Second doses: 353,473 administered / 403,520 allotted

Vaccinations are now available to all West Virginians age 16 and older. However, West Virginians who are age 65 and older will continue to be prioritized first until all state residents in this age range who desire the vaccine have been vaccinated.

To date, 241,326 West Virginians age 65 and older have chosen to be vaccinated - over 72% of West Virginia's population in this age range - including 193,497 who are now fully vaccinated.

At the Governor's direction, the Joint Interagency Task Force (JIATF) has established three fixed-location vaccination clinics in Berkeley, Kanawha, and Monongalia counties to ensure that every West Virginian age 65 and older has access to a vaccine.

Any West Virginians age 65 and older are urged to pre-register for an appointment by visiting [wv.gov](http://wv.gov) or calling the West Virginia Vaccine Info Line: 1-833-734-0965. The info line is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Legislative Update

Continued from Front Page

Delegate Barry Bruce sponsored:

- H.B. 2003, seeking to qualify the "authority and obligations" of the governor during a state of preparedness and emergency. Passed House, with Bruce and Longanacre voting yea on Feb. 19. The bill was then approved with an amendment in a 33-1 Mar. 31 vote in the Senate, with Baldwin and Woodrum voting yea. The bill is currently in conference, seeking a resolution to the differences in amended versions.

Both senators, Stephen Baldwin and Jack Woodrum, sponsored several bills that have passed:

- S.B. 634, requiring criminal justice training for law-enforcement officers and correctional officers regarding individuals with autism spectrum disorder, was unanimously approved in the Senate on Mar. 29. The House then passed the bill 99-1, with yeas from Longanacre and Bruce, on Apr. 7.

- S.B. 359 requires law enforcement officers, when they write a report on a crash that causes damage to any fence that could contain livestock, to "make a reasonable attempt following the accident to contact the landowner that owns the fence." Passed by the Senate on Mar. 2 with yeas from Baldwin and Woodrum, then in the House on Apr. 6 with amendments 99-0. The Senate then passed the bill and amended the title in a 28-0 vote, with Baldwin and Woodrum voting yea.

In addition, three bills co-sponsored by Baldwin were passed by the Senate, but were amended in the House:

- S.B. 392, creating penalties for impersonating law-enforcement officers or officials, was approved by all four Greenbrier County representatives, passing the Senate on Mar. 2 and the House, with amendments, on Apr. 7.

- S.B. 626, setting new rules around scrap metal and catalytic converters, including a requirement that "person in possession of a catalytic converter which had previously been installed on a motor vehicle, or parts, thereof shall have ... written documentation of ownership or authorization." Violating this provision could mean a year incarceration or a \$1,000 fine. Passed the Senate (29-4-1, yea Baldwin, Woodrum), then the House with amendments (96-4, yea Bruce, Longanacre).

Woodrum sponsored a huge number of bills passed by the Senate, but the following have been approved by both houses:

- S.B. 297, modernizing Board of Treasury Investments, was unanimously approved by the Senate on Mar. 17, then the House with amendments on April 6 in a 98-1 vote. On Apr. 7, the bill was again approved by the Senate.

- S.B. 361, extending supervision for conviction of soliciting minors and using obscene matter with intent to seduce minors, was unanimously approved in the Senate on Mar. 27, then in the House on Apr. 6 in a 97-1 vote, with Longanacre and Bruce voting yea.

- S.B. 668, creating the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact, allowing permitted psychologists to practice across state lines, passed Mar. 30 in a 33-1 vote, with Baldwin and Woodrum voting yea. In a 99-1 vote on Apr. 7, the bill was approved by the House on Apr. 7, Longanacre and Bruce voting yea.

- S.B. 713, clarifying that inmates in the custody of the Commissioner of the Division of Corrections and Rehabilitation receive basic good time unless expressly excluded, and more relating to inmate good time, was unanimously approved by the Senate on Mar. 29. The House then approved the bill 94-5 on April 6.

- S.B. 263, permitting online raffles to benefit charitable and public service organizations, is awaiting another Senate vote after the House amended the bill. In the Senate, the bill was initially approved March 4, with yeas from Baldwin and Woodrum, while in the House the bill passed 86-13 on April 6, with Bruce and Longanacre voting nay.

- S.B. 270 mandates a hotel "marketplace facilitator shall be responsible, on behalf of the hotel or hotel operator, for the collection and remittance of the tax imposed by any municipality or county." This would include businesses such as AirBnB, something touched on by the Greenbrier County Convention and Visitors Bureau in several meetings. The Senate passed the bill on February 24, with yeas from Baldwin and Woodrum, and the House on March 9, with yeas from Bruce and Longanacre.

- S.B. 372 sets criteria for graduating medical professionals for a clinical training residency program when accreditation is not available and provides other considerations for graduating clinical training. In each of the votes called for this bill, no delegate or senator voted against it.

- S.B. 9 pushes requirements for the Licensed Race-track Modernization Fund back from June 30, 2020, to June 30, 2030, and makes other technical changes. Although it initially passed the Senate on February 16 with yeas from Baldwin and Woodrum, the bill was revised before passage by the House (63-34-3, nay Bruce and Longanacre) and again by the Senate (21-13, yea Woodrum, nay Baldwin).

- S.B. 10 changes the date annual racetrack tables game license renewals fee is to Oct. 1. Passed by the

Senate on February 16 with yeas from Baldwin and Woodrum. The bill was then passed by the House (80-17-3, nay Bruce and Longanacre) on March 23.

- S.B. 587 would prohibit government officials from entering contracts with certain conditions, such as clauses that indemnify or hold harmless any entity, agree to binding arbitration dispute resolution process, limit liability for direct damages for bodily injury, death, or damage to property caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of such person's employees or agents. The bill passed unanimously in the Senate on March 26, then by the House on Apr. 2 in a 94-3 vote, with Longanacre voting yea and Bruce voting nay.

- S.B. 469 would allow for a notary public to notarize a document over "communication technology" under certain conditions. Now enacted, the bill passed both houses without a single nay vote.

- S.B. 421 would allow the Commissioner of Workforce West Virginia to create "up to 100 positions of the offices of WorkForce West Virginia" who "shall serve at the will and pleasure of the commissioner." Passed by the Senate on March 8 with yeas from Baldwin and Woodrum, then by the House on Apr. 2 in a 69-29 vote. Bruce and Longanacre voted yea on the bill.

- S.B. 429 exempts the Division of Emergency Management from requirements around contracts for purchase of commodities or services and allowed the Agency for Surplus Property to transfer funds "generated from the sale of vehicles, other equipment, and commodities belonging to the West Virginia Division of Emergency Management" to a special revenue account. Passed by the Senate on Mar. 8 with yeas from Baldwin and Woodrum, then the House on Apr. 2 with yeas from Bruce and Longanacre.

## Your Opinion Is Valuable

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# CLUB

## Warner proclaims April 28 as WV Young Voter Registration Day

In 1942, President Franklin Roosevelt and the United States Congress reduced the military draft age for young men from 21 to 18 in an effort to bolster the nation's troop support during World War II. Twenty-nine years later in 1971, the 26th Amendment to the United States Constitution passed reducing the voting age from 21 to 18.

"If you're old enough to fight and die for your country, then you're old enough to vote," said the late U.S. Senator Jennings Randolph of West Virginia. Randolph is considered to be the "Father of the 26th Amendment" for his nearly three-decade effort to reduce the voting age to 18.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the passage of the 26th Amendment. As part of the state's commemoration of the anniversary, WV Secretary of State Mac Warner announced today that a special day has been set aside to focus on voter registration for eligible 17, 18, 19 and 20-year-olds throughout West Virginia.

On Apr. 28, 1971, the West Virginia Legislature ratified the 26th Amendment making West Virginia the 27th state to do so. It only took 100 days for the 38 states required for ratification for the 26th Amendment to become law.

On Apr. 28 of this year, Secretary Warner and our county clerks are encouraging every public and private high school in West Virginia to encourage their eligible 17 and 18-year-old students to register to vote. Those schools that register at least 85% of their eligible students will be recognized with the prestigious Jennings Randolph Award for civic engagement.

"We want young voters to know that their participation in our election process is welcomed here in West Virginia," said Secretary Warner. "If we can encourage our young people to register now, they are more likely to become active voters the rest of their lives."

Eligible students will be encouraged to register to vote online any time during the day on Apr. 28 through the Secretary of State's secure online portal found at GoVoteWV.com. The portal allows any citizen to register to vote or to update their current registration 24-hours a day. Students without a DMV-issued ID card or driver's license may download the mail-in application on GoVoteWV.com or request it from their county clerk.

Since becoming Secretary of State in January of 2017, Secretary Warner has worked with all 55 county clerks to register nearly 246,000 new voters in West Virginia which includes more than 67,000 eligible high school students.

## Commissioner Leonhardt applauds passage of WV Farm Bill

Commissioner of Agriculture Kent Leonhardt applauded the passage House Bill 2633 alternatively named "The West Virginia Farm Bill". The bill provides several updates to outdated West Virginia code, established a new Agriculture Investment Fund, reorganizes the Livestock Cares Standards Board and reduces regulations on farmers' markets. The first West Virginia Farm Bill now awaits Governor Jim Justice's signature

"Just like the federal government and several other states, the Department has been working towards introducing a reoccurring farm bill. Our goal is to work towards updating chapter 19 code to modernize rules and regulations and reduce burdens on West Virginia farmers. In addition, we want to further develop ways to grow our agricultural economy in West Virginia," said Commissioner of Agriculture Kent Leonhardt

HB 2633 does the following:

- Updates language pertaining to the WVDA's Agriculture and Business Development Division
- Clarifies raw milk can be sold for animal feed or non-consumable products such as soap
- Updates membership and responsibility for the Livestock Cares Standards Board
- Removes the fee for permits relating to feeding untreated garbage to swine
- Makes updates to West Virginia Commercial Feed Law

- Clarifies the West Virginia Conservation Agency can accept grants to do water quality work
- Establishes the WVDA as the sole authority over regulations of farmers' markets
- Expands the Fresh Food Act to include dairy products
- Creates the Agriculture Investments Program

"Since 2017, every legislative session we have made significant progress on either aiding our farmers or getting the government out of their way. This and future West Virginia Farm Bills will continue to work towards that goal. I hope the Governor supports the legislation with his signature," Leonhardt said.

For more information, contact Crescent Gallagher at 304-380-3922 or cgallagher@wvda.us.

## Beckley VAMC expanding COVID-19 vaccinations to all Veterans, caregivers and spouses

Beckley VA Medical Center announced it is providing COVID-19 vaccinations to anyone who served in the military, and their caregivers and spouses, and some other beneficiaries under the authority granted by the SAVE LIVES Act, signed by President Joe Biden Mar. 24.

The expanded authority depends on readily available COVID-19 vaccine supply and requires the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

to continue to prioritize Veterans enrolled in VA care.

"Since the start of the pandemic, Beckley VAMC has been focused on vaccinating as many Veterans as possible, and we are excited to multiply our efforts to thanks to the SAVE LIVES Act," said Desmond McMullan, director of the Beckley VAMC.

To make an appointment, call 304-255-2121 ext. 4500. No walk-

in appointments can be accommodated at this time.

Those eligible under the SAVES LIVES Act to receive a vaccine can go to [www.va.gov/covid-19-vaccine](http://www.va.gov/covid-19-vaccine) to register and stay informed on VA's vaccine rollout process.

To maintain continued health and safety during the pandemic, please do not visit a VA facility for a COVID-19 vaccine without an appointment.

## OBITUARIES

### Frank Abney Hardy, Jr.



Lewisburg-Frank Abney Hardy, Jr., 77, passed away suddenly on Thursday, Apr. 1, 2021, in Charleston, WV.

He was born Sept. 2, 1943, in New York, NY, the son of the late Frank Abney Hardy, Sr. and Mary Katherine Shaffer.

Nicknamed "Speedball" by his uncle for being a slow moving kid, he was a lifelong hotrod enthusiast and became an incredible mechanic and fine woodworker. He lived a full and incredible life. He was a loving husband and father, warm and generous friend, who lived in constant amazement of the wonderful and beautiful world around him. He had a child-like spirit, and never met a stranger.

Survivors include his loving wife, Ethel Queen Hardy of Lewisburg; four children, Todd Shaffer Hardy of Ohio, Ariel Toney Hardy of Colorado, Mattie Skaff Hardy Barnes of Virginia, and Erica Abney Hardy, Lewisburg; four step-children, Candie Benedict of Lewisburg, Christina Bennett of Lewisburg, Mark Bennett of Point Pleasant, and David Bennett of Nebraska; 26 grandchildren; siblings, Randy Hardy of New York, and Pat Davis of Tennessee; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Please join us in celebrating his brilliant spirit on Tuesday, Apr. 6, at 1 p.m. at Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg, with Pastor Clifford "Bubby" Kuhn officiating.

Visitation will be held from 12 noon until the time of service.

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

Please send online condolences by visiting [www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com](http://www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com)

### Ricky Allen Spinks



Crawley-Ricky Allen Spinks, 65, passed Saturday, Apr. 3, 2021, at CAMC Teays Valley, Hurricane, WV, following a sudden illness.

Rick was born May 1, 1955, in Clintonville, the son of Anna Laura Flint Spinks and the late Wilford A. Spinks. Also, preceding Rick in death is his Father-in-law, James D. Steele.

He was a member of Sinking Creek Baptist Church, but attended West Point Baptist Church in Asbury. Ricky graduated from Greenbrier East High School in 1973. While in high school he started working with the Kroger Company and retired as head grocery clerk in the spring of 2019. He was a lifetime member of the NRA with Benefactor status. Rick loved fishing and target shooting and was an excellent gunsmith.

Rick loved spending time with his "best friend" Sawyer and he was looking forward to loving on his new grandchildren.

In addition to his mother, Anna Laura Spinks of Crawley, he is survived by his wife, Juanita "Spunky" Steele Spinks; daughters, Ashli Marie Bartlett (Renee) of Palm Bay, FL and Rikki Lynn Parker (Eric) of Eleanor, WV; grandsons, Aiden Parker and Sawyer Parker of Eleanor and Emery Bartlett due in May; granddaughters, Rianna and Peyton Bartlett of Peoria, AZ, and Celia Parker of Eleanor; sister, Brenda Buis (Terry) of Tallmadge, OH; brothers, Berry Spinks (Cindy) of Winchester, VA and Terry Spinks (Anne) of Port Charlotte, FL; mother-in-law, Rolonda Steele of West Melbourne, FL; brother-in-law, Mike Steele (Lisa) of West Melbourne, FL; sister-in-law, Kelly Hutchinson (Mike) of Charleston, WV; grandfather-in-law, Herbert Walker of Diamond, WV; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Funeral services for Rick will be held Sunday, Apr. 11, at 2 p.m. at the Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg with Rev. Ron Miller officiating. Interment will follow in Wallace Memorial Cemetery, Crawley.

The family will receive family and friends Saturday, Apr. 10, from 6 until 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

A special Memorial Service will be held this summer at Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg for family and friends that are unable to attend services this weekend.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggestions that memorial contributions be

made to West Point Baptist Church mission fund; c/o Karen Lemons, 754 Claude Miller Road, Asbury, WV 24916.

In keeping with COVID 19 regulations people in attendance should wear masks and social distance. Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg is in charge of arrangements.

Please send online condolences by visiting [www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com](http://www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com)

### Jeannette Miller Hazlebeck

Beaver-Jeannette Miller Hazlebeck, 82, passed away Tuesday, Mar. 30, 2021, at the Villages at Greystone in Beaver.

She was born Dec. 9, 1937, at Williamsburg, WV, a daughter of the late Dwight and Ruth Simmons Miller.

She was a retired school teacher with Greenbrier County Schools.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, William C. "Bill" Hazlebeck; and two brothers, Marion Miller and Marlin Miller.

She is survived by a son, William Hazlebeck and wife Mary of Dunn, NC; sister-in-law, Gay Stallings of Louisville, KY; and grandsons, Luke Hazlebeck and Jack Hazlebeck.

As per her wishes her body has been cremated and a memorial service will be held at a later date.

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

Please send online condolences by visiting [www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com](http://www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com)

### PUZZLE ANSWERS

#### SCRAMBLERS

solution

- 1. Falter 2. Eagle; 3. Seeker; 4. Exude

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**FOR SALE:** Nissan Titan wheels, like new. \$150 Call 304-438-7480.

## NOTICE

**BRICK HOUSE ANTIQUES BACK ALLEY SPRING SALE,** April 16 to 19, featuring vintage fixtures from Lewisburg True Value closure. Masks and distancing required. See listing at estatesales.net for more details and pictures.

**ESTATE SALE:** Estate of Dallas Ware, 1020 Pleasant Valley Road (the one behind Food Lion). Saturday, April 10, from 9 AM to 5 PM. House for sale and all contents, furniture, plumbing tools, etc. Everything must go!

## Help Wanted Home Confinement Officer

Full time position available for a Home Incarceration Officer for Greenbrier County, WV. Starting salary is \$28,500.00 with vacation, insurance and other fringe benefits. Work hours will be flexible in order to accomplish this mission but **will include nights and weekends.** This position requires a self-motivated person willing to deal with and supervise all types of persons including but not limited to those on bond, convicted of misdemeanor or felony offenses. A criminal background investigation, drug screen, polygraph and psychological will be completed on the person hired. Experience in corrections and/or law enforcement is a plus but not mandatory. Computer skills a plus. Applications may be obtained from the Greenbrier County Commission or Home Confinement office. The deadline to submit an application is April 14, 2021; all applications should be returned to Greenbrier Home Incarceration, Attn: Leona Roberts, 147 Main St. Ronceverte, WV 24970. Greenbrier County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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MOUNTAIN STATE SPOTLIGHT

Advocates worry welfare drug testing bill could spike West Virginia's child neglect cases

By Amelia Ferrell Knisely for Mountain State Spotlight

This story was originally published by Mountain State Spotlight. For more stories from Mountain State Spotlight, visit [www.mountainstatespotlight.org](http://www.mountainstatespotlight.org).

In West Virginia, child neglect cases are impacted by a lack of resources: a county without a pediatrician, a community without a food pantry, or a school without a free clothing closet, according to Jim McKay.

"There's a thin line between a family's neglect of a child and a community's failure of a family," said McKay, state coordinator of Prevent Child Abuse West Virginia.

That's why he and other child welfare advocates oppose Senate Bill 387, a bill moving through the West Virginia Legislature that would continue a pilot program that requires people applying for emergency cash assistance be screened for drugs.

The cash assistance program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, provides short-term financial help for families, including money for food and child care. TANF applicants in West Virginia must have children. Of 6,059 recent TANF recipients, more than 5,000 were children, state Department of Health and Human Resources Jeremiah Samples told lawmakers.

The drug test barrier to benefits would leave kids vulnerable to neglect and hunger, child welfare advocates argue, because kids would be left without money for food

or hygiene items. Advocates said the bill's unintended results could push more kids into the already overburdened foster care system, which DHHR officials have said will likely see a surge in the fall in the wake of the pandemic's effect on children's mental health and families' economic stability.

"When you create a condition where fewer of these people can access TANF benefits, then that means kids are missing out," McKay said.

About one in 54 West Virginia kids is known to be abused or neglected, according to the latest 2019 federal data available, but that number only includes reported abuse cases, so the actual number is likely higher.

The majority of those cases are child neglect, according to McKay.

Statewide, one in four children struggle to access enough food, and food pantries have reported a 30% increase in families in need during the COVID-19 pandemic. The West Virginia Food for All Coalition, a group of anti-hunger advocates, also opposes the bill.

Bill sponsor Sen. Mike Maroney, R-Marshall told lawmakers on March 3, "The goal of this legislation is not to limit food to children who need food ... who could potentially be affected by the drug use of a parent."

The legislation, according to Maroney and DHHR, is intended to connect West Virginians with substance abuse treatment.

"The bill sets forth criteria for reasonable

suspicion of drug use," Maroney said to lawmakers. "Applicants that have a positive drug test will be referred to substance abuse treatment and job training."

DHHR has drug-screened TANF applicants since 2017, when the department launched the pilot project after the Legislature mandated it. The state has spent \$33,000 on the program since it launched.

From October 2019 to September 2020, DHHR reported that out of 2,067 completed drug use screening questionnaires, only seven people tested positive for drugs.

And since 2017, only one West Virginia resident flagged through the program has successfully completed treatment.

"[The bill] relies on a false narrative that somehow families in need of TANF are more likely to use illegal drugs than other families, which has not been the case in West Virginia," McKay said.

The state's TANF program permits another adult, or proxy, to administer the benefits to the children if the parent fails the drug screening. DHHR has not presented any data to lawmakers about if or how many children have been affected by that provision.

Samples, who did not respond to questions for this story, told lawmakers there are "other goals" for the program beyond drug treatment; he said the TANF screening process has resulted in 91 referrals to Child Protective Services, which DHHR also oversees.

But Kelli Caseman, who leads child advocacy nonprofit Think Kids WV, said the overlap in DHHR's services — emergency assistance programs and child protective services — and bills like SB 387 can ultimately result in parents shying away

from reaching out for help for fear of losing their kids.

"[DHHR] wants to be the benevolent place of resources but at the same time the disciplinarian," Caseman said. "The consequence is that you have people who aren't going to utilize their services."

West Virginia has the highest rate of child removals in the country, which DHHR has attributed mostly to the state's drug crisis.

Bill up for passage April 7

The Senate passed SB 387 in March. The amended bill, which would extend the drug-testing program through 2026, is up for its final vote in the House on April 7. The amended version would return to the Senate for a vote before it would go to Gov. Jim Justice for his signature.

Multiple amendments in the Senate and House to remove marijuana from the drug testing process have failed. According to DHHR, the majority of positive drug tests were for marijuana.

Delegate Danielle Walker, D-Monongalia, will vote against the measure, which she said would "definitely harm the children of West Virginia."

"Please stop humiliating poor people," she said. "We know this program has had no success."

Delegate Jeffrey Pack, R-Raleigh, who chairs the House Health and Human Resources Committee and introduced SB 387 to the House, declined an interview for this story and did not respond to emailed questions about how the bill would impact West Virginia children.

House Speaker Roger Hanshaw, R-Clay, did not respond to a request for an interview.

LEGAL

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022  
LEVY ESTIMATE - BUDGET DOCUMENT

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
MUNICIPALITY OF FALLING SPRINGS (RENICK), WEST VIRGINIA

In accordance with Code § 11-8-14, as amended, the Council proceeded to make an estimate of the amounts necessary to be raised by levy of taxes for the current fiscal year, and does determine and estimate the several amounts to be as follows:

The amount due and the amount that will become due and collectible from every source during the fiscal year INCLUDING THE LEVY OF TAXES, is as follows:

REVENUE SOURCE	
Assigned Fund Balance	1,107
Unassigned Fund Balance	42,379
Property Taxes - Current Expense	19,216
Tax Penalties, Interest & Publication Fees	38
Gas & Oil Severance Tax	250
Excise Tax on Utilities	1,413
Business & Occupation Tax	240
Wine & Liquor Tax	82
Animal Control Tax	15
Licenses	150
IRP Fees (Interstate Registration Plan)	1,630
Parks & Recreation	500
State Government Grants	500
Other Grants	1,500
Gaming Income	15,839
Video Lottery (LVL)	600
Miscellaneous Revenues	190
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE (GENERAL FUND)	\$ 85,649

COAL SEVERANCE TAX FUND	
Assigned Fund Balance	\$ 1,107
Coal Severance Tax	300
Interest Earned on Investment	1
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE (COAL SEVERANCE FUND)	\$ 1,408

ESTIMATED CURRENT EXPENDITURES	
Mayor's Office	1,350
City Council	2,250
Recorder's Office	2,250
City Attorney	6,629
Regional Development Authority	90
Elections	1,400
City Hall	22,530
Fire Department	500
Dog Warden / Humane Society	500
Ambulance Authority	500
Streets and Highways	11,000
Snow Removal	4,000
Landfill / Incinerator Department	1,000
Parks & Recreation	5,000
Fair Associations / Festivals	6,000
Beautification Programs	1,500
Capital Projects - Street and Transportation	19,000
TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES	\$ 85,649

MUNICIPALITY OF FALLING SPRINGS (RENICK), WEST VIRGINIA

Regular Current Expense Levy			
FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022			
	Certificate of Valuation Assessed Value for Tax Purposes	Levy Rate/\$100	Taxes Levied
<b>CLASS I</b>			
Personal Property	\$ 0	12.50	\$ 0
Public Utility	0		0
Total Class I	\$ 0		\$ 0
<b>CLASS II</b>			
Real Estate	\$ 2,293,570	25.00	\$ 5,734
Personal Property	0		0
Total Class II	\$ 2,180,364		\$ 5,734
<b>CLASS IV</b>			
Real Estate	\$ 877,050	50.00	\$ 4,385
Personal Property	559,778		2,799
Public Utility	1,628,509		8,143
Total Class IV	\$ 3,065,337		\$ 15,327

<b>Total Value &amp; Projected Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 5,358,907</b>		<b>\$ 21,061</b>
Less Delinquencies, Exonerations & Uncollectable Taxes		5.00%	1,053
Less Tax Discounts (use Total Projected Revenue to calculate)		2.00%	400
Less Allowance for Tax Increment Financing (if Applicable)			0
<b>Total Projected Property Tax Collection</b>			<b>\$ 19,608</b>
Less Assessor Valuation Fund (Subtracted from regular current expense taxes levied only)		2.00%	392
<b>Net Amount to be Raised by Levy of Property Taxes</b>			<b>\$ 19,216</b>

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
COUNTY OF Greenbrier  
MUNICIPALITY OF FALLING SPRINGS (RENICK)

I, Melinda L. Workman, Recording Officer of said municipality, do hereby certify that the foregoing are true copies from the record of the orders made and entered by the council of the said municipality on the 24th day of March, 2021.

Melinda L. Workman  
(Signature)  
Town Recorder  
(Official Title of Recording Officer)

WVDA to Host Farm Training May 7

LAKIN, W.Va. - The West Virginia Department of Agriculture will be hosting a Farm Training Day from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 7, 2021 at the Lakin State Farm. The event is tentatively scheduled to be held outdoors and social distancing will be observed. There is no cost to attend, but registration is required.

"As the state continues to lift restrictions, in an effort to get back to normal, agencies must start planning to host trainings and events, as well as restart the services we provide to our citizens.

For the WVDA, this will be one of the first events we have held in-person since the pandemic hit," said Commissioner of Agriculture Kent Leonhardt. "I know our staff are itching to get back to doing what they do best, helping those who grow our food."

The all-day event will cover a variety of topics including cold weather crops production, four seasons of growing, produce safety, farmers' markets, the Senior Farmers' Market Program, poultry processing and small egg production and high tunnels. Those who

attend will hear speakers from the WVDA, the Farmers Market Association, National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), the Western Conservation District, WVSU Extension Service and WVU Extension Service.

For more information or to register, contact Jessica Stricklen at 304-549-4013 or [jstricklen@wvda.us](mailto:jstricklen@wvda.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 unit 66. The auction will end on 4/21/2021 at 12 noon. All these items of personal property are being auctioned online through [lockerfox.com](http://lockerfox.com). The auction will run until April 21, 2021. Pictures of the unit can be inspected online. Cash payments only. For more details visit [www.lockerfox.com/storage-auctions/us/](http://www.lockerfox.com/storage-auctions/us/)

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 206 and 430. The auction will end on 4/21/2021 at 12 noon. All these items of personal property are being auctioned online through [lockerfox.com](http://lockerfox.com). These auctions will run until April 21, 2021. Pictures of the units can be inspected online. Cash payments only. For more details visit [www.lockerfox.com/storage-auctions/us/](http://www.lockerfox.com/storage-auctions/us/)

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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.

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- Project bids
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- Government financial statements
- Zoning changes and other public notices

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**Jack Woodrum**  
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[jack.woodrum@wvsenate.gov](mailto:jack.woodrum@wvsenate.gov)

**Barry Bruce**  
(304) 340-3131  
[barry.bruce@wvhouse.gov](mailto:barry.bruce@wvhouse.gov)

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**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.

# Kids Kick Opioids deadline April 16

West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrissey reminded schools and parents of the upcoming deadline for the office's fifth Kids Kick Opioids contest - Friday, Apr. 16.

The contest engages elementary and middle school students in designing a public service announcement to raise awareness about the dangers of prescription painkiller abuse. Potential submissions may be a poem, drawing, letter or anything that would promote awareness.

"I am amazed each year by the creative talent of students across the state," Attorney General Morrissey said. "The deadline for this year's contest is quickly approaching. I encourage every school to consider participating, especially given that we have seen how this contest can make a real difference in teaching students and raising awareness of a crucial fact - opioids can kill."

Students can work individually or in groups. The top submission will appear as a statewide news-

paper PS. Regional winners will be displayed in the State Capitol.

Contest entries must be postmarked by Friday, Apr. 16, and mailed to the Attorney General's Office at 1900 Kanawha Blvd. E., State Capitol Building 1, Room 26-E, Charleston, WV 25305, or sent by email to AGPSA.contest@wvago.gov.

Thousands of West Virginians have lost their lives to a drug overdose, many of which were opioid related.

Reversing this trend has been a top priority for the Attorney General. He has fought the epidemic on multiple fronts, including a lawsuit against the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration that achieved sweeping reforms to the nation's drug quota system.

The Attorney General also has combated the opioid crisis with civil litigation, multistate initiatives, funding to target opioid abuse, criminal prosecutions, new technology, engagement with the faith-based community and education.

# WV Department of Education receives accountability waiver

The U.S. Department of Education (USDE) has approved the West Virginia Department of Education's (WVDE) waiver from accountability, school identification and reporting requirements as part of the state's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Plan required by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965. The WVDE was notified today of the approval, which will allow educators to focus on academic achievement and recovery.

When COVID-19 caused schools to move to remote learning last year, the school system was required to pivot from daily in-person instruction and engagement to support students' needs remotely. Educators, as well as professional and service personnel, combined their collective efforts and energy to ensure students were fed and that learning continued in the face of extreme challenges. Pandemic interruptions to learning ranged from family support challenges to statewide inconsistencies with access to broadband and technology. As a result, the state is facing academic losses that schools will continue to address for months, if not for years to come.

The accountability waiver will allow the school system to better gauge the level of student loss without penalizing schools and educators that are working diligently to recover from the pandemic, even while the pandemic continues.

"We have to establish a benchmark, and moving forward, this waiv-

er will allow us to do that," said State Superintendent of Schools W. Clayton Burch. "We know that too many of our children are experiencing profound academic, developmental and social-emotional deficits, and we are committed to determining what these needs are and addressing them as quickly and efficiently as possible."

In addition to student performance, the WVDE will include publicly available information on chronic absenteeism and access to technology devices and high-speed internet as part of its reporting.

"Many educators reached out to me about assessment and wanted to have access to the information testing provides. This waiver is an important tool for us to use to support students and teachers," said

Superintendent Burch.

"We know there is work to do, and the assessment will give us a starting point," said West Virginia Board of Education President Miller Hall. "There is no instructional manual on how to navigate through a pandemic, and I am proud of what our teachers, service personnel and administrators are doing to support our children."

Counties will administer the General Summative Assessment (GSA) between Mar. 29 and May 28, 2021, and the SAT School Day in West Virginia is Apr. 13, 2021.

For more information, contact Christy Day at the West Virginia Department of Education Office of Communications at 304-558-2699 or Christy.Day@k12.wv.us.

# Communities In Schools of Gbr. County receives grant award

Communities In Schools of Greenbrier County is the proud recipient of the Seneca Trail Charitable Foundation's 2021 grant award.

The \$15,000 award will assist in the continuation of free services CISGC provides to Greenbrier County's at-risk and disadvantaged youth. Last year, nearly 4,400 students benefited from services CISGC provided county-wide.

Communities In Schools of Greenbrier County is a 501(c)3 and relies on

the generosity and support of foundations and community members. CISGC could not carry out our mission "to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life" without partnerships such as this.

For more information about CISGC, please call 304-661-1018, email director@cisgc.org or visit www.cisgc.org. You can also stay up-to-date through our Facebook page.



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**WEST VIRGINIA Department of Health & Human Resources**



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# DINING & entertainment guide

**Dutch Haus Restaurant**  
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FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.



Differences: Cap is reversed. 2. Star is moved. 3. Sleeve is shorter. 4. Hand is moved. 5. Cuffs are missing. 6. Shirt is different.

## A Look Back



West Virginia State Archives

Photo: Courtesy of West Virginia Department of Archives and History from the Julia Holt Coyle collection.

**By William "Skip" Deegans**  
This week's photo shows Lewisburg native Homer Adams ("Rocky") Holt in his WWI uniform. Holt attended Greenbrier County public schools, graduated from Greenbrier Military School, and graduated Phi Beta Kappa

from Washington & Lee College. After receiving his undergraduate degree, he served as a Second Lieutenant in the Coast Artillery Corps. After the war, Holt returned to Washington & Lee, graduated from law school, and taught at the law school.

He returned to West Virginia to practice law in Fayetteville where he entered politics as a Democrat. He became state Attorney General, and in 1936 ran for Governor. Holt's opponent's platform included eliminating taxes. While he was receptive to reducing sales taxes on certain food items, Holt thought eliminating taxes would undermine West Virginia's public school system and eliminate social services just as the state was recovering from a depression. In an editorial, Hinton's Independent-Herald wrote: "But he (Holt) held out no false hope for an Utopian abolishment of taxes - or even for a reduction in taxes - while the state has its obligations to suffering humanity - obligation that Homer Holt says must and will be met."

Holt won in a landslide, and at 34 he became West Virginia's youngest governor at the time. After one term as Governor, Holt moved to New York City to become General Counsel and Vice President of Union Carbide. Eventually, he returned to a private law practice in Charleston where he died in 1977. He is buried in Lewisburg.

Sources: New York Time, West Virginia Public Radio, Independent-Herald, Hinton Daily News, Bluefield Daily Telegraph.

# emailus

NEWS@MOUNTAINMESSENGER.COM

## NEW RESIDENTS WANTED BY: Greenbrier Greeters

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

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

Heather Blake, Owner 304-646-2624  
Alice Hollingsworth 304-645-3788  
greenbriergreeters@gmail.com

### Super Crossword E-EQUIVALENT FIGURES

- |   |   |   |                                  |                              |   |
|---|---|---|----------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| <b>ACROSS</b>   | 44 Heap   | 84 Not eternal                                      | 127 Teeny bit                    | 39 "Taps" hour               | 81 Cards dealt                            |
| 1 Napoleon exile locale                                 | 48 What the penner of "Tristram Shandy" spoke with?           | 87 Me, to Mimi                                      | 128 Firstborn                    | 41 Devilish                  | 82 Tulip's kin                            |
| 5 Lobby gp.   | 51 Toward the ruder   | 89 Tranquil   | 129 Unpopular plants             | 43 Forest home               | 83 Foot with fur                          |
| 8 — Bill (Old West hero)                                | 54 Lures  | 90 Long time  | 130 Quaint ending for 100-Down   | 45 List units                | 84 "2001" studio                          |
| 13 Soda shop drink                                      | 58 Paris-to-Berlin dir.                                       | 91 Red fruit for an "L.A. Law" actress?             | 131 Black stone                  | 46 Luau favors               | 85 Not a copy                             |
| 19 Diving bird  | 59 Aviating guys  | 92 Joins closely                                    | <b>DOWN</b>                      | 47 Mushroom ends?            | 86 Sent a new invoice to                  |
| 20 Glass of public radio                                | 60 "You Send Me" crooner's preferred cruise destinations?     | 94 Smith and Jones film, for short                  | 1 Bodily joints                  | 49 Made a new outline of     | 88 Photo —                                |
| 21 Large crowd  | 63 Mr. or Dr.   | 96 WWW access inits.                                | 2 Spa sponge                     | 50 Miner's haul              | 92 Baseball's Matty                       |
| 22 Muzzle-loading tool                                  | 65 Seraglios  | 97 PC b-board admins                                | 3 Infant sock                    | 51 Pined                     | 93 Top-row PC key                         |
| 23 "You Light Up My Life" singer's good friend?         | 66 "— Ben Adhem"  | 98 Gmail alternative                                | 4 Shaker Lee                     | 52 Frothy                    | 99 Demands                                |
| 26 Orange-and-black bird                                | 67 A&E part   | 102 Google Play purchases                           | 5 Loop of lace                   | 53 Singer Mel                | 100 Verse creator                         |
| 27 Many times o'er                                      | 68 Greedy gullet  | 106 1998 Angelina Jolie film                        | 6 Smell                          | 55 Diamond official at home  | 101 Zig or zag                            |
| 28 Real ladies' men                                     | 71 TV awards  | 108 Gmail alternative                               | 7 Obtained                       | 56 Fife player's drum        | 103 Cooing bird                           |
| 29 Close examination of the "Room at the Top" novelist? | 72 "Uncle Tom's Cabin" writer not at home?                    | 110 "Gladiator" Oscar winner's kin?                 | 8 Sci-fi zapper                  | 57 Blizzard stuff            | 104 Oodles                                |
| 31 Some of a "Waltons" actor's furniture?               | 74 Pie serving novelist?                                      | 114 "House" co-star's estimate?                     | 9 Long time                      | 61 Crucial                   | 105 Sentence structure                    |
| 34 Blast creator  | 76 Coloring stuff   | 118 Get more profound                               | 10 Infant bed                    | 62 Because of                | 107 Stop on —                             |
| 35 Camera variety, for short                            | 77 Litigious one  | 119 Mil. VIP  | 11 Smell                         | 64 Suffix with absurd        | 109 Cartoon skunk Pepé                    |
| 36 Mets' old ballpark                                   | 78 Gillette's — razor   | 120 Queued  | 12 French legislature            | 67 See 114-Down              | 111 Duel swords                           |
| 37 Ballgame cry   | 79 Truthful   | 121 Doctor's plan for the author of "Common Sense"? | 13 Drivers' places               | 68 The press, TV, etc.       | 112 Notable acts                          |
| 40 Sugar suffix   | 80 Longtime SeaWorld whale                                    | 122 Secondary divinity, in Greek myth               | 14 Endangered                    | 69 Serving perfectly         | 113 Bug in "A Bug's Life"                 |
| 42 Help   | 82 "Two Treatises of Government" philosopher making a choice? | 125 Break in, say                                   | 15 A little off                  | 70 Pie serving               | 114 With 67-Down, up and no longer sleepy |
|   |   | 126 Pooch checker                                   | 16 Declare                       | 72 Total                     | 115 Baseballer Slaughter                  |
|   |   |   | 17 Makeup of a frozen Arctic cap | 73 Brow curves               | 116 Not crazy                             |
|   |   |   | 18 Early utopia                  | 74 Established the tempo for | 117 Location                              |
|   |   |   | 24 Before, to Kipling            | 75 Pen filler                | 122 Toon Flanders                         |
|   |   |   | 25 Warsaw native                 | 77 Product rep               | 123 "O Sole —"                            |
|   |   |   | 30 Involved with                 | 79 Mention                   |   |
|   |   |   | 32 Water spigot                  | 80 Haloed Fr. woman          |   |
|   |   |   | 33 Sea plea                      |                              |   |
|   |   |   | 38 Salt Lake City team           |                              |   |

### SCRAMBLERS

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

Waver

ARTFEL

Bird

AGLEE

Explore

REEKES

Emulate

DEUXE

"Well, your \_\_\_\_\_ seem to be okay!"

TODAY'S WORD

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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# U.S. News ranks WVSOM as a top medical school

The West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM) stands out among medical schools for producing the most primary care residents and for graduates practicing in rural areas.

The 2022 edition of the *U.S. News & World Report* "America's Best Graduate Schools" recognized WVSOM for the 23<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year.

The school is ranked No. 16 in the percentage of 2012 to 2014 graduates practicing direct patient care in rural areas, and is ranked No. 14 in the percentage of 2012 to 2014 graduates practicing in primary care specialties. The school is also ranked No. 41 in graduates practicing direct patient care in areas with health professional shortages during that three-year period.

This year, the school was listed fourth in the nation by the publication for producing the most primary care residents. The report shows that 69 percent of WVSOM graduates from 2018 to 2020 entered primary care residencies upon completing medical school.

Part of WVSOM's mission is to provide a curriculum that encourages medical students to practice primary care in rural areas.

"A commitment to educating primary care physicians who will serve in rural areas is at the heart of our mission," said WVSOM President James W. Nemitz, Ph.D. "WVSOM's recognition as a top medical school in primary care speaks to the dedication of the school's faculty and staff to delivering an education that will enable our students to provide ho-

listic, compassionate and quality care to their future patients."

Primary care, which includes family medicine, internal medicine and pediatrics, is the leading specialty of WVSOM graduates, but they may choose to practice in any specialty.

"While WVSOM does place an emphasis on educating students who want to enter primary care residencies, our graduates are represented in most specialty areas," said Craig Boisvert, D.O., WVSOM's vice president for academic affairs and dean. "From the moment students begin their medical school journey, we offer a robust curriculum to help them explore their health care interests as well as many supporting programs that help them determine which specialty is right for them. We encourage primary care specialties, especially in underserved communities, but WVSOM graduates leave medical school with an education and training that is ideal for any specialty."

Additionally, WVSOM was listed in the category of research and ranked No. 56 in the category of diversity.

Medical school deans and senior faculty from across the U.S. determined the *U.S. News & World Report* listings based on educational programs. Results were collected from a survey of accredited allopathic and osteopathic medical schools across the country. The full report recognizes institutions that offer top programs in fields of study such as business, law, medicine, engineering and education.

## Congresswoman Miller Mobile Office Hours

At the mobile office locations, members of Congresswoman Miller's staff will be available to help Third District residents who are having problems with federal agencies and programs. Constituents are encouraged to bring along documents they have received from federal agencies related to their issues. All attendees are instructed to wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment and follow social distancing procedures.

City Hall, 322 Summers Street, Hinton

- Wednesday, Apr. 14, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Monroe Service Center, 400 Main Street, Union, WV 24983

- Wednesday, Apr. 14, 1 - 2 p.m., Alderson Town Hall, 202 S Monroe Street, Alderson

- Tuesday, Apr. 20, 1 - 2 p.m., Lewisburg City Hall, 942 W. Washington Street, Lewisburg

- Tuesday, Apr. 20, 3 - 4 p.m., Rainelle Town Hall, 1233 Kanawha Avenue, Rainelle

## Dear Recycle Lady,



**Dear Recycle Lady,**  
The photo of #2 COLORED plastics was very helpful. Please publish a photo of #2 non-colored plastics.

*Examples are Good*  
**Dear Examples are Good,**

Thanks for letting me know what is helpful. This week's photo shows some examples of #2 NO COLOR plastics, sometimes called clear plastics. Note, only bottles and jugs are recyclable locally, as that is all the buyer accepts. As with all recyclables, be sure the jugs and bottles are clean and dry before recycling them.

**Dear Recycle Lady,**  
What is the breakdown of bins that are available to place my recycles in, so I know how to bag up my items?

*New to Recycling*  
**Dear New to Recycling,**

The Greenbrier Recycling Center has bins for 11 different kinds of recyclables. Some recyclables have more than one bin. Each of the following bins are identified in large

print: Magazines (includes colored paper & slicks), Newspapers, Office Paper, #1 Plastics, #2 Colored Plastics, #2 No Color Plastics, Steel Cans, Aluminum Cans, Aluminum Foil & Pans, and Cardboard. There is also a special place to deposit bagged shredded paper and there will soon be a container for collecting toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes and floss containers. There are examples of recyclables that belong in each bin on the shelf above the opening. They can be helpful when you begin putting your recyclables in the bins. If you are not sure whether an item is steel or aluminum, there is a magnet attached to the steel can bin to help you determine which metal it is. Thanks for joining the legion of recyclers who are faithfully filling the bins and helping to improve the environment.

**Dear Recycle Lady,**  
Can I recycle canning lids? The flat ones with rubber ring on them.

Can they be put into the bin with steel cans?

*Canner*  
**Dear Canner,**  
Yes, the flat lids, as well as the canning rings, can be recycled with steel cans. Just be sure they are both clean and dry.

**Dear Readers,**  
Did you know that cigarette butts with plastic filters are one of the single biggest sources of trash and plastic in the ocean? Every year, millions of these cigarette butts are picked up on our beaches in an attempt to save the marine life. Just ONE cigarette butt can kill a fish.

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.

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<b>FAMILY PRACTICE</b>			<b>GENERAL SURGERY</b>	
Joseph Lutz, PA-C	Cindy Mann, FNP-BC	Dr. Debra Sams, DO	Dr. Alan Lee, DO	Dr. Ray Jones, DO
<b>OBSTETRICS &amp; GYNECOLOGY</b>			<b>OPHTHALMOLOGY &amp; OPTOMETRY</b>	
Dr. Connie Perkins, DO	Dr. Samantha Chaffin, MD	Dr. William Artrip IV, MD	Dr. Yuri Arvan, MD	Dr. Savannah Long, OD
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