

# Mountain messenger

March 5, 2022

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



Big Buck Photo Contest Youth Division Winner Klay Dolin of Lewisburg

## Lewisburg resident among Big Buck Photo Contest winners

Gov. Jim Justice recognized the winners of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources' first-annual Big Buck Photo Contest during a special event at the State Culture Center earlier this week. The Governor announced five adult winners and surprised all youth finalists with a free lifetime hunting and fishing license.

Lewisburg resident Klay Dolin was announced to be a Youth Division winner in the contest.

"We were completely blown away by the response to our first-ever Big Buck Photo Contest. I absolutely loved looking through all the photos of so many of our state's incredible hunters of all ages," Gov. Justice said. "I couldn't possibly be more proud.

You truly love our great outdoors and you're passing that love on for generations to come. It's the same love I

See "Big Buck Photo Contest" Page 2

### Nature's Way By Karen Cohen on page 4



Mary Whisman was recognized by Greenbrier Co. Sheriff Bruce Sloan for her years of service.

## Whisman retires from tax office

On Monday, Feb. 28, Mary Whisman retired from the Greenbrier County Sheriff's Tax Office. Mary was a longtime employee and a familiar face and friend to everyone who entered the tax office, and she will certainly be missed.

A luncheon, attended by friends and co-workers, was held at the courthouse and she was recognized for her years of service.

The Greenbrier County Sheriff's Office would like to express our appreciation to Mary for her loyalty to the tax office and her faithfulness in providing excellent service to the public.

We wish Mary and her family the very best in the future as they pursue those activities that bring them enjoyment.

## Seniors Centers reopen

The Greenbrier County Committee on Aging has announced that the senior centers in Rupert and Fairlea have reopened as of Tuesday, Mar. 1. They wish to thank everyone for their patience and understanding during the time that they were closed. The centers will be open from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. Masks are required. Transportation for meals, activities, and shopping will be offered if adequate staff is available. Call the Rupert senior center at 304-392-5138 or the Fairlea senior center at 304-645-1978 for more information.

## Proposed legislation may have future impact on Greenbrier River Trail, State Parks

By Adam Pack

A handful of bills are making their way through the West Virginia legislature which seek to alter some of the ways in which state parks and lands go about the building of facilities and amenities, as well as alter code regarding certain vehicles within state parks and, by extension, on certain trails.

The first bill to reach the floor for a vote in either house was House Bill 4408. If passed and signed into law, this bill states that the Director of the DNR will be able to enter into contracts for up to 50 years for the "financing, construction, and operation of recreational, lodging, and ancillary facilities to all West Virginia State Parks, Forests and state Rail Trails." A similar Senate Bill, SB 485, differs only in that it stipulates that all construction falling under the aforementioned amenities be exclusively new construction.

This would mean that the Greenbrier River Trail, as it is under the auspices of the State Parks of West Virginia, could be affected by this legislation. In opposition to the bill the West Virginians for Public Lands Association has spoken up. In a fact sheet posted to www.wvrippers.org, the Association voiced concerns about vagueness in the terms in the bill. "There is no code provision to restrict the type of new facilities allowed. Casinos, racetracks, amusement parks, or similar developments could be built on our state parks and state forests."

However, James Bailey, Deputy Secretary and General Counsel for the Department of Commerce (which houses the Division of Natural Resources), appeared before both the Senate and House committees to speak in favor of the bills. He played down fears of such facilities being built, saying they were "unrealistic." He added that the Director of the DNR reports to the Dept. of Commerce, and that significant contracts would need the approval of both that department and the Governor.

House Bill 4408 passed both the House Agriculture & Natural Resources and Government Organization Committees and was brought to the house floor for first reading on Thursday, Feb. 24. Before the final vote, three amendments to the bill were proposed by three separate house delegates. Delegates Fast, Fleischauer, and Hansen proposed amendments which would specify that Off-Road Vehicles and ATVs and the construction of casinos would be barred from state parks and trails. All three of these amendments were defeated.

Delegates voicing opposition to this bill spoke of their concerns with the lack of "guardrails" around the legislation, the lack of which could potentially allow the construction of casinos, amusement parks, and ATV trails and facilities on existing state

See "Parks Legislation" Page 9

## WSS approves property purchase behind City Hall, new billboard sign

By Sarah Richardson

The White Sulphur Springs City Council met in a special session at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Mar. 1, at City Hall after they canceled their regular February City Council meeting due to illness. Agenda items included a property purchase agreement using American Rescue Plan funds, updating the White Sulphur Springs Police Department Manual of Standard Operating Guidelines, approving a new sanitary/water board member, and discussing a price change with the proposed billboard sign on I-64 promoting White Sulphur Springs.

At the January Council meeting, the city discussed adding signage promoting White Sulphur along I-64 east, using the same ad they are running in the February edition of the Greenbrier Valley's Convention and Visitor Center's guide. City Recorder Kathy Glover said that the original estimated cost of this sign was lower than the actual cost. "We didn't fully understand what the contract meant," explained Glover. The total cost for a two-year contract is \$25,850, and council motioned to approve the increased budget for the sign. These funds are part of the American Rescue Plans monies.

Councilmember G.P. Parker said, "Since it's from the American Rescue Plan and our citizens aren't paying for it, I'm all for it."

"This is an opportunity to get us out there, to let people know as they come down I-64 East that we are open for business," said Glover.

For new business items, council motioned "aye" on a property purchase agreement for the property directly behind City Hall. "The owners agreed to sell it for \$100,000. We'll probably tear it down, take out the trees. Parking is definitely needed in town, and we can get probably 30 to 50 spaces back there," said Mayor Bruce Bowling. Councilmember Parker floated the idea of offering to bid out the building in order to recoup some of the costs. Glover said the building had previously been flooded but the owners had done some work to it, and that the city is using American Rescue Plan funds for this project, as well.

White Sulphur Springs Police Chief Scotty Teubert explained a proposed update to

See "WSS City Council" Page 4

## Ronceverte City Hall forced to relocate due to water damage and black mold

By Adam Pack

The day-to-day proceedings of Ronceverte City Hall are going to be taking place out of a different building for the foreseeable future. City Administrator Pam Mentz said that Ronceverte City Hall will conduct its business out of 687 Edgar Avenue, in the building next door to The Sportsman Bar building, after standing water and black mold were found at City Hall.

According to Mentz, starting in the summer of 2021, the door to her office would not close properly, and by winter the floor was warped. Workers investigated by drilling beneath the floor of the office and found waist-deep water pooled up directly beneath Mentz's desk. They also found large quantities of black and yellow mold. The water's origin was two mountain springs which flow from the hillside above City Hall, which were noted on the original plans of the building,

but nothing was done about it, according to Mentz.

Remediation efforts were started and finished recently, but rains since have shown that those efforts were not effective, as the water is still collecting. Add to this that other drainage and plumbing problems with the original construction of the building were revealed, and Ronceverte City Hall made the decision to move to the Edgar Avenue site "semi-permanently."

However, this arrangement is not entirely inconvenient, as the City of Ronceverte has been attempting to purchase the building for some time. As of Tuesday, Mar. 1, all bill payments and city business will be conducted out of the Edgar Avenue site. The dropbox will remain at the original City Hall building, but Mentz reassured residents that "we'll be walking to that dropbox multiple times a day to check it, so that will still be operational, just not in the same building as we are."

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# Kayla McCoy & Greenbrier Valley Pride named Hometown Heroes by West Virginia Can't Wait

*\$2,000 Award Honors West Virginians for their "Courage to Do What Needs Done"*

The mission of WV Can't Wait is to win a people's government in the Mountain State, led by the West Virginians who work the hardest and bear the greatest burdens. In addition to a \$2,000 award, Heroes receive free on-going leadership training and coaching, access to mental health and safety services, and a network of other folks who are making a difference. Each of the 40 Hometown Heroes was selected by a committee of volunteer leaders from around the state, from a pool of more than 115 nominations.



**Greenbrier Valley Pride members stand with Kayla McCoy (right) at the Hometown Heroes Award Ceremony earlier this week.**

The committee used three criteria for selecting each Hero: the lives they changed in their communities, the courage they showed in standing up to the rich and powerful, and the willingness to be led by people who are normally kept out, put down, or criminalized.

Public health advocate Kayla McCoy and LGBTQ+ activism organization Greenbrier Valley Pride have been selected from the Greenbrier County area.

"We are a statewide organization that's committed to winning a people's government in the Mountain State. We want a government where the people who work the hardest and sacrifice the most are also the ones who get to write the laws. We believe that the people on the ground, that the people who are closest to the problem, are the ones who should be trusted to solve it," said WV Can't Wait Co-Chair Stephen Smith at the award ceremony.

"In every West Virginia town, there's someone you can go to for help, no matter who you are. These folks don't care about who your daddy was or what trouble you're in. They don't care about your age or your ability. They don't answer to politicians or landlords or lawyers. Their cell phone is on all hours of the day. And if they don't answer, they'll always call you back. We call these people hometown heroes."

About the Honorees:

- From Kayla McCoy's nomination: "Never have I met someone more committed to serving others and supporting our communities. She displays with every step what it means to be a hero. Always by your side in a pinch, a friend to listen when no one else will, and someone to lean on when times get tough." (Support Kayla's work financially at [PayPal.com/wabamitskayla](https://www.paypal.com/wabamitskayla))

- From Greenbrier Valley Pride's nomination: "In 2021, a group of dedicated individuals created Greenbrier Valley's first-ever Pride event in only 29 days. The parade and street festival featured state organizations, artists, and entertainers - and had over 500 attendees. The group now has a full board and is in the process of becoming a registered 501c3. As part of its mission, Greenbrier Valley Pride is going to continue an annual Pride event, work on advocacy at the state and local level, establish peer support groups for the LGBTQIA+

community, and build a scholarship fund for students in the Greenbrier Valley." (Support GVP's work financially at <https://www.greenbriervalleypride.com/donate-venmo>)

WV Can't Wait volunteers designed the Hometown Hero Award program to be different from most grant-giving projects. Instead of long grant applications and restrictive budget reporting, WV Can't Wait accepted nominations by text/email and offered "no-strings-attached" awards so groups could decide how best to use the funds based on need. Instead of recognizing professional advocates and large nonprofit organizations, WV Can't Wait sought out people and groups who are making a difference without much money or connections. And instead of celebrating millionaires and celebrities with a ballroom gala, WV Can't Wait will honor Hometown Heroes with a barbecue lunch from Dem 2 Brothers on Mar. 5 at their statewide Convention.

## Big Buck Photo Contest

*Continued from Front Page*

have for our state. When I say I've been over just about every inch of woods in this state, I'm not lying. You have a guy, who just happens to be your Governor, that truly shares your love for hunting in our unbelievable state. It couldn't be any better."

The Big Buck Photo Contest is sponsored by the West Virginia Department of Tourism and the WVDNR. They invited sportsmen, women, and children to show off their buck harvest last fall. The response was overwhelming with more than 1,600 contest entries in just five weeks.

At the Governor's request, all youth finalists - not just the top five - will receive a free lifetime hunting and fishing license. Adult winners will be able to select one of the following prizes: free lifetime West Virginia hunting, trapping and fishing license; two-night stay in a Cabwaylingo State Forest cabin; \$500 Bass Pro Shops gift card; \$500 Cabela's gift card; or a two-night stay in a Seneca State Forest cabin.

Finalists were chosen by random drawing from all eligible entries. Winners were selected by a judging committee based on photo composition, size of the buck's antlers, number of antler points, and the description of the hunt.



**The Fairlea senior site is a hub of activity.**

# Senior Nutrition Program celebrates 50 years

Since 1972, the national Senior Nutrition Program has supported nutrition services for older adults across the country. Funded by the Older Americans Act (OAA), local senior nutrition programs serve as hubs for older adults to access nutritious meals and other vital services that strengthen social connections to promote health and wellbeing.

Greenbrier County Committee on Ag-

ing Inc. has been providing meals to seniors since 1975. We would like to thank everyone who has supported our Senior Nutrition Program and helped us provide this service to needy seniors throughout Greenbrier County.

If you would like to make a tax-free monetary donation, checks can be mailed to GCCA Inc., P.O. Box 556, Rupert, WV, 25984.

## Warner releases interactive map to help voters identify new voting districts and precincts for May Primary Election

West Virginia Secretary of State Mac Warner is releasing an easy-to-use online map providing voters with a statewide view of the new county magisterial and precinct districts ahead of the May 10 Primary Election.

The WV Interactive Map for Voting Precincts & Districts is enabled with the use of GIS technology and is a result of collaboration between the state's 55 counties, their GIS mapping offices and vendors, and the WVU GIS Technical Center. As county election officials continue updating hundreds of thousands of voter records statewide that resulted from the 2021 legislative redistricting process, it is important to provide voters with an alternative to identifying their new districts before they receive an updated voter registration card in the mail from their county clerk.

"We want to keep voters engaged in the outcome of the redistricting process," Warner said. "This interactive map is a foundational tool for voters to find their voting precinct, Magisterial District, House of Delegates District, State Senate District and their Congressional District. As the election approaches, sample ballots for each precinct will also be available online."

According to Warner, voters simply enter their home address in the website search bar and their district and precinct information will appear on the screen.

Warner emphasizes that this convenient lookup tool is not an official source of information for voters' precinct and voting district information. In the weeks leading up to the May Primary, county clerks will mail an updated registration card to each voter whose voting location changed due to redistricting. If a voter does not receive an updated voter registration card, their polling place remains the same as the past election.

County Clerks are currently processing voters into their new precinct locations in the Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) for official election records, preparations, and poll book creation.

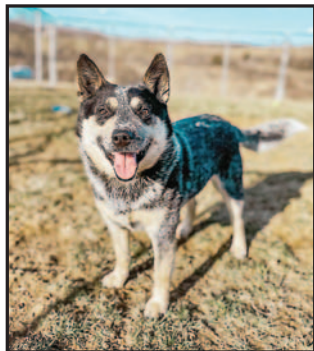
The WV Interactive Map for Voting Precincts & Districts can be found at the following website: [www.map-wv.gov/vote/](http://www.map-wv.gov/vote/) or by visiting [GoVoteWV.com](http://GoVoteWV.com)

Eligible but unregistered citizens can register to vote 24-hours a day at [GoVoteWV.com](http://GoVoteWV.com)

## PICK OF THE LITTER

### MERLIN

Merlin is a one to two-year old Blue Heeler mix and weighs 31 pounds.



### TEDDY

Teddy is a one year old male boxer and pit bull terrier mix. He weighs 57 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.

**DON'T SHOP • ADOPT!**

## NEW RESIDENTS WANTED BY:

# Greenbrier Greeters

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

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

Heather Blake, Owner 304-646-2624  
Alice Hollingsworth 304-645-3788  
[greenbriergreeters@gmail.com](mailto:greenbriergreeters@gmail.com)



# Briefly

## Williamsburg Community

### Shooting Match

Our next match will be Saturday, Mar. 5, at the Williamsburg Community Center. Match starts at 7 p.m. but food concession will open at 6 p.m. The match will be eight rounds, 12-gauge guns only. Full choke, .660 inch minimum. Screw in chokes must be from a recognized supplier (patented) and extend no more than 3 inches beyond original barrel. Barrel length 34" maximum. First seven rounds are \$2 per shot, eighth round 50/50 is \$5 per shot. Shooters must compete in the first seven rounds in order to compete in the eighth round. 50/50 splatter match is \$1 per chance between rounds. Cash prizes will be awarded. You do not need to be a shooter to win! Come early! Come hungry! Delicious hot food and refreshments will be available starting at 6 p.m. Families welcome - you don't have to shoot to come get a meal. The match will be held at the Community Building on Sinking Creek Road next door to the fire department. We hope to see you all there. Proceeds will benefit Williamsburg Community service projects. These events are sponsored by a joint effort of the Williamsburg Community Action and the Williamsburg Ruritans. For more information and directions visit [www.williamsburgwv.com](http://www.williamsburgwv.com)

### Carnegie Hall Guild

will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, Mar. 8, at 4:30 p.m. in the Old Stone Room. The mission of the Guild is to promote interest in Carnegie Hall and to provide financial and volunteer support. Planned events and activities will be discussed at the meeting. Sally Grey, the Development Director of Carnegie Hall will be our guest speaker. The public is invited. We will meet at 4:15 p.m. for a chance to socialize. This is a great opportunity to meet the members and discover the activities of the Guild. Light refreshments will be provided from the generosity of Mary Leb and Bob Foster.

### Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner set for March 12

Join us for a Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner featuring Williamsburg's famous cornpone. The dinner will benefit the Williamsburg Food Pantry and will be held Tuesday, Mar. 12, from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Williamsburg Community Center. The menu includes corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, rolls or cornpone, a variety of desserts, and drinks. The cost is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children under 6 years of age. This event is sponsored by the Williamsburg Food Pantry. Directions: Exit 161 from I-64, North Route 12, east Route 60, first road to left (Sinking Creek Road), continue on two lane about nine miles Community Building on left. Call 304-392-5537 with questions.

### American Heritage Music Hall, Inc.

located at 496 Island Park, Ronceverte, is open to the public, all welcome, handicap accessible. Listeners and tourists welcome. Admission \$7 Tuesday nights, \$10 Saturday - Audience provides food. Doors open at 7 p.m. Jam & Dance every Tuesday 7 to 10 p.m. Dance on Mar. 26 will feature the Midland Trail Band, 7 to 10:30. The Music Hall is available for weddings and parties. For more information call the Music Hall at 304-645-4667; Bill Evans at 304-392-6079; Grace Poe at 304-992-5852.

### Arts and Recreation applications available from County Commission

Applications will be available starting Mar. 1, for the Greenbrier Arts & Recreation Allocations. Applications may be picked up at the Greenbrier County Courthouse, downloaded at [www.greenbriercounty.net](http://www.greenbriercounty.net) or by calling the Greenbrier County Commission Office at 304-647-6689. Use of Arts & Recreation Funds must be in compliance with WV State Code 7-18-14. Funds may not be used for salaries/wages. Only public nonprofit organizations may apply. The applications are due back at closing (4 p.m.) on Wednesday, Apr. 27, 2022.

### Local Veterans Ready to Help

If you or someone you know have loved ones serving on active duty and are concerned for their well being or that of their families, particularly those stationed overseas, please feel free to reach out to American Legion Post 100 in Union. We can assist with transportation from international airports for returning family members, lending household items, help with paperwork, or simply an empathetic ear from someone who has "been there, done that." Contact Scott Womack at [womackse@gmail.com](mailto:womackse@gmail.com), Facebook Messenger, or cell phone 304-992-4405 or Harry Moloney at [saddleback2@earthlink.net](mailto:saddleback2@earthlink.net), cell phone 304-646-2102.

### Share Your Good News in the MRV

Building on the success of Meadow River Valley Association's (MRVA) Good News event last fall, we are hosting a second virtual gathering on Mar. 24, at 6:30 p.m. There are a wealth of successes, recognitions and achievements within the Meadow River Valley, and we want to hear about yours. Did you win a scholarship, or were you accepted to college? Did you hire a new staff member? Are you expanding your business? During Good News Meadow River Valley, you have two minutes via Zoom to share your news and celebrate with others. There were 16 good news updates last fall - help us round up to an even 20! To learn more or participate, email Dara Vance at [dara@meadowriver-valley.org](mailto:dara@meadowriver-valley.org)

## Public Meetings

### Historic Landmarks Commission

will meet Monday, Mar. 14, at 5 p.m. in the Paul R. Cooley Council Chambers, 942 Washington Street, Lewisburg. Also available via teleconference. For more information on how to participate on Zoom, please contact Lewisburg City Hall at 304-645-2080, no later than Mar. 14 by 3 p.m.

On the agenda:

- Approval of Minutes - Feb. 14, 2022
- Comments from the public
- Steve Stone, 1722 Washington Street East - replace 14 windows with Pena Reserve Traditional windows, white in color.
- Elsworth Buck, 122 Greenbrier Avenue - remove roof covering, install Owens Corning Duration, Onyx Black, and repaint the mortar joints on the chimney with matching mortar.
- Paul and Libby Tomar, 1505 Washington Street - rebuild the addition to the back of the house that was demolished.
- Emil Stalis, 331 Lafayette Street - remove and replace side exterior patio roof and enclose sunroom, replace existing roof and coverings, replace aluminum gutters and downspout, replace siding on front dormer and remove rear wall and three windows replace with patio doors, and replace basement window.
- Comments from the Commissioners
- Comments from the Zoning Officer

The next scheduled meeting for the Lewisburg Historic Landmarks Commission will be on Monday Apr. 11, at 5 p.m., with a deadline of Friday, Mar. 25.

### Greenbrier Co. Planning Commission

will meet in special session Monday, Mar. 7, at 10 a.m. in the Main Floor Courtroom at the Lewisburg Courthouse. On the agenda:

- Consider the application for major subdivision by the Greenbrier Golf & Tennis Club Corporation and the Greenbrier Hotel Corporation for completeness

## WVDOH explains two-fold pothole strategy

Winter is hard on West Virginia's roads, with constant freezing and thawing leading to a plethora of potholes. But during pothole season, the West Virginia Division of Highways is ready to pull the trigger on potholes; with a two-fold strategy for before and after asphalt plants open in each region of the state.

"With the spring flowers that pop up also comes our opportunity to come out and start doing permanent repairs on potholes that formed over the winter," said Joe Pack, P.E., WVDOH Deputy State Highway Engineer for Division Operations.

Patching before the plants open is done for the purpose of protecting drivers and preventing damage to vehicles; these patches use cold mix asphalt and serve an important purpose for the public but do not last as long. Once asphalt plants open, hot asphalt is available



Crews throughout all 55 counties continue to cold patch potholes for the sake of protecting drivers and their vehicles

### Greenbrier County Magistrate Court Convictions

Travis Con Kincaid, White Sulphur Springs, obtaining by false pretenses, NCP, fine \$50, jail 14 days with 2 days credit for time served - remainder suspended and placed on 10 months unsupervised probation.

Rachel Summer Ratliff, Ronceverte, unlawful injury to or destruction of property, NCP, fine \$75

Blake A. Hicks, Caldwell, driving suspended, NCP, fine \$100

Thomas Scott Grinstaff, White Sulphur Springs, domestic battery, NCP, jail 120 days - suspended and placed on 1 year unsupervised probation

Alana Renea Hale, Lockbourne, OH, speeding in construction zone, NCP fine \$100

Jonathon D. Eggleston, Sinks Grove, driving while license suspended or revoked, NCP, fine \$100

Steven Rhodes, Renick, illegal possession (turkey), NCP, fine \$25

Emily Nicole Blankenship, 1) driving a vehicle in an impaired state, NCP, fine \$100, jail 1 day; 2) possession of a controlled substance without a valid prescription, jail 90 days - suspended and placed on 12 months unsupervised probation

### Your Opinion Is Valuable

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Send letters and comments to:  
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Call (304) 647-5724 or Fax (304) 647-5767  
or send to: [news@mountainmessenger.com](mailto:news@mountainmessenger.com)

## For the Record

### Deeds

David Lee Churchman and Lee Anne Churchman to William E. Alder, Lot No. 19, Drewry Meadow Addition, White Sulphur Springs District

Penny Fioravante to Julie Fine, Lots Nos. 80 and 81, Drewry Meadow Addition, White Sulphur Corporate District

Richard L. Brammer, II to Tara N. Brammer, 0.9705 Acres, Frankford District

David Richmond and Mary Richmond to Historical General Lewis Inn, Inc., Lot No. 9. Graham Heights Addition, Lewisburg Corporate District

Jeffrey A. Doss and Susan J. Ross to Kevin Paul Ross, 19.146 Acres, Irish Corner District

Carter Dewey Rogers, Jr. and Brett Kees, to Gordon W. Lewis, III, Lilly M. Lewis and Autumn L. Sweet, 93.84 Acres, Anthony's Creek District

William T. Longanacre and Mabel Sabrine Longanacre to Elizabeth Tuomey, Lot No. 22, Phase 1 Overlook at Greenbrier, White Sulphur District

William Grant Talbott to Robert Lee Jones and Gretchen Marie Ryle, Unit B, 60 West Townhouses, Lewisburg District

Appalachian Electronics Instruments, Inc., a West Virginia corporation to City of Ronceverte, 0.0078 Acres, City of Ronceverte District

Madison W. Huffman to Keith A. Holliday, 0.48 Acres, Meadow Bluff District

Carl Richard Harris, Jr. and Christina Frances Harris to Chandler Beavers and Alaura Beavers, Lots No. 1, 2 and 3, Griffith Addition, White Sulphur Springs District

Jesse R. Chaffin and Samantha L. Chaffin to Adam L. Rosenbaum, 0.32 Acres, Lewisburg Corporate District

Colleen Kenney to David A. Gledhill and Lori D. Gledhill, 12.208 Acres, Fort Springs District

Dennis Ulewicz and Ann Ulewicz to Sean M. Siler and Julie A. Siler, Lot No 62, White Sulphur Hill, The Greenbrier Sporting Club, White Sulphur Hill Neighborhood

Kiara Danielle Villanueva to Rebekah Sams, Lot No. 2, White Sulphur Springs District

James Surbaugh and Kathy Surbaugh to James W. Stepp, 40 Acres, Meadow Bluff District

for a longer lasting fix. WVDOH uses a five step process of milling out the pothole (square), brushing loose dirt out of the hole, applying a tacking material to help the asphalt bond, filling the hole with asphalt, rolling the asphalt to compact it and sealing the joints.

Asphalt plants typically open in late March or early April, but this year early opening of a plant in St. Albans means WVDOH is kicking off pothole milling and filling season at the beginning of March. Counties within an hours radius of the early-to-open plant are already seeing milled and filled pothole repairs; with long term pothole milling and filling taking place in Kanawha, Boone, Mason and Putnam counties as of the end of

See "Pothole Strategy" Page 12



### Lory Mae Dale

### BOOKKEEPING & TAX SERVICE

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Federal &

State Forms

Arbuckle Lane, Lewisburg, WV

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Office Hours: 10 AM - 6 PM

## Mountain Messenger

The Weekend Newspaper for the Greenbrier Valley

LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1985

Strengthening Community and Promoting Diversity in the Greenbrier Valley

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Our high-gloss, magazine style featuring area real estate

PUBLISHED MONTHLY •

[www.mountainmessenger.com](http://www.mountainmessenger.com)

The most extensive website dedicated to the Greenbrier Valley

### How to Contact Us:

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E-mail [ads@mountainmessenger.com](mailto:ads@mountainmessenger.com)

### Office Hours

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## Morrissey's Mobile Office plans March stop

Attorney General Patrick Morrissey announced a representative from his office will meet with central and southeastern West Virginia residents in March to discuss consumer-related issues and answer any potential questions.

"These public events are a great way for consumers to talk one-on-one with our consumer representatives," Attorney General Morrissey said. "Residents can easily get questions answered, learn what is going on in their area

and how to keep personal information safe and secure."

Justin Arvon, a consumer outreach and compliance specialist with the office, will host the event scheduled below:

- Thursday, Mar. 10: 11 a.m. to noon at Burger King, 10097 Seneca Trail, Lewisburg

For information on additional requirements specific to any location, attendees are encouraged to contact Justin Arvon at 304-590-6462.



# OPINION

## Nature's Way

By Karen Cohen

Master Gardener/Photojournalist/Artist  
Parsley, Sage, Rosemary and ...  
you know!

The following herbs are easy to grow and are staples for cooking.

Parsley is a biennial herb. That means it will come back every two years. When you plant a parsley, be sure to mark the spot with a plant ID stick so that when it disappears after one year you will know where it will pop up again in the second year. I often forget where I put it and end up planting something else in the same spot. My bad!

I grow two types: flat and curly. The flat leaf parsley is the kind used in many European dishes and considered a bit stronger in flavor. When you have a bush of it growing, the best fresh recipe to use it for is tabbouleh, a Middle Eastern side dish, easy to make, delicious, nutritious and healthy!

Combine chopped flat parsley or curly parsley with diced cucumbers, chopped tomatoes, olive oil and a splash of freshly squeezed lemon juice, salt and pepper to taste, all mixed with cooked bulgur. You can substitute couscous for the bulgar. Optional added ingredients are a few sprigs of chopped mint and chopped green scallions. Toss it all together, serve warm or cold from the fridge. As a side dish with lamb, it is refreshing and very low in calories. You can add it to chopped beef for burgers or meatloaf, too.

Extra benefit: Parsley is a great breath freshener, too, so you can eat a sprig or two after garlic or onions to remove that odor. It contains more Vitamin C than oranges!

Sage is a perennial that has downy leaves with colors ranging from gray to variegated greens. Also native to the Mediterranean region, it is used to add flavor to sausage and bread stuffing. Buy a few varieties of sage and put them into your herb garden. We cover ours in the winter freeze months with an upside down pot for protection and they make it through year after year. Sage will produce flowers which attract bees, hummingbirds and butterflies. I pick all the leaves off at the end of fall and dry them on a tray. When they are crunchy to touch, I break them up and bottle it with a few dry rice grains to absorb any moisture.

Some of my favorite recipes: a simple sage butter to top on cooked fresh peas, breaded pork schnitzels with bits of chopped sage in the breading, or a potato sage galette.

Sage sticks have been used for centuries for smudging. That's a form of burning sage as a means to cleanse a place or person with sage smoke, it goes back to the Native Americans. Health Food stores carry sage sticks and they smell wonderful! Be sure to fully extinguish the sage leaves when you are done burning it.

Rosemary is easy to grow and may or may not last through the cold freezing months. Two folks I know lost their rosemary bush this past winter, one of whom was ME! I should have, could have covered it for protection but I didn't and the whole plant turned brown and dropped its needles. It is considered perennial, especially in warm climates, and can grow into a bush or hedge even! Do not



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confuse it with its look alike, hemlock. Both are evergreen but the smell is how you determine rosemary; just pull off a few needle-like leaves, crumble in your hand and the smell will tell you it is rosemary once you are familiar with it.

Rosemary can be traced back to 5,000 BCE from the Greeks, later found in China, and eventually the European settlers grew it, traded it, the English made teas from it and perfume. Americans have used since the 17th century as a spice, an ornamental for wreaths and sachets, and to flavor roasted meats. My "to die for" recipe is easy- roast a whole chicken in the oven with at least six long sprigs of rosemary lining the pan and inside the chicken cavity, (remove the branches when the chicken is finished), add whole cloves of garlic and very thin slices of lemon to the pan. The aroma of your chicken will smell like an Italian restaurant and the finished dish is perfect served with cubed potatoes cooked in the same pan. YUM.

Next week, the 4th herb in this grouping: Thyme

*(Karen Cohen is a Master Gardener, organic grower, photojournalist and explorer. Please email your tips, recipes, and comments to [natureswaykaren@gmail.com](mailto:natureswaykaren@gmail.com))*

## Commentary

### WV Senate Bill 420 can help VFDs recruit members

By G.T. Parsons, President

WV State Firemen's Association

West Virginians are accustomed to relying on friends and neighbors during times of need. Our state's volunteer fire departments - made up of those friends and neighbors - provide a reliable safety net for communities across the state.

That safety net, however, is unraveling. Too many volunteer departments, strained financially, are running out of volunteers.

The West Virginia State Firemen's Association supports Senate Bill 420. If passed and signed by the governor, the bill would increase funding to volunteer and part-volunteer fire departments by modifying the surcharge on taxable fire insurance premiums from .55% to 1%.

Facts are facts: Several volunteer fire departments have closed their doors during the past 13 years. The consequences are troubling. Families and businesses are losing access to emergency services and fire protection. After a station closes, the nearest fire department to a home or business may be 25 miles away - not five miles away. Response times inevitably increase, and those additional minutes can mean the difference between life and death.

With volunteer recruitment and retention becoming more challenging each year, we are likely to see additional volunteer departments close. Those closures put additional stress on the remaining departments, which must expand their service areas and make certain they have adequate personnel to respond in a timely, professional manner.

Senate Bill 420 identifies a logical source of revenue - a fire insurance policy surcharge. With local fire departments closing and emergency services waning as a result, home and business owners will see increases in their fire insurance rates. Insurance companies recognize the connection between the quality and proximity of emergency service and the risk that homeowners and businesses face.

Given that reality, strengthening West Virginia's volunteer fire departments is prudent for both public safety reasons and financial reasons.

Our citizens see their local firefighters hold hot dog sales and raffles to raise money to support volunteer departments. Equipment, fuel, and training are expensive, but the most critical element of every fire department is people. We must recruit and retain volunteers who will sacrifice their time and accept the risks associated with providing critical emergency services. Their commitment makes our communities stronger.

Volunteer fire departments play a critical role in scores of West Virginia communities. Our citizens know our volunteers and trust them. Our VFDs have rich traditions in supporting the quality of life in our communities, but we cannot take them for granted.

This is not a new problem. It is a problem that has reached a critical stage. We believe the people of West Virginia have a keen interest in ensuring the success of their local VFDs. By working with the Legislature, we can address this chronic problem and allow our communities to continue to rely on local emergency services.

## The Back Pew

By Stephen Baldwin



With just over a week remaining in the legislative session, everything is moving at a fast and furious pace. I will do my best to keep you updated as the session concludes.

**DRUG CRISIS.** No one person is currently in charge of the drug crisis. Isn't that stunning? But it's true. I asked Governor Justice and President Blair to work with me in putting one person in charge of the drug crisis. Both agreed we need one leader in charge of coordinating our substance use recovery programs. We have the highest overdose rate in the state, and the drug crisis costs us \$11 billion annually. It costs nothing, as it simply elevates the head of the Office of Drug Control Policy to this new position which reports directly to the governor. The bill passed unanimously and heads to the House. I am very hopeful this laser-focus on the drug crisis will allow us to make progress.

**"ANTI-RACISM" & "ANTI-STEREOTYPING" BILL.** The Senate passed SB498, despite bipartisan opposition including my own. The bill sets parameters over what and how teachers at the elementary, middle, high, and college level can teach about historical events. They call it "anti-racism" and "anti-stereotyping." That's incredibly disingenuous. This bill is simply meant to divide us and provide campaign fodder. If they really cared about combating racism, they would pass the Crown Act. If they really cared about combating stereotypes, they would pass the Fairness Act. They refuse to do so. This bill will have the effect of stifling debate on sensitive subjects in the classroom. If we do not teach history in full, how will we ever learn from it?

**UNBORN CHILD WITH DOWN SYNDROME ACT.** SB468 provides that an abortion may not be performed if a child has down syndrome and other disabilities, except in the case of a medical emergency. I voted YES. A life is no less valuable with a different number of chromosomes. An earlier version of the bill went much further, requiring mothers to carry children to term even if life was not viable outside the womb; that would have been cruel. I worked with my colleagues to amend that out of the bill and focus it on children with disabilities.

**AMUSEMENT TAX.** The Senate passed a bill allowing counties to levy an amusement tax of up to 2% on any "recreation" activities. This would include all kinds of recreation like fairs, festivals, movies, bowling, golf, & more. I voted NO. With prices up for local residents and tourists wanting to visit our state, why would we want to tax people more?

**NEW CASINOS.** I also voted NO on a casino expansion bill. If it passes the House, it would allow existing casinos to open new satellite locations. The representatives from Charleston want to open a casino in the downtown mall, which is largely vacant today.

**JAIL BILL SELECT COMMITTEE.** As discussed in a previous column, President Blair is creating a Select Committee to study all the complexities of a very real problem facing our counties and state - the crippling costs of current incarceration rates. Our aim is to get all the stakeholders together working on a plan to reform our criminal justice and incarceration structures. It will be a heavy lift to find solutions, but I am very hopeful it can be done in the next few months.

**RUSSIAN DIVESTMENT.** We passed several bills to divest from Russia, Russian energy, and Russian liquor, for example. I proudly voted YES on all these bills. West Virginia stands with the people of Ukraine and their democracy.

**TOWN HALL.** Thank you to everyone who participated in my town hall this week! Great questions and conversation.

That's the view from the back pew, where it is my privilege to serve you. Don't hesitate to reach out in the next week as we vote on many important bills. I may not always be able to reply just due to time constraints, but your feedback is heard and appreciated. I'm here to serve you and your family!

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

## WSS City Council Continued from Front Page

the WSS PD standard operating guidelines that he hopes will help with officer retention. "The problem is that we keep losing officers to higher-paying departments," he explained. "I can't keep enough people long enough to promote them." The new guidelines raise the number of officers from six to eight with the following rank structure: Probationary Patrolman, Patrolman, Patrolman First Class, Corporal, Sergeants, Assistant Chief, and Chief of Police.

"We are down two now, so it's going to be tight. We just need to be able to hire someone into certain positions when we are short-handed. I can't keep them long enough to build up a staff. We do pay really well here, and when I say that, there are only a couple of places they could leave here and go, but they do. We need this to help fight that," said Teubert.

"If you think this will help our retention, I'm all for it," voiced Councilmember Parker.

In other news:

Jerry Bostic was approved by council as a new member on the water and sewer board.

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# OBITUARIES

## Deborah Lynn Bowyer



**Alderson-**Deborah Lynn Bowyer, 58, passed away Sunday, Feb. 27, 2022, at Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital, Roanoke, VA.

Born Mar. 15, 1962, in Lewisburg, she was the daughter of the late Harrell Richeson and Mary Sue Bostic Coffman.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by grandson, Braxton Kent Byars.

Survivors include her husband of 40 years, Steve Bowyer; son, Bruce Bowyer; daughter, Stephanie Byars (Thomas); grandchildren, Josie and Gracie Byars all of Alderson; brother, Steve Coffman (Patty) and sister, Susan Honaker (Donnie) all of Lewisburg; and several nieces and nephews.

It was Debbie's wish to be cremated. There will be no service.

Online guestbook may be signed at [www.morganfh.net](http://www.morganfh.net)

Arrangements by Morgan Funeral Home, Lewisburg, WV.

Pastor Hat Defibaugh officiating. There will be no visitation.

Online guestbook can be signed at [www.morganfh.net](http://www.morganfh.net)

Arrangements by Morgan Funeral Home, Lewisburg, WV.

## Marvin Robert Zimmerman, Jr.



**Lewisburg-**Marvin Robert "Sonny" Zimmerman Jr., 81, passed away Sunday, Feb. 27, 2022, at Greenbrier Valley Medical Center.

Sonny was born Sept. 14, 1940, at Ronceverte to the late Marvin Robert Zimmerman, Sr. and Mildred Anderson Zimmerman.

Sonny was a retired street supervisor in Ronceverte with 46 years of service and was of the Baptist Faith.

Other than his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Brenda Lucille Woodrum Zimmerman; son, Marvin Robert Zimmerman, III; companion, Arlene Bradley; and sister, Peggy White.

Survivors include daughters, Robin Wilson (Joey Wriston) of Asbury and Renee Piercy and husband Mark of Sam Black; grandchildren, Robert "BJ" Wilson and wife Ashley, Justin Brooks (Jessica Nuzzo), Jacob Wilson (Alexis Sheppard), Abby Wilson and Robbee Zimmerman; great-grandchildren, Jaxx Wilson and Raelynn Brooks; sister, Elvina DeWitt of Caldwell; and brother, Jack Zimmerman of Lewisburg.

Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. on Friday, Mar. 4, at the Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg with Pastors Mike Teubert, Andrew Bailes, Lewis Books and Kenny Baker. Burial will follow in Greenbrier Memorial Gardens.

Friends called Thursday evening, Mar. 3, at the funeral home.

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

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

## Sandra Fay Rochon Reid



Sandra Fay Rochon Reid, 79, left her earthly body and went to be with Jesus on Friday, Feb. 25, 2022.

She was born in Ann Arbor, MI, on Mar. 3, 1942, but grew up in Petersburg and Richmond, VA.

She graduated from

Madison College, now James Madison University, with a B.A. degree in Education with a mathematics specialty and later obtained a Master's degree. Sandra taught for over 30 years in the public school system of Lexington, VA, Nelson County, VA, and Greenbrier County, WV. She adored her husband, was devoted to her children, grandchildren, and great-granddaughter. Above all, Sandra was a Christian. She loved her church family and working in the youth programs. She was a committed member of her Bible study group for over 25 years.

Sandra was the daughter of the late Mary Elizabeth Thacker Rochon and Edgar Hugo Rochon.

She is survived by her husband, Gerald "Jerry" Foster Reid, Sr.; her children, Gerald "Jay" Reid, Jr. (Martha), Charles Reid (Laura), and Russell Reid (Allison); her grandchildren, McGuire, Noah, Nathan, Andrew, Makayla, Avery, and Zachery; great-granddaughter, Harper Faye; nieces and nephews; and her brother, John Rochon (Deborah).

A Celebration of Life service will be held at First Baptist Church of Fairlea in Fairlea on Friday, Mar. 4, at 7 p.m. Visitation will be the two hours prior to the service.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial donations be made to Samaritan's Purse or your favorite Christian charity.

The online guestbook can be signed at [www.morganfh.net](http://www.morganfh.net)

Arrangements by Morgan Funeral Home, Lewisburg, WV.

## Edward Ray Bengé

**Second Creek-**Edward Ray Bengé, 70, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2022, at his home.

Born Aug. 2, 1951, at Charlotte, NC, Edward was the son of the late Raymond and Irene Bengé.

Edward was a retired painter and a U.S. Army Veteran.

Surviving include his wife, Rebecca Ann Reed Bengé; sons, Dustin Bengé and companion Waser of Florida; grandchildren, Alex, Lucy, Daniel and Dillon; sister, Barbara Shaw and husband Denise of North Carolina; brother, Roger Bengé of Caldwell; stepson, Sam Myers and wife Wanda of Lewisburg.

Per Edward's wishes, he will be cremated and there will be no service.

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

## Susie Irwin McWilliams

Sept. 8, 1933 - Feb. 24, 2022



Susie was born in Buffalo, NY, as Suzanne McLean Irwin on Sept. 8, 1933, to Dorothy McLean

Irwin and Dr. Robert James Armstrong Irwin, Jr.

She was predeceased by her husband, James Clifford McWilliams; her parents; and brothers, Robert J. A. Irwin (III), and William C. Irwin.

Susie is survived by her sister, Virginia Irwin Jenks (Airell), and children Douglas Irwin Garver, Robin Garver Cort (Stephen Cort), Theodore Meyer Garver (Caroline L. Stuart), John Irwin Garver (Jacquie Smith), Benjamin Geiger Garver, stepchildren Buck, Tim (deceased) and Peggy McWilliams as well as grandchildren, Rachel, Becky, Benjamin, Samantha, Preston, Maxwell and Noah. Susie has 13 great-grandchildren.

Susie grew up in Buffalo, New York, where she attended and graduated from Buffalo Seminary (1951) before attending Colby Junior College. Susie studied art at the Albright Art School in Buffalo, the Cleveland Institute of Arts and as an enameling student of Thelma Winter and William C. Grauer, both of Cleveland, Ohio. Susie was married to Theodore M. Garver of Buffalo, NY between 1953 and 1976 (23 years) during which she gave birth to and lovingly raised five children named above. During her years of motherhood and raising a family Susie continued to develop her interests in art (painting, enamel) as well as sewing, gardening, sports (skiing, jogging, walking), and home and furniture remodeling. During this time Susie volunteered her time as an artist and crafts teacher at the Juvenile Detention Home in Cleveland, the Highland View Hospital (long term care), and the Margaret Wagner House (seniors).

Susie married James C. McWilliams on Aug. 2, 1980 to begin a marriage that lasted 35 years until Jim's death (Aug. 12, 2015). Susie and Jim enjoyed life in Cleveland Heights and Chagrin Falls, Ohio, while spending winters in their winter residence in Sarasota, Florida. During this time Susie was active in the arts community and she creatively expressed herself with her painting and other crafts interests including quilt-making, beading and jewelry making. She painted in watercolor, acrylic, oil, egg tempera as well as drawing in pencil and charcoal. She also enjoyed reading fiction. Susie volunteered at the Windsor Hospital and as a Stephen Ministry at the Federated Church in Chagrin Falls.

Susie will be remembered as a compassionate and creative mother and friend.

Susie's life revolved around art, her children and family, her friends, nature, church and her compassionate contributions to the community. Susie's volunteer contributions highlight her belief in the light and redeeming power of the human spirit among all people including those with old age, infirmities, poverty or legal problems. Susie cultivated numerous friendship circles throughout the different stages of her life, although in her later years she was not able to maintain her friendships as she had in the past. As a mother and grandmother, Susie has provided love, comfort, wisdom and direction to her children and grandchildren while giving them an appreciation for art, nature, and compas-

sion for other people. Susie chose to share her sense of beauty through her art and crafts. As an artist the simple beauty of nature was most often the inspiration for Susie's art with landscapes, floral, and water scenes as favorite subjects. Susie's many art works and crafts remain, with her heart and vision, with family and friends.

Per her wishes, she will be cremated and a service celebrating her life is being planned for a future date to be determined.

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

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

## Thomas Lucas



**Ronceverte-**Thomas "Bernie" Lucas, 82, passed away Monday, Feb. 28, 2022, at Greenbrier Valley Medical Center.

Born July 29, 1939, at Hollywood, WV, he is a son of the late Thomas and Florence Hoke Lucas.

Bernie was a retired sawyer with B.A. Mullican Lumber Company with 45 years of service, was of the Pentecostal faith, and was a farmer.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a son, Thomas Houston Lucas and several brothers and sisters.

He is survived by his wife, Drema V. Lucas; daughter, Betty Wilson (Ronnie) of Union; son, Jimmy Lucas (Maureen) of Organ Cave; grandchildren, Missy McMillion (J.D.), Tommy Lee Lucas and Ciera Jackson; great-grandchildren, Cody Lucas, Maddie McMillion, Tripp McMillion and Ashen Jackson; sisters, Kate Miller of Rock Camp and Beulah South of Union; brother, Arnold Lucas; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Mar. 5, at Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Ronceverte, with Pastors Jesse Hunt and Charles Weikel officiating. Burial will follow in Bethel Pentecostal Holiness Church Cemetery, Organ Cave.

Family and friends will be received from 12 noon until 2 p.m. Saturday at the funeral home.

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

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

## Sharley L. Stover

**Lewisburg-**Sharley L. "Sissy" Stover, 84, passed away Saturday, Feb. 26, 2022, at the Peyton Hospice House in Fairlea after a long illness.

Sissy was born Oct. 12, 1937, at Blue Pennant, WV, the daughter of the late Charley and Louise Maye.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Kenneth Stover; son, Danny Stover; and sister, Wilma Leah Koller of Bay St. Louis, Mississippi.

Sissy was a homemaker and had previously worked

at Leggett's Department Store and Pioneer Drug Store. She had also volunteered at Greenbrier Valley Medical Center. She loved reading, working puzzles and working in her yard. Most importantly, she loved her family, her country, our military and her God.

She is survived by her sons, Kenny Stover and wife Terry of Cool Ridge, and Tim Stover and wife Tina of Lewisburg; daughter-in-law, Mary Stover of Bluefield, WV; grandchildren, Caitlin Sykes and husband Tommy of Lewisburg, Jacob Stover and wife Morgan of Beckley, Jeremy Stover of Bluefield and Josh Stover of Charleston; great-grandchildren, Harlan David Stover and Addyson Caroline Sykes; and sister, Nancy Banks of Baton Rouge, LA.

In keeping with her wishes, her remains will be cremated. A graveside service was held Thursday, Mar. 3, at Greenbrier Memorial Gardens in Lewisburg where Pastor Stewart Farley officiated.

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

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

## Janet Faudree Boone



**Ronceverte-**Janet Faudree Boone, 65, passed away Tuesday, Mar. 1, 2022, at Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital, Roanoke, VA.

Born May 19, 1956, in Arlington, VA, she was the daughter of the late Ralph A. and Phyllis Faudree.

Janet was retired from ABB and was a graduate of Dabney Lancaster Community College. She enjoyed football, auto racing, reading, flower gardening, boating, camping, water skiing and bowling.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her maternal grandparents, Ellen Howard Davis (Perry) and Carl Lewis, and paternal grandparents, Spurgeon, and Ruth Huffman Faudree.

Survivors include her sons, James "Jimmy" David Boone (Kara) and Christopher Scott Boone (Misty); grandchildren, Kaitlyn Boone, Jamie Boone (Abigail), Austin Boone (Tori), Bailey Brown, Jensen Brown, Juddson and Riley Boone, Mackenzie Fries (Ethan) and Linsey Boone; great-grandson, Asher McCoy; siblings, Pam Davis (Jim), Renee Eppling (Barry), and Rhonda McClure; nieces, Rachel Lipps (David), Allyson Eppling, Sarah McClure and Grace McClure; aunts, Debbie Crislip (Oscar), Wanda Whitlock, and Irene McMann; uncle, Bobby Lewis; special friend and cousin, Doreen McMann Clements and many cousins.

Visitation will be 6 to 8 p.m., Monday, Mar. 7, at the Morgan Funeral Home Chapel, 252 Montvue Drive, Lewisburg, followed by a eulogy at 8 p.m.

Online guestbook may be signed at [www.morganfh.net](http://www.morganfh.net)

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# CLUB & CHURCH

## Bicycle Club to hold annual meeting

The Greenbrier Valley Bicycle Club will hold its annual spring meeting on Sunday, Mar. 13 at 4 p.m. in the spacious meeting room at Big Draft Brewing, located at 697 Main Street East, White Sulphur Springs. Community members interested in joining the club are welcome to attend. Membership forms will be available at the meeting. If you are interested in joining but are unable to attend the meeting, feel free to contact Liz Wickline, GVBC President, at 304-646-8287 or visit our club website [www.gvbikeclub.com](http://www.gvbikeclub.com) to download a membership form. We hope to see some new faces!

## WVU Greenbrier County Extension seeks AmeriCorp members for Energy Express summer program

Energy Express, West Virginia University Extension's award-winning literacy program, is returning this summer to bring reading and nutrition education to children across West Virginia. The program is currently seeking individuals to serve as community coordinators and mentors for sites in Greenbrier County. Our sites will be located at Alderson, Frankford, Rainelle, and White Sulphur Springs.

AmeriCorps members are needed to serve as community coordinators and caring mentors for children in the program. Members will serve for six weeks during the summer, from June 20 to July 29 for the Energy Express program, plus additional time for training and set up before the program begins. Training will be on June 9 and 10 in Morgantown, and the week of June 13 to 17 will give members and volunteers time to set up, plan and meet children before the program begins.

It takes a community to make Energy Express a beneficial part of children's summers. Youths, AmeriCorps members and other volunteers work together with site supervisors to create a meaningful experience for children entering first through sixth grade - particularly in rural and low-income communities.

Along with providing a rewarding personal experience, AmeriCorps members earn an education award, living allowance and service hours. College students who serve as mentors are eligible to receive a \$1,374.60 educational award, \$2,350 living allowance and 300 service hours.

Mentors who participate in Energy Express also gain leadership skills and personal growth, as well as create meaningful relationships within your community.

To be eligible to serve as an AmeriCorps volunteer, you must be at least 18 years old before June 9, 2022. Applications are available now and will stay open until all positions are filled. Contact the Greenbrier County Extension office at 304-647-7408 for any further information or questions.

Interested applicants can sign up online. For more information, visit [energyexpress.wvu.edu](http://energyexpress.wvu.edu)

If you want to learn about WVU Extension, visit [extension.wvu.edu](http://extension.wvu.edu) or follow @WVUExtension on Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and Instagram.

## Blood Drive in Alderson

The Johnson Memorial Methodist Church in Alderson, Pastor Jeffrey Kanode, will host an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday, Apr. 5, from 1 to 6 p.m. in the basement of the church located at 507 Monroe Avenue in Alderson. This blood drive is a great humanitarian effort to help

meet the total demand for blood and blood products in the Appalachian Region of West Virginia and Virginia. Every two seconds, someone in the United States needs a blood transfusion.

Your support of the American Red Cross doesn't ONLY matter when

there's a major disaster, IT MATTERS EVERY TWO SECONDS OF EVERY SINGLE DAY.

Our goal is 18 units. Please come and bring a friend and donate the gift of life. Appointments are accepted by calling 1-800-REDCROSS, or sign up online at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

## Girl Scouts meet in February

February happenings for Girl Scout Troop 37400 consisted of time capsule building, some instructional drawing projects, learning about places to visit in London and Paris, and community service. The girls made a diaper cake that will go to the first born girl next week during Girl Scout week. They also

made two travel bags for kids in their council to auction off at their annual meeting to support girls that need help financially to be in the Scout organization. The girls also collected food and books for the blessing box and little free library that members Maddie and Quinn Sears made and placed at their

council's headquarters in Charleston a couple years back. In addition to sharing what the troop has been up to, the troop would like to make cookie customers aware that a delay in shipping of cookies has occurred. The girls will deliver them to you as soon as they can, and they thank you for your support and patience.

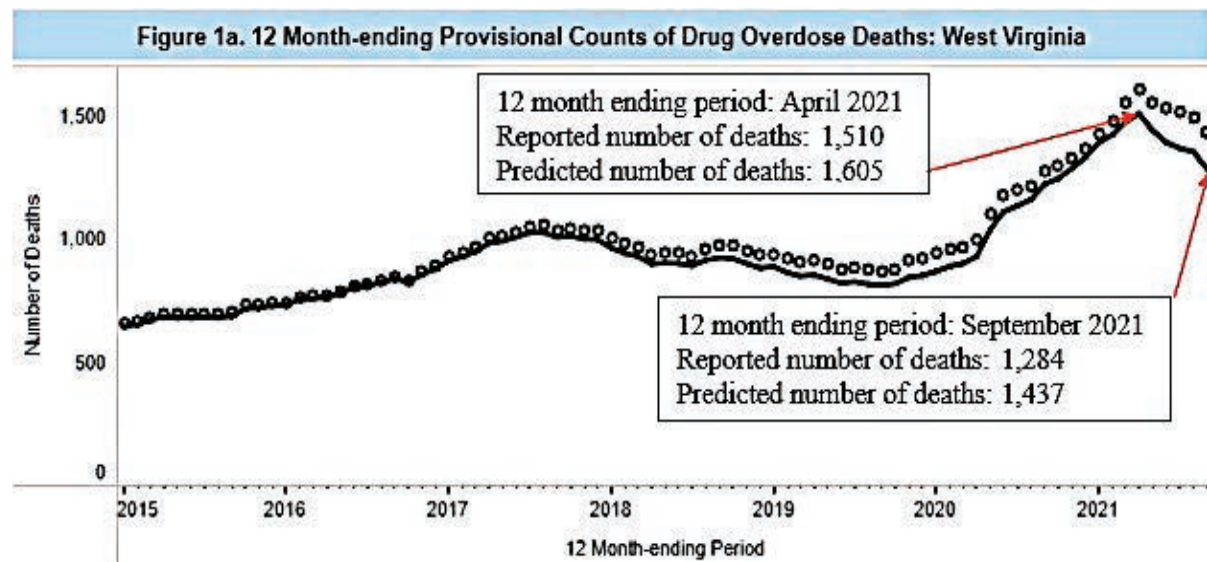


Girl Scout Troop members are pictured with the travel bags and time capsules they made during their meeting on Feb. 7. Front Row: Amaris Gutjahr (left), Alea Harper, Alexandra Desmond, Iris Huffman, and Ember Huffman; Back Row: Abigail Gutjahr (left), Emmalee Perkins, Tonya Martin, Quinn Sears, Maddie Sears, Jessalyn Desmond, and Luna Huffman.



The Girl Scouts with the diaper cake they made, along with books and food they collected. Pictured: Luna Huffman (left), Abigail Gutjahr, Emmalee Perkins, Amaris Gutjahr, Alea Harper, Tonya Martin, Quinn Sears, Jessalyn Desmond, and Iris Huffman.

## Data shows WV overdose deaths trending downward



**By Adam Pack**  
According to data collected by the CDC, overdose deaths in West Virginia are not only below projections for the period of April 2021-September 2021, but are falling at a very encouraging rate.

Dr. Matthew Christiansen, director of the Department of Health and Human Resource's Office of Drug Control Policy (OCDP), said that drug overdose deaths increased

across the nation in virtually every state as COVID-19 policies made individuals "isolated and unable to connect with others." Christiansen went on to say that the trend of descending statistics on death "is a testament to the leadership of Governor Jim Justice and the hard work and collaboration across DHHR bureaus to provide and expand innovative, high quality, evidence-based addiction and mental care to residents."

According to the CDC, the provisional drug overdose death count for the 12 month-ending period ending in July 2021 for Greenbrier County is 22. This 12 month-ending period is defined as the number of deaths occurring in the 12 month period ending in the month indicated, for example, the 12 month-ending period in July 2020 would include deaths occurring from August 1, 2019 through July 31, 2020.

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## A Look Back



Photo courtesy of Greenbrier Historical Society.

### By William "Skip" Deegans

This undated photo shows Lewisburg's McElhenney Lodge on Church Street when it was part of The Greenbrier College for Women. The front brick portion of the building may date to the 1840s although missing county records make it hard to pinpoint its age. It was occupied by Elizabeth Kincaid in the 1850s and may have been an inn or boarding house. Kincaid was the first woman in Lewisburg to receive a license for a House of Private Entertainment (referring to an inn, boarding house, or ordinary).

In 1944, Dr. French Thompson, President of The Greenbrier College for Women, bought the property from John and Sarah Young. Sometime between when he purchased it

and 1947, he likely added the east addition and dubbed the building McElhenney Lodge honoring Greenbrier County educator Dr. John McElhenney. In January 1947, the first twelve students moved into the addition and became known as "lodge girls." After renting the building from Dr. Thompson, the college elected to purchase it in 1953 for \$48,000.

Under the presidency of Dr. Ralph Murray in 1953, the college built a recreation room on the ground floor of the east addition. The students named the room the Idle-Inn. Dr. Murray dedicated the room by presenting the key to Vicky Miller, student body president, just before she broke the "traditional" bottle of Seven-Up soda on the doorstep.

The room had pine paneling, easy chairs, a fireplace, ping-pong table, and a jukebox. It became a popular hangout for college students and Greenbrier Military School cadets.

The north wing, with more dormitory rooms, was constructed in 1960-61 along with a complete renovation of the rest of the building. In 1962, the building had 27 rooms for students and faculty. McElhenney Lodge continued to serve the college until 1972 when the college closed. The college buildings, including McElhenney Lodge, were bought by the State of West Virginia for \$415,000 to house a mental health facility. McElhenney Lodge was then used for offices for a number of years.

Sources: *Brier Bits* (Greenbrier College newspaper), *Greenbrier College catalogues*, *Greenbrier College minutes*, *The People of the Old Stone Cemetery* by Morgan Donnelly Bunn.

# SCHOOL

## Pre-K registration dates upcoming

Greenbrier County Schools (GCS) announces pre-school enrollment dates as follows for children who will be four years old before July 1, 2022:

- Apr. 4 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Greenbrier County Board Office located at 197 Chestnut Street, Lewisburg
- Apr. 8 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Western Greenbrier Middle School in Crawley

Families must complete the online registration form before enrollment. The form and details on what to bring can be found under the enrollment section at [www.greenbriercountyschools.org](http://www.greenbriercountyschools.org)

Please direct PreK enrollment questions to Jessica Pyne at [jpyne@k12.wv.us](mailto:jpyne@k12.wv.us) for White Sulphur Springs, Lewisburg, Ronceverte, Frankford, and Greenbrier East locations. Please contact Sheri Adwell at [atsdbaker@k12.wv.us](mailto:atsdbaker@k12.wv.us) for Alderson, Rupert, Smoot, Rainelle and Crichton locations.

## Masks optional for GCS students and staff

The COVID-19 positivity rate in Greenbrier County and in our schools is trending downward after increasing during the winter holidays. In response, Greenbrier County Schools (GCS) has modified its mask protocol from mandatory to optional. Effective at the end of the school day on Friday, February 25, mask usage in GCS buildings and buses will be optional for students and staff.

GCS will continue to:

- Provide masks to students, staff, and visitors who need them.
- Notify elementary school parents of classroom exposure. Middle & High refer to the WV Department of Education COVID Dashboard for Schools to find positivity rates for individual schools.
- Promote good hygiene by having adequate supplies of hand sanitizer, hand soap, and paper towels available.
- Follow the current 5-day isolation protocol for positive individuals, masking on days 6-10 upon return to class.
- Consult with the Greenbrier County Health Department and public health officials regarding special cases and concerning trends in classrooms or schools.
- Monitor trends in our schools and community and make additional adjustments to the protocol as determined necessary to protect the health of students and staff.
- Report positive cases to the WV Department of Education COVID Dashboard for Schools. This data is available to keep parents and staff informed about current conditions in their school(s). Students and staff who test positive should report positive test results to the school nurse.

If the positivity rate for an individual school exceeds 10%, masking will be strongly recommended for students, staff, and visitors at that school. It is more important than ever for students and staff to monitor symptoms daily and stay home if experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.

## NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS



Join us in welcoming Dr. Lori Gledhill to Greenbrier Valley Medical Group

**Dr. Lori Gledhill, M.D.**  
**Family Medicine**

Dr. Lori Gledhill is a board-certified family medicine physician. She graduated from the American University of The Caribbean School of Medicine in St. Maarten, Netherlands, Antilles. She completed her Family Medicine residency at Northeast Alabama Regional Medical Center and her pediatrics residency at Marshfield Clinic - St. Joseph's Children's Hospital.

Welcome Dr. Gledhill!

For appointments call 304-645-3207

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- Mental Health and Addiction Medicine
- Common Diseases, Rehabilitation and Exercise (hypertension, atherosclerosis and stroke rehabilitation)

### TO REGISTER:

Contact Georgette Morton  
304.647.6422  
[gmorton@osteo.wvsom.edu](mailto:gmorton@osteo.wvsom.edu)  
Registration deadline is March 8.



Mini-Med School is free for 40 participants on a first-come basis. A take-home meal will be provided in accordance with COVID-19 restrictions.

400 Lee Street North • Lewisburg, WV 24901

## Justice for All is American. Censorship is not. We CAN handle the Truth.

In West Virginia and elsewhere, numerous attempts are under way to ban discussion of some of our nation's less comfortable history, especially as it relates to race and gender, from classrooms and workplaces.



Gagging teachers and forbidding honest conversations are not only unwise but impossible in an age where any student can — and does — find information on the Internet faster than parents. This creates an unwelcoming environment that won't entice new businesses or keep our young people here. Children are already forming groups to read and learn about the subjects that target these bans.

Join the more than 330 voters, businesses, organizations, and faith groups spread across 28 counties and growing, which have come together to tell legislators that Mountaineers won't hide from the truth. Contact information can be found at [www.legislature.gov](http://www.legislature.gov). For more information go to <https://bit.ly/WVCoalitionForTruthInHistory> or email [wvtruthinhistory@gmail.com](mailto:wvtruthinhistory@gmail.com).



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**WANT TO BUY:** Automotive parts for 1949 and 1950 Chevrolet, 4 door fleetline fastback. Call 540-395-2083.

## NOTICE

**NOTICE:** Beginning Beekeeper Class. Have you ever wondered what it was like to be a beekeeper? Now you can! The South Eastern Beekeepers Association is offering a 6 week beginner beekeeping course. The class will be held on Tuesdays from 6-8 pm beginning March 1st, 2022 at the New River Community and Technical College. There will be a \$25 fee for the 6 week course. If you have any questions please contact Carie Ortman at 304-992-1052 or Rick Forren at 304-539-1303.

## MOVING SALE

**MOVING SALE:** 468 Church Street. Parking in the rear at Church lot on Court Street. Friday, March 4, 8 AM - 1 PM and Saturday, March 5, 8 AM - 1 PM.

## FOR SALE

**FOR SALE:** 21 cubic feet Whirlpool refrigerator - Model # WRT511SZDM. Stainless steel H 66 1/4 W 32 3/4 D 34. Retail price \$772.74. Only used 9 months. Sell \$195.00. 304-661-1597.



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## HELP WANTED

The White Sulphur Springs Police Department is currently accepting applications for a **Patrolman**.

To obtain an application, applicants may call 304-536-1466 (extension 1), Monday - Friday from 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM or may pick up an application at 585 Main Street, West, White Sulphur Springs, WV 24986.

Applicants, also, may submit an application online at <https://goo.gl/7PcKFu> or by visiting the department's Facebook page. **Applications must be submitted by 4:00 PM on March 18, 2022.**

All applicants are required to have a high school diploma or equivalent, a valid driver's license and pass a background investigation, and a physical agility test. Prior to being hired, applicants will be required to pass a drug and alcohol test and a physical examination. Applicants may also be required to pass a polygraph test and a psychological evaluation.

Certified officers will be given priority.

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# Dear Recycle Lady,



**Dear Recycle Lady,**  
Last week you implied that a waxed paper baggie was better than a plastic baggie. Is waxed paper really better than plastic? I always thought waxed items could not be recycled.

**Dear Confused,**

You are correct when you say that waxed items cannot be recycled. Conventional wax paper is not recyclable because it is coated with paraffin, a petroleum-based product that makes it moisture resistant and provides a non-stick surface. Although these waxed papers can't be recycled, they can be disposed of environmentally as they decompose in approximately two to six weeks. Plastic baggies take 10 to 20 years, at a minimum, to decompose. There are some wax papers available now that are coated with a vegetable or organic soybean wax, as well as beeswax fabrics that can be reused after they are cleaned using cold water and soap. These baggies take only two to six weeks to decompose.

According to [www.treehugger.com](http://www.treehugger.com), there are several uses for waxed paper that you may find helpful. Rubbing garden shears with wax paper

helps protect them from rust and adds a little lubrication. Wax paper also helps to unstick a stuck zipper. Just rub a small piece over the zipper to coat it with a thin layer of wax. This should help getting it unstuck. A DIY fire starter can be made by wrapping some dryer lint in a piece of used wax paper. Used or cleaned wax paper can also be used to make a water-resistant paper boat for a kids' activities.

**Dear Recycle Lady,**  
I purchased some frozen vegetables that were sealed in plastic inside a cardboard box. The box was totally clean and dry when I removed the packet of vegetables. Is this box recyclable with cardboard?

**Dear Recycler,**

The fact that the contents of your box were encased in plastic makes the box recyclable with cardboard. There are food boxes in which the contents are not contained in a pouch or wrapped in plastic. These boxes are not recyclable, as they have been coated with a thin layer of plastic to protect them from moisture and condensation. Check the back or side your box for the How2Recycle symbol on recycling.

**Dear Recycle Lady,**  
This morning I opened a piece of junk mail to remove any slicks and found the envelope contained a

letter with a membership card glued on it. Must the glue be removed before recycling the paper?

**Dear Want to Remove Contaminants,**

It is not unusual for letters to come with a membership card, or other information, glued on the paper. As with any item glued to a recyclable item, the glue must be removed before recycling to prevent contamination. It is not necessary to remove the glue on the envelope.

**Good News:** Every year, Americans generate about 42 million tons of single-use plastic - and only 9% of that gets recycled! The company By-Fusion has created technology to shape all kinds of plastics, even nonrecyclables, into standard building blocks that can be used to build anything from fences and retaining walls to public terraces and bus stops. (Free the Ocean.com)

Have questions about recycling, or interesting information about recycling? Send questions or requests to [recycle-lady@greenbrier-swa.com](mailto:recycle-lady@greenbrier-swa.com). Dear Recycle Lady is sponsored jointly by the Greenbrier Recycling Center and Greenworks Recycling.



[NEWS@MOUNTAINMESSENGER.COM](mailto:NEWS@MOUNTAINMESSENGER.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 289, 322, and 327. The auction will end on 03/17/2022 at 12 noon. All these items of personal property are being auctioned online through [lockerfox.com](http://lockerfox.com). These auctions will run until March 17, 2022. 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/)

**LEGAL**

(Cert. No. 132200 Brandon Burgess)  
To: THE HEIRS OF BARBARA FORTE JOHNSON, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.  
**DISTRICT BLUE SULPHUR MAP NOMP PARCEL 0113 00000000**  
You will take notice that Brandon Burgess, the purchaser of the following real estate, Certification No. 132200, located in BLUE SULPHUR District, 80 P HILL (2018) 80 POLES FROM FINLEY (2019), which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of FINLEY RUTH E JOHNSON BARBARA FORTE, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of Greenbrier County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on 12/09/2021. Robert L. or Georgene Deitz requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after 4/14/2022, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before 4/14/2022 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to 4/14/2022.	\$ 234.07
Amount of taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to 4/14/2022.	\$ 0.00
Amount paid for Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest to 4/14/2022.	\$ 463.18
Additional statutory Fees with Interest to 4/14/2022.	\$ 0.00
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check must be made payable to the <b>The Honorable Bruce Sloan, Sheriff and of Greenbrier County.</b>	\$ 697.25

You may redeem at any time before 4/14/2022, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.  
Given under my hand 2/15/2022.  
**G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.**  
G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.  
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of Greenbrier County, State of West Virginia  
**Please return this letter and payment to the**  
**West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections Division**  
**1900 Kanawha Boulevard East**  
**Building 1, Room W-118**  
**Charleston, West Virginia 25305**  
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 option 2

**LEGAL**

(2020-S-00000075 - Greenbrier County - WVTLI LLC)  
To: DREAMA M TROUT, DREAMA M TROUT C/O ANTHONY TROUT, HOUSTON TROUT, HOUSTON TROUT C/O ANTHONY TROUT, JAMES F HARRIS TRUSTEE, DAN O'CALLAGHAN TRUSTEE, CHERRY RIVER NATIONAL BANK, OCCUPANT, IRS, ATTN: TECHNICAL SERVICES ADVISORY GROUP MAANGER, WV STATE TAX DEPARTMENT, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.  
**DISTRICT MEADOW BLUFF MAP 32A PARCEL 0018 0000**  
You will take notice that WVTLI LLC, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2020-S-00000075, CONS LTS 56 & 55 OR .68 AC MARFRANCE (TROUT) CONS, located in MEADOW BLUFF, which was returned delinquent in the name of TROUT DREAMA M (SURV), and for which the tax lien(s) thereon was sold by the sheriff of Greenbrier County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on the 18th day of November, 2020, has requested that you be notified that a deed for such real estate will be made to him or her on or after April 1, 2022, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount you will have to pay on the last day, March 31, 2022, will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to March 31, 2022.	\$ 324.95
Amount of subsequent years' taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to March 31, 2022.	\$ 213.44
Amount paid for the Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2021, following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.	\$ 1,214.72
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to March 31, 2022.	\$ 388.17
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to the <b>The Honorable Bruce Sloan, Sheriff and Treasurer of Greenbrier County.</b>	\$ 2,141.28
Cost of Certification of Redemption - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to the <b>The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.</b>	\$ 35.00

**You may redeem at any time before March 31, 2022, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.**  
**Return this letter and both certified funds to the**  
**WV State Auditor's Office,**  
**County Collections Division**  
**1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Building 1, Room W-114**  
**Charleston, West Virginia 25305**  
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 option 2

# Parks Legislation

park lands and trails. Opposition delegates said that they very much felt that allowing private investment in parks could be a positive development, but that certain protections had to be put in place. They argued that the importance of protecting state parks and lands was paramount to them and they didn't want to see those community assets lost. Members also claimed that while they trusted the current leadership of the state's Tourism Department and Division of Natural Resources not to make contracts to build such facilities or do lasting damage to parks or trails, they could not be confident of those who will occupy those offices in the future. Delegates in opposition also agreed on the time scale of the investments allowed in the bill. They claimed that 50-year contracts were unnecessary and would hold parts of public parks in the hands of private investors for too long.

Delegates who were in support of the bill argued that certain state parks have already been using a system of private contractual agreements for the construction of facilities for some time, and no such inappropriate buildings had been built to date. On the contrary, supporters claimed, those parks have benefited from the "economic empowerment" of an infusion of private capital through investment. Delegates cited the recent contract between Pipestem State Park and ACE Adventures and the success it has had. Further to that point, delegates argued that passing this legislation would increase the viability, accessibility, and affordability of the parks as they will be more profitable and require less taxpayer money to maintain. As to the fears of ORVs/ATVs and casinos, delegates in support said that in the first place, the construction of a casino anywhere in West Virginia is subject to great deal of competition, a roll call vote in the state's legislature, and would then require the governor's signature. Secondly, as the state parks fall under the Parks and Recreation Department of the DNR, any buildings on state parks would be subject to the codes dealing with the scope of Parks and Recreation, the language of which precludes any notion of ATVs, ORVs, Casinos, Amusement Parks, or any such irrelevant building and activities.

Local Delegates Todd Longanacre and Mike Honaker both voted in favor of the bill, which passed the house by a vote of

77-20. House Bill 4408 now moves to the Senate, where it will go through the same process again.

Other bills of importance to local trail goers are Senate Bill 563 and House Bill 4582.

Senate Bill 563 will empower the director of the DNR to designate portions of public lands under the jurisdiction of the DNR as suitable for "dispersed camping." Dispersed camping is defined by the bill as campers camping in "small parties, at undeveloped sites without tent pads, water lines, or waste facilities who must adhere to 'leave-no-trace' policies." This bill would provide that the DNR Director could declare a portion of DNR property to be fit for dispersed camping then issuing stamps to existing hunting or fishing licenses, similar to trout stamps. These stamps would last for 12 months.

House Bill 4582 is a bill to clarify current West Virginia Code as it pertains to "E-Bikes," bicycles which have an electric motor, and their use at state parks and trails. As of now, bikes which can propel themselves exclusively by electricity are entirely banned from state parks and state park trails. This would mean that Class 1 and 3 E-Bikes are allowed on trails, but Class 2 E-Bikes are not. Class 2 E-Bikes are capable of either assisting the rider with electric pedal assist or of propelling with an electric motor without pedal assist. Both Class 1 and Class 2 E-Bikes cease any electric motor function at 20mph. Class 3 E-Bikes do so at 28mph, but only run the motor when pedal-assisted by the rider. Currently the Greenbrier River Trail allows the use of Class 1 E-bikes on the trail and does not permit Class 2 and 3 E-Bikes. If HB 4582 were to pass and be signed into law, Class 1 and 2 E-Bikes would be allowed on state parks and trails, including The Greenbrier River Trail, but Class 3 E-Bikes would continue to not be permitted.

In reference to these bills, Senator Stephen Baldwin said in a March 3 Town Hall meeting that they are "significantly concerning." He further specified his dissatisfaction with this spate of bills as pertains to trails, saying "our trails are very important to the people of this state, especially to our area. It's good to have trails for ATV and vehicles; it's good to have trails for horses; it's good to have trails for walking. We need to also be very clear about which is which."

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The West Virginia Press Association Foundation is accepting student applications for 2022 Summer Internships and 2022 Scholarships

If awarded, the WVP AF provides paid and unpaid internships at West Virginia newspapers and college scholarships up to \$4,000. Programs are open to journalism majors and students in related fields such as business management, human resources, advertising, social media and marketing, with preference given to students in at least their sophomore year of college.

Application deadline is March 31, 2022.

Applications may be downloaded from [wvpress.org](http://wvpress.org)

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

Newspapers with a candidate for an internship or interested in having an intern should contact Don Smith.







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# STEPPIN' OUT

## The Steel Wheels to perform at Carnegie March 26

Tickets for the mainstage performance start at \$25 and discounts are available for Carnegie Hall members, students, senior citizens, and military. To purchase tickets, call Carnegie Hall Box Office at 304-645-7917, visit [www.carnegiehallwv.org](http://www.carnegiehallwv.org), or stop by at 611 Church Street, Lewisburg. Carnegie Hall Box Office is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

For more information on The Steel Wheels visit [www.thesteelwheels.com](http://www.thesteelwheels.com).



The Steel Wheels return to Carnegie Hall on Saturday, Mar. 26, at 7:30 p.m. as the Mainstage Performance Series continues in the Hamilton Auditorium. The band last played to a sold-out Hamilton Auditorium on Apr. 7, 2017.

The Steel Wheels have long been at home in the creative space between tradition and innovation, informed by the familiar sounds of the Virginia mountains where the band was formed, but always moving forward with insightful lyrics and an evolving sound. In 2005, Jay Lapp (vocals, guitars, mandolin) and Eric Brubaker (vocals, fiddle) joined lead singer Trent Wagler (guitar, banjo) in forming the band as a vehicle for Wagler's songwriting. They released several albums under Wagler's moniker, before of-

officially adopting the The Steel Wheels name with the 2010 release of Red Wing. Quickly staking their claim as independent upstarts in the burgeoning Americana scene, The Steel Wheels followed up this release with three more self-produced albums in the next five years, before joining forces with producer Sam Kassirer for Wild As We Came Here (2017) and Over The Trees (2019). Kevin Garcia (drums, percussion, keys) joined in 2017, bringing a new level of sonic depth and polish to the outfit. Having gained the experience of thousands of shows, festivals and many miles on the road, the stubbornly independent band has formed deep bonds with each other and the audience that sustains them.

The Steel Wheels have responded to this time of isolation

and loss by seeking to connect with their audience in new ways. In 2020, unable to perform their rootsy brand of Americana for crowds in live settings, the musicians turned their creative powers to crafting songs for individuals. Produced in isolation in the band's home studios, the Everyone a Song album is part of an ongoing project to collect the personal experiences of fans and forge them into that most enduring, yet ephemeral, format we call "song." An accompanying podcast, We Made You a Song, explores the stories behind these songs, and the songwriting process itself. While each song was commissioned to honor a specific relationship or event - a birth, a wedding, a memory of home - the emotions evoked are universal.

Nowhere is this shared hu-

manity more evident than at the band's own Red Wing Roots Music Festival, a weekend-long celebration of music, community, and the beautiful Shenandoah Valley. Hosted by The Steel Wheels every July, the festival provides a space for the band to shine, from their high energy Saturday night main stage set to their afternoon showcase with young Red Wing Academy students. At Sunday's gospel hour you are as likely to hear Steel Wheels originals and Warren Zevon covers as you are traditional gospel fare. The weekend is rounded out by the beloved tribute set in which the band collaborates with a cadre of fellow artists to honor an influential figure in American music, with past tributes ranging from Dolly Parton to John Prine.

The year 2021 closes a chap-

ter for The Steel Wheels, as founding member and bass player Brian Dickel moves on from touring in order to take over for Jeff Huss as co-owner of Huss and Dalton Guitars. The band will be joined by bassist Derek Kratzer, a longtime friend and musical collaborator, to continue the mission set out over a decade ago, shaking up traditions to see what sticks, telling stories, and joining communities through song.

The newly renovated Hamilton Auditorium's HVAC system is equipped with MERV13 filters and has an air exchange ratio of 7-8 times per hour per air handler (there are two) within the auditorium. An economizer has been added which allows the space to draw 100% outside air as opposed to recycling ambient air should the need arise.

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## Let's Make a Wrap Skirt with Thomas Ruggiero



Thomas Ruggiero

Carnegie Hall's Classes & Workshops are well underway, but there is still plenty of time to

sign up for a number of classes. Coming up, Thomas Ruggiero will teach how to make hand-

crafted clothing in "Let's Make a Wrap Skirt." This unique learning opportunity is taught in small group settings at Carnegie Hall.

"Let's Make a Wrap Skirt" is a three-week course that meets Saturdays, Mar. 5, 12, and 19, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Under guided instruction, students will take body measurements and sew a custom wrap skirt. In addition to leaving with a hand-crafted skirt, students will also receive a skirt-pattern block to continue making custom clothes. Students will need to purchase fabric and notions of their choice, after completing their custom pattern. All other materials will be provided and no machine-stitching experience necessary.

Registration is \$55 for members and \$65 for nonmembers and students must be at least 14 years old. Class size is limited so enroll early.

Thomas Ruggiero is an artist and fashion designer from Lewisburg with a Bachelor of Science with a focus in Fashion Design and Merchandising from West Virginia University. He is a resident artist of Lee Street Studios, and his art focuses on a joining of modernity in design and traditional approaches in craft.

For a complete list of classes and workshops and ways to enroll visit [carnegiehallwv.org/classes-and-workshops](http://carnegiehallwv.org/classes-and-workshops) or pick up a Classes & Workshops brochure at 611 Church Street, Lewisburg.

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# Pastel Workshop set for April 18



Rose Dobbins at work in her studio

Rose Dobbins, a former resident of the Greenbrier Valley who now lives in Oklahoma, will be visiting Lewisburg in April to teach a 3-day pastel workshop. The class will be held in the Keller Art Studio on the third floor of Carnegie Hall on April 18, 19, and 20, from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day.

Rose will be demonstrating an animal head and a landscape during the workshop. To see examples of Rose's work, go to: rosedobbins.blogspot.com. For more information, email Rose at: rosiemarie49@yahoo.com

The workshop is sponsored by Greenbrier Artists, and there are a few spots still open. To register for the workshop, call 304-645-3050.

Greenbrier Artists is a group of working artists who meet to paint every Thursday morning at Carnegie Hall in Lewisburg. They welcome anyone interested in painting to join the group.

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## Pothole Strategy

continued from Page 3

February and beginning of March.

As additional plants open around the state in the coming weeks, hot patch repairs will begin in those areas. In the meantime, crews throughout all 55 counties continue to cold patch potholes for the sake of protecting drivers and their vehicles until the plants open.

"This time of year, potholes can form seemingly overnight," Pack said. "The men and women who maintain our roadways risk their lives every day, surrounded by traffic,

to provide the safest roadway they possibly can."

Potholes serve as a source of frustration for all drivers - including the men and women of the WVDOH. Last year's strategy was to build consistency into the process state-

wide, applying best practices for patches that last. This year's strategy builds on that, to squeeze efficiency into every part of the process - from an early start where possible to having WVDOH trucks lined up at each asphalt plant as it opens.

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