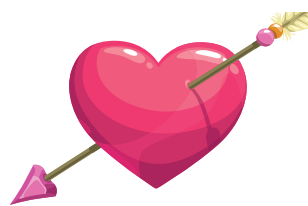




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**\$1.<sup>00</sup>**

# Mountain messenger

February 4, 2023

Vol. XL, No. 5

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

## Reviving Ronceverte: Sportsman Tavern plans grand reopening this month

By Sarah Richardson

Mark Trent and Dan Withrow have joined forces to revive the Sportsman Tavern, a Ronceverte staple and one of the oldest bars in the state of West Virginia, after more than four years of planning this passion project. Originally opened in 1930, the Sportsman was a popular spot for much of the county throughout the 1970's and '80s, and was open for business until this past summer.

Mark and Dan are both Roncevertians, born and raised, and met years ago when Dan performed a home inspection for Mark, who was moving home to Ronceverte.

"We actually first bonded over the town of Ronceverte, we were talking about how much we love it here," said Mark. "It was a really big deal for me that I moved home, bought property here, and restored it."

Dan and Mark kept in touch throughout Mark's home renovation process, and when it came to light that the Sportsman Tavern was potentially available for purchase, they started to put their heads together with their dreams for the space.

"That was around four years ago, when the talking started," explained Mark, "Every time we came in, it just had a special feeling, you know? We'd meet here, we'd have beers, we'd talk about it, we were both interested, and then the pandemic hit so we all took a break. When we came back, I told Dan that I couldn't do this alone, and Dan told me that if I was going to do it he'd join me, and then we both just jumped in." July 1 of 2022 was when the pair officially started construction and an overhaul of the space.

However, this isn't Dan's first rodeo. Or his second. "This is my third time down here," said Dan. "I had the Sportsman in 1975 and 1976 with a partner, when it was the hottest spot in Greenbrier County. Weekends and Tuesday and Thursday nights you couldn't hardly get in here. I bought it again in '85, and it was kind of the same way, it was one of the more popular bars."



**Mart Trent (left) and Dan Withrow (right) salvaged the old storefront window from the Sportsman and have installed it behind the bar, one of many thoughtful touches in the space paying homage to the building's rich history.**

When asked why he would purchase the bar for a third time, Dan said he has fond memories of growing up in Ronceverte and spending time in the Sportsman shooting pool when he was as young as 15. "It's just been a part of my life, and my favorite place to hang out. It just seemed like the right thing."

He explained, "Of course we hope to make money here, but what we realized we really want is to be a catalyst for future investors in Ronceverte after they see what we've done."

"We also really saw this as a community place," Mark

See "Sportsman Tavern" Page 2

## Maverick Model UN excels at Harvard University

Twelve James Monroe High School (JMHS) Youth Leadership Alliance (YLA) students traveled to Boston, Massachusetts on Jan. 25 for the Harvard University Model United Nations (HMUN) Conference. In the face of administrative and travel-related challenges the Mavericks performed admirably in the 70th anniversary version of the conference, which attracted approximately 4,000 students from around the world. After a rigorous selection process those selected to compete were Shane Arthur, Emily Bailey, Emma Ballard, Braydie Carr, Luke Fraley, Michael Fraley, Luke Jackson, Sadie Maxey, Thomas Sibold, Cole Thomas, Katherine Viars, and Bryceson Whitt.

In Model UN debate student delegates represent a country assigned to them and work with other delegates to develop solutions to problems as diverse as public health disparities, cybercrime and cyberwarfare, globalization, impact of economic sanctions, genetic modification, nuclear arms proliferation, weaponization of space, unexploded ordnance disposal, and persecution of ethnic minorities. Assigned the Balkan country of Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Mavericks researched its culture and politics and expressed the country's position on the problem assigned to their committees. Next, they sought like-minded allies and began the process of developing and debating solutions to the problem via a draft UN Resolution.

The trip was not all conference, and the students had the opportunity to experience some of Boston's rich history, including a portion of the Freedom Trail with Boston Common,



**The 2023 Maverick HMUN Team: Luke Fraley (left), Braydie Carr, Michael Fraley, Thomas Sibold, Luke Jackson, Shane Arthur, Bryceson Whitt, Cole Thomas, Sadie Maxey, Emily Bailey, Emma Ballard, and Katherine Viars.**

the 54th Massachusetts Infantry monument, the burial places of Paul Revere and John Hancock, the site of the Boston Massacre, Faneuil Hall, Paul Revere's House, Old North Church, and Boston Harbor. The group also visited Harvard University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum.

The trip was not without challenges, however, as the Mavericks experienced the usual issues of urban travel such as closed "T" stations, hotel reservation mix-ups, baggage problems, and a cancelled return flight that left

See "Maverick Model UN" Page 4



**The Maverick HMUN Team at Harvard University with Advisors Ashley Mann, Stormy Thorne, and Scott Womack.**

## From the farm to the school lunch table

By Stephen Baldwin, RealWV

Jenny Curry, who serves as Director of Food Services for Greenbrier County Schools, remembers the first day they served hamburgers made from local beef in their schools. "My phone rang off the hook all day," she recalls. "Everyone loved them!"

Farm to Table is a longstanding concept in the culinary world, including school food. Curry says she's been doing it for years locally, but they've taken it to a whole new level post-COVID. They struggled to get certain products, so they began sourcing them locally. This not only helped the schools and their kids, but it also helped provide revenue for local farms.

"We work with Mountain Steer, Greenbrier Dairy, Spangler Organic Farms, Pyne Mountain Farm, Rainbow Farms, and J&K Farm," she says. "Beef, cheese, popcorn, potatoes, chicken, and more that we serve to our kids comes directly from local farmers."

This past Tuesday, Greenbrier County Schools featured two products from local farms in one meal - hamburgers

See "Farm to School Lunch" Page 2



**Jamie Tuckwiller (center) talks to Eastern Greenbrier Middle School's head cook, Lilliam Hammons (far right), and her kitchen staff on burger day. (Photo by Stephen Baldwin)**

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## Farm to School Lunch

Continued from Front Page

from Mountain Steer and cheese from Greenbrier Dairy. Lillian Hammons is Head Cook at Eastern Greenbrier Middle School. She is happy to be working with local providers. “We do this to support our farmers,” Hammons says. “The beef and cheese are good quality, and the kids eat more of it knowing it’s local.” Jamie Tuckwiller and Frank Ford started Mountain Steer during the pandemic. They supply high-end local restaurants with beef. “The kids get exactly the same product as local restaurants for their burgers, tacos, meatloaf, spaghetti, and chili,” he explains. Last week, Mountain Steer celebrated the grand opening of their retail space in White Sulphur Springs, where local residents can buy beef directly from them. It’s located at 169 Pocahontas Trail. As Tuckwiller walks around the cafeteria meeting students, they treat him like a rock star, asking for pictures and talking to him about his cattle company. He takes his time talking to students, answering their questions and explaining cattle farming to them. Every table says the same thing, “They’re so good!” Curry and Hammons agree quality is key. “The quality is better for the kids than what we got before. It’s pure beef.” Tuckwiller says that leads to lower product loss, which helps the schools offset the higher price of buying local. Curry agrees cost is a factor. “In some cases it costs a little more, but it’s better for the kids and the local farmers and economy. I wish we had more produce we could

buy from local farmers.” Principal Sue Lee thinks it’s well worth it, saying, “I think it’s important to support local business. It also teaches our students about agriculture and eating local. Plus, It’s a better product for them to eat.” Greenbrier Dairy, located in Rainelle, sells products to 15 of the state’s 55 county school systems. (Their products are available to the public at IGA Foodland in Fairlea.) Trey Yates founded the company and found a niche for local agricultural products when the WV Legislature passed the Fresh Food Act. It requires organizations receiving state funding to spend at least 5% of their food budget with in-state farmers. “We began marketing one ounce individual servings beginning with the 21-22 school year,” Yates remembers. “During that year, over 120,000 pounds of milk produced in Greenbrier County by cows owned by Greenbrier Dairy and Fogus Dairy was processed into 8,632 pounds of fresh cheese for West Virginia students. That is almost 4.5 tons of cheese.” Yates says it is a win-win, for the local farmer and the local student. And they are not done yet. One of the items Curry said she struggled to source was yogurt, which the schools serve daily. Greenbrier Dairy is expanding production in order to produce 10,000 cups of fat free yogurt per day for school systems across the state. Tuckwiller, Yates, and Curry all say they are excited to see how this initiative grows. Curry says, “We all want to do more!”

## Sportsman Tavern

Continued from Front Page

added, “Even as we’ve been opening we’ve had community meetings here, other planning meetings here of people wanting to talk about having farmer’s markets here in town, food trucks - it’s a meeting space too. It’s

sort of just turned into that.” Mark described the space as an “intimidating” project, but that didn’t stop them from doing a complete over- See “Sportsman Tavern” \_\_\_\_\_ Page 4



Several games will be available for patrons including pool, foosball, and shuffleboard. Windows, which used to be boarded up, highlight the tall ceilings and brick walls.



Ronceverte’s old stoplight is now installed above the front door, with new custom-built window seating installed on either side.



Jamie Tuckwiller and Christy Clemons-Rodgers, communications coordinator for Greenbrier County Schools, welcome students to the cafeteria for burger day. (Photo by Stephen Baldwin)



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Whether you’re new to CAMC or you already know us, we look forward to this new beginning for health care in your community!





# Briefly

## 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. **The Valentine Dance on Feb. 11 will feature Bill Evens Night Riders 7 to 10:30; Dance on Feb. 25 will feature Thomas Taylor 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.

## Jack Goodman Memorial

### Scholarship Shooting Match & Food

The next Williamsburg Shooting Match will be on Feb. 4, at the Williamsburg Community Building. All proceeds will go to the Jack Goodman Scholarship Fund which benefits local students. There will be an expanded menu including soups, salads, hot dogs, BBQ, hamburger, various desserts, chips and drinks. The food concessions will open at 5 p.m., an hour earlier than usual. Dine-in or carry out. The Shooting Match will begin at 7 p.m. Match will be eight rounds, 12-gauge guns only. First seven rounds are \$2 per shot, eighth round 50/50 at \$6 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! For more information and directions visit website [www.williamsburgwv.com](http://www.williamsburgwv.com), or contact Bill Jarvis at 304-645-3690.

## Democratic Executive Committee

will hold the next meeting of the Greenbrier County Democratic Executive Committee on Wednesday, Feb. 8, at 5:30 p.m. at the Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate office in Lewisburg.

## Williamsburg Baked Steak Dinner

The Williamsburg community will host a Baked Steak Dinner Saturday, Feb. 11, at the Williamsburg Community Building from 2 to 6 p.m. The menu features baked steak and gravy, real mashed potatoes, green beans, coleslaw, rolls, and a variety of desserts and drinks. The cost is \$12 for adults, children under 12 years old \$6, and free for children under 5 years old. The dinner will be held at the Williamsburg Community Center, 6571 Shoestring Trail, Williamsburg. Proceeds will benefit Williamsburg Community Action service projects. The event is sponsored by the Williamsburg Community Action. For more information and directions visit [www.williamsburgwv.com](http://www.williamsburgwv.com). Call 304-645-0964 with any questions.

## Community Outreach Event

Valentine's Day is coming up, and there is no better time to show the community a little bit of love. Free Indeed Ministries will host a community outreach event on Wednesday, Feb. 11 from 1 to 3 p.m. in downtown White Sulphur Springs. Organizations from across Greenbrier County will gather together to spread awareness of the resources available in our area. There will be hot chocolate, baked goods and a naloxone distribution. Come out and feel the love and be sure to follow Free Indeed Ministries on Facebook!

# Public Meetings

## Rainelle Town Council

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

## Gbr. Co. Farmland Protection Board

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

## Historical Landmarks Commission

- will meet Monday, Feb. 13, at 5 p.m. in City Hall, 942 Washington Street West. Also available via Teleconference. For information on how to participate on ZOOM contact Lewisburg City Hall at 304-645-2080 by 4 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13. On the agenda:
- Approval of Minutes - November 2022
  - Comments from the public
  - Election of Officers
  - Larry Perkins, 1031 Washington Street East - paint exterior trim of building with SW3351
  - A & L Properties, 1108 Washington Street East - replace right front door with same design and same color as existing door. Replace Window casings around first level in back of building with notwood, paint same color as existing paint.
  - City of Lewisburg Confederate Cemetery, McElhenney Road - request to place an Iron Cross on the Confederate Mass Grave
  - Ben & Savannah Long, 491 Church Street - add a paved driveway on the south end of property on Court Street
  - Jeanette Chambers, 152 Harris Street - build a 2' x 2' x 2' community pantry with shingles, siding, trim and paint colors to match house
  - Bruce and Cyndee Stapp, 297 Church Street - install wood windows to match existing original windows in kitchen and half bath. Replace door with original door in kitchen, patching brick where needed
  - Semper Fi LLC, 1046 Washington Street - replace awning. Paint and repair trim to front of building

The next meeting of the Lewisburg Historical Landmarks Commission will be on Mar. 13, with a deadline at NOON on Feb. 24.



# Morrissey's Mobile Office sets February stops

West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrissey announced a representative from his office will meet with central and southeastern West Virginia residents in February 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 events scheduled below:

- Feb. 8: noon to 1 p.m. at Wendy's, HC 30 Box 182AA, 38232 Midland Trail E., Caldwell
- Feb. 9: 11 a.m. to noon at Hinton Town Hall, 322 Summers Street, Hinton

For information on additional requirements specific to any location, attendees should contact Justin Arvon at 304-590-6462. In case of inclement weather, please call ahead.

## Greenbrier County Magistrate Court Convictions

Richard Elliot Landes, Lewisburg, obstructing officer, NCP, fine \$50, jail 30 days - suspended and placed on 9 months unsupervised probation

Davis Daniel Earnhardt, Franklin, VA, speeding, NCP, fine \$36

Douglas Kirwan Hedrick, Williamsburg, WV, 1) hunting without license, NCP, fine \$30; 2) hunting without permission, fine \$20

James Michael Yancey, Rainelle, sales to under 21 alcohol, GP, fine \$30

James D. Nelson, Lewisburg, possession of controlled substance, GP, fine \$100

Howard Fabian Peterkin, Waterburg, CT, person prohibited from possessing firearms, NCP, fine \$100, jail 60 days - suspended and placed on 1 year unsupervised probation

Ruth Marie Lephew, Lewisburg, falsely reporting emergency incident, NCP, fine \$100

Kendra N. Sheppard, Crawley, improper use of evidences of registration, GP, fine \$25

Paul Keith Marshall, Williamsburg, WV, petit larceny, NCP, fine \$100, jail 30 days - suspended and placed on 12 months unsupervised probation

Randall Lee Proctor, Belle, possession of controlled substance, NCP, fine \$100

Justin Allen Kisamore, Lewisburg, reckless driving, GP, fine \$500, jail 21 days - suspended and placed on 12 months unsupervised probation

Eddie Ray Roark, Beckley, driving while license suspended or revoked, GP, fine \$100

Weldon L. Hambrick, Renick, driving suspended or revoked, GP, fine \$100

Amy Michelle Bennett, Nettie, driving impaired, GP, fine \$100, jail 10 days - suspended and placed on 9 months unsupervised probation

Libby Jean Morgan, Lewisburg, prohibited sale of tobacco to a minor, guilty verdict, fine \$25

Richard Allen Keener, Griffin, GA, driving revoked for DUI, fine \$100, jail 60 days with credit for 28 days to run concurrent with any sentence now being served

Curtis Shane McCoy, Crawley, hunting without license, GP, fine \$30

Wilma Jean Aleshire, Frankford, open buring of refuse, GP, fine \$25

William Remington Burns, Lewisburg, hunting without license/extra Buck Stamp

Gabriel E. Taylor, Hillsboro, reckless driving, NCP, fine \$75

## For the Record

### Deeds

Kevin T. Larue to Carolyn M. Jarvis, 0.387 Acre, Frankford District

Sheila G. Talbott and Susan Lynn O'Dell to Brett Blankenship, 0.84 Acre, Quinwood Corporation District

Megan Nicole Kirkham to Amanda Martinez and Kristopher Martinez, Lot No. 4, Addition No. 3, Echols Acres Subdivision, Lewisburg District

Total Tech Properties, LLC. to Lucille Rebecca Hanna, 1.27 Acres, Frankford District

Travis K. Howard and Tierra M. Howard to Howard F. Heugel, 0.50 Acre, Williamsburg District

Keith A. Scruggs and Kathy J. Scruggs to Tonya Fowler, Lot No. 1, White Sulphur District, 43,554 Sq. Ft., 1.00 Acre

Shirley Furry Wicklind Adkins to Jeremy D. Dowdy, 6,300 Sq. Ft., White Sulphur District

Greenbrier Legacy Cottage Development Company I, Inc. to Bruce Russell and Mary Jean Russell, Hydrangea Cottages at Spring Row, White Sulphur District

Wanda Gail Beavers to Diana D. Polcha, Lots Nos. 35, 36, Quinwood Heights Addition No. 2, Quinwood District

Moolah Properties to Elisa Marshall Properties, LLC., 1.00 Acre, Fort Spring District

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Cortez Estrada, Sinks Grove

Brian Charles Brown, Ronceverte to Lawanda Lynn

Richmond, Hinton

Shannon Emery Jones-Mullins, Smoot to Marie

Nicole Wamsley, Smoot

Richard Alexander Herndon, Ronceverte to Ashley

Mae Bowen, Rupert

Jacob Scott Nutter, Rupert to Haley Nicole Durham, Rainelle

David William Kidd, Covington, VA to Alisha Lee-ann Powers, Covington, VA

# PICK OF THE LITTER



### GATOR

Gator is a two-year-old male hound mix and weighs 80 pounds.



### PETUNIA

Petunia is an eight-year-old female domestic shorthair.

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.

Call 304-645-4775 for more information.

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

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# OPINION

## Nature’s Way By Karen Cohen Worms Crawl In

I am not super fond of bugs BUT I do love worms. Technically worms are NOT bugs. Ok, to me they are but...according to science, they are part of the Kingdom Animalia which includes worms and insects. However, worms have no backbone like animals and are considered to be invertebrates.

Another interesting and useless tidbit is that worms don’t have eyes. They can, however, sense light and dark. Worms are hermaphrodites. That means they are both male and female. They do mate to reproduce and it happens often, about once a week. That means there are plenty of worms. They double their population every two months or so.

Why am I spouting facts about worms? I just made my very first worm box, that’s why. The Virginia Association for Biological Farming recently held their annual 3 day conference and I was thrilled to attend. Learning never stops and exploring (anything and everything), is my favorite pastime. Since I am an organic gardener, worms are my friends and I encourage worms to multiply in our garden beds and compost piles. So why did I make a worm box?

During the winter months, both the soil in the garden and our compost piles freeze when temperatures drop to 32 or below. The worms can stand it till about 40 degrees and then they will burrow down deep into a compost pile or the ground to seek warmth. A compost pile generates heat from the rotting vegetable waste and any animal manure you might add, so the worms are usually comfy and continue to munch away.

Why are worms so good for our compost? Not only do they act as nature’s decomposers by eating our leftovers, they excrete vermicast. Also known as plain ole worm poop or worm castings, these feed the soil nutrients in the form of natural fertilizers. You can’t ever add more than too much because it is completely safe and odorless, even for seedlings. That’s all good news. When worms are added to our garden beds in our finished compost matter, they dig down deep and go to work making tunnels. They bring soil back up to the ground’s surface and their tunnels allow nutrients and rain to go back down into the soil. Ain’t it great how nature takes care of business?

So back to my new pets. There’s about 100 red wiggler worms in there now, munching away my veggie scraps. Here’s how I made a worm bin at the conference to take home in the DIY course I took there. Using a 20 gallon plastic storage tote, we punched about 12 holes in it, covered the holes with mesh to keep the critters in, then filled it less than halfway with a layer of organic potting soil, a layer of shredded paper, and then worms! Lightly water the whole mess and cover it with one sheet of cardboard, put the lid on and that is it. At home, I added some food scraps, just a handful or so, dug into the dirt and covered it back up. So far, my worms are

## Commentary Broadband data maps available

By PSC Chair Charlotte Lane

We all know how critical internet access is to our daily lives. From remote work, to homework for our children, to communications, to shopping and entertainment we are a completely connected society these days.

Although the Public Service Commission does not have jurisdiction over the internet or internet service providers, I wanted to let you know about a new useful tool to identify the best internet service available in your area.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has released a pre-production draft of its new National Broadband Map, which shows fixed and mobile broadband availability data. The Broadband Map displays the most comprehensive and standardized data the FCC has ever made available on broadband availability. It will show specific location-level information about broadband services throughout the country. The public will be able to view the map and search for their address to see information about available internet services. They can also file challenges with the FCC if any discrepan-



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still alive and still eating. Success!

What I can say is that for the amount of kitchen waste we produce daily being 75% vegetarian, I have more waste than the little buggers (I know, I know!), can consume daily. So, much of my leftovers still go outside in the compost pile. I have concluded that a worm box is a fun hobby. The worm castings I will collect in another month may be worth the entire project and the big space this worm bin takes up, but the jury is out for now. The instructor I met has a set up in her office of about 20 worm boxes so she is basically in full production mode. That makes it all worth it for the end product: worm castings.

One very important note about beneficial critters in your garden, or compost, or worm bin: biocides kill worms. That means herbicides, pesticides, or fungicides will knock off any living creature including birds, and possibly frogs. Avoid biocides if you want to work in harmony with nature and let HER do the work as intended...it’s nature’s way!

*(Karen Cohen is an organic gardener, photojournalist, and avid explorer. Email your tips and comments to [natureswaykaren@gmail.com](mailto:natureswaykaren@gmail.com), and happy growing!)*

cies arise.

The map displays where internet services are available across the United States, as reported by Internet Service Providers (ISP) to the FCC. All ISPs must file data with the FCC twice a year on where they offer mass-market internet access service using their own broadband network facilities. The map will be updated continuously to improve its accuracy through a combination of new data from ISPs, FCC verification efforts, updates to location data and information from the public.

To use the map, which is available at <https://broadbandmap.fcc.gov/home>, enter an address into the “Search by Address” window. This will take you to information about that location, along with a list of available internet providers and the types of services and speeds offered.

If you think the information about a particular location is wrong or that location is missing, you can submit a “Location Challenge” or an Availability Challenge” from the map.

I hope you will take advantage of this useful tool.

Continued from Page 2

## Sportsman Tavern

haul while maintaining the strong history that the building has.

“It has a massive history, lots of stories,” said Mark.

“Some we can tell, some we can’t,” joked Dan.

“We’ve reused every single piece of wood that’s come out of here, because this place used to hold the barber shop, and we pulled the barber shop wall down and that’s what the bar is made of now,” Mark said of the impressive span of wooden bar top that stretches toward the back of the building. Windows from the old Ronceverte Elementary School grace the top of the storefront facing Edgar Avenue, and Ronceverte’s old stoplight is perched right above the front door, fully functional.

“We now have the only stoplight in Ronceverte, and you have to come in the Sportsman to go through it,” Dan laughs.

The original beer cooler from 1975 has been brought back into working condition and will be in use just like in the bar’s heyday. Mark also notes that the bathrooms have been “totally redone.”

Mark credits community support and excited locals for helping make this project happen, with Dan adding that they want to space to be “more family-oriented, probably for the first time ever.” With shuffleboard, foosball, pinball, pool, and TVs for sporting events, they hope the welcoming atmosphere will bring back old friends and

entice new ones to visit. Dan noted, “I guarantee we will have the oldest shuffleboard table in the state of West Virginia here, we are going to pick it up tomorrow. It’s a 1930’s antique shuffleboard.”

“We are really cultivating a new environment here,” said Mark. “Essentially, we just want to build a really great hometown bar where everyone is welcome.”

The bar will have over 50 beers on tap, along with wine, champagne, ciders, mimosas, and more. While the grand opening is yet to be held, the duo already plan to expand by opening a kitchen to serve light food such as cold cut sandwiches, pepperoni rolls, and other snacks. They are also working with the City to add outdoor seating in the front of the establishment.

“We’re proud of the work we’ve done, and the amazing thing is that Big Draft Brewing has been a huge support, the Briergarten has been a huge support, it’s really been the community coming together too,” explained Mark. “Any help we’ve needed, there’s been a helping hand to help us do it.”

“It’s too many people to name,” said Dan. “It’s just too many people to thank.”

With a grand opening planned for later this month, follow the Sportsman on Facebook at “The Sportsman Tavern” for more details as they become available.

## Maverick Model UN

Continued from Front Page

them stranded in Chicago overnight. As in the case of last year’s “COVID HMUN,” however, the team adapted to the situation with great grace and poise, and successfully overcame the obstacles.

This was the third time JMHS has been selected for this prestigious event, having also participated in 2020 and 2022. JMHS is the only high school from West Virginia that has been selected to participate in this conference in recent history, and possibly ever for the annual event that began in 1953. The students joined over 4,000 other high school students from across the United States and overseas, including elite private schools and those that offer Model UN as a course of study rather than a club. Acceptance into this highly competitive debate competition is an acknowledgement of the excellence of our students in the YLA Model United Nations program.

Although Model United Nations is not a class at JMHS as it is in some other high schools, the students gain valuable academic experience in research, critical thinking, logic, written and verbal communication, and empathy by participating in it. The debate competition is not funded by Harvard and would not have been possible without the generosity of the Monroe County Board of Education, which approved funds from the school levy to assist with the trip, and that of the parents who allowed their children to travel and paid for a portion of the trip. Future plans for the Maverick Model UN program include hosting a local conference, participating in a revived YLA Model UN program in Charleston, and a return to Model UN Conferences in Atlanta and Boston next year. If you wish to contribute time, expertise, or funds to this endeavor please contact the Maverick Debate Coach, Dr. Scott Womack, at 304-753-5182, on Facebook Messenger, or via email at [swomack@k12.wv.us](mailto:swomack@k12.wv.us).

## Renovation project for Turnpike Travel Plazas begins

A major project to completely renovate the Beckley and Bluestone travel plazas on the West Virginia Turnpike began this week. Food, restroom and parking facilities will remain available during renovations. Tamarack Marketplace, located next to the Beckley travel plaza, will also remain open during construction with expanded services for travelers.

“We’re fortunate at the Beckley travel plaza off Exit 45 that we do have Tamarack Marketplace located right there,” said Jeff Miller, executive director of the West Virginia Parkways Authority. “They have a full-service restaurant, restrooms, retail, and grab-n-go area.”

Miller said that beginning Saturday, Apr. 1, the hours of the Tamarack Marketplace will expand. The facility will open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., a change from 6 days a week from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Restroom renovations at the Tamarack Marketplace will be completed in a few weeks. The Tamarack Marketplace will also open ‘Country Roads Market.’ The addition is aimed at supplementing the needs of interstate travelers with convenience store offerings such as food, drinks and car items.

Beckley and Bluestone travel plazas will be rebuilt from the ground up in a new, more user-friendly style. The newly redeveloped travel plazas will offer expanded food concepts, a 24/7 Mountain State Market convenience store, outdoor dining options, expanded parking for tractor trailers and passenger vehicles, EV charging stations, separated vehicle and tractor trailer fueling options, picnic area, and pet relief areas. The Beckley Travel Plaza will offer a drive through, increased restroom facilities, and bus parking, as well as enhancing and highlighting the Parkways Authority Tourist Information Centers.

Work is expected to be complete by late 2024.

Miller said drivers of tractor-trailers will not have to look for alternative locations from Beckley and Bluestone for meeting, switching equipment, and fueling.



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# OBITUARIES

**Olen E. Jones, Jr.**



Olen E. Jones, Jr. passed away Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2023 at his residence with his family by his side.

He served in many capacities in West Virginia Higher Education over 45 years including receiving his A.B. and M. A. degrees from Marshall University, Huntington, WV and his Ph.D. in Education Administration from Northwestern University. Dr. Jones' most recent position was President of West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine. His past National Professional Positions; Test Director, Medical College Admissions (MCAT); Assistant Vice President, Contract Operations, the American College Testing (ACT) Program and Director of Test Administrative, the American College Testing (ACT) Program. His State Professional Positions; Executive Vice President, Marshall University; Provost, Marshall University; Dean of Students, Marshall University and Vice President for Support Services, Marshall University. Dr. Jones' National recognitions: "Dale Dodson Award" from American Associations of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine; "Top Graduate Schools" from U.S. News & World Report magazine; nine consecutive years as an outstanding Medical school and four years listed in Top Ten Rural Medicine during his Presidency at WVSOM. His State recognitions: "Top 50 Most Powerful People in West Virginia" from West Virginia Executive Magazine, "Mr. Greenbrier Award" from Greenbrier Military School Alumni Association, "Business Leader of the Year" from the Greater Greenbrier Chamber of Commerce, "Leadership Award" from Boy Scouts of America and "Outstanding President" from the Rotary Club. Dr. Jones' Local Activities include Greenbrier County Schools Foundation, President; Lewisburg Rotary Club, Past President and Greenbrier Valley Theatre, former Board of Directors member.

Surviving are his wife of 65 years, Patty Barber Jones; son, Jeffrey E. Jones (Shelley); daughter, Kimberly Jones and son, Jay E. Jones (Gelila); his grandchildren, Hayden, Lindsay, Leah, Naomi and Jacob Jones, Dixon and Alex Snukals and great-grandchildren, Warner and Katherine Snukals.

It was Dr. Jones' wishes to be cremated with no public services.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests that memorial contributions be made to the Dr. Olen E. Jones, Jr. scholarship fund at WVSOM. This fund was established for needy WV students to attend WVSOM by the Maier Foundation and WVSOM.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg is in charge of arrangements. Please send online condolences by visiting [www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com](http://www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com)

**Lawrence B. Tingler, Jr.**



**White Sulphur Springs** -Lawrence B. Tingler, Jr. "Larry", 82, passed away Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2023, at Peyton Hospice House in Fairlea.

He was born Apr. 26, 1940, in Alleghany County, VA, the son of the late Lawrence B. and Frances Craft Tingler, Sr.

Larry was of the Methodist Faith, a veteran of the U.S. Army, former member of the VFW in Covington, member of the Christian Motorcycle Association and a former member of the Fire Brigade at Westvaco.

He was a retired oiler for Westvaco.

Other than his parents he was preceded in death by sisters, Mildred Frances Tingler, and Treva Weikel; and brother-in-law, Harold Weikel.

Surviving are his wife of 58 years, Patricia Coleman Tingler; daughter, Marisa Hylton and husband Wes of Lewisburg; son, Larry Tingler and wife Lisa of White Sulphur Springs; unofficial adopted son, George Clark of White Sulphur Springs; grandchildren, Logan Hylton and Clayton Tingler; his furry companion, Peaches; sister, Mona G. Workman and husband Charlie of Clintonville; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services for Larry were held Saturday, Jan. 28, at the James Chapel United Methodist Church in Clintonville where Pastors Jesse Pope and Buck Caldwell officiated. Entombment followed in the Wallace Memorial Mausoleum, Clintonville.

The family visited with family and friends before the service at the church.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests that memorial contributions be made to Peyton Hospice House, 1265 Maplewood Avenue, Lewisburg, WV 24901.

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

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

**Aurora Grace Sydenstricker**

**White Sulphur Springs** -Aurora Grace Sydenstricker, infant daughter of Adam and Reynalynn Laya Sydenstricker, Jr. of White Sulphur Springs was born and gained her Heavenly wings on Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2023 at Greenbrier Valley Medical Center in Fairlea.

Other than her parents she is survived by her brother Peter James Sydenstricker; maternal grandparents, Lynn Maria and Reynaldo Laya and her paternal grandparents, Julia and Adam Sydenstricker, Sr.

Funeral services for Aurora Grace will be on Saturday, Feb. 4, at The Bethesda Church at 10 a.m. with Pastor Chad Dingess officiating. Interment will follow in the

Whatcoat Cemetery.

The family will receive their family and friends from 9 a.m. until time of services at the church.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in White Sulphur Springs is in charge of arrangements. Please send online condolences by visiting [www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com](http://www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com)

**David Dwayne Richmond**



**White Sulphur Springs** -David Dwayne Richmond of White Sulphur Springs passed away from cancer Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2023. He was 62 years old.

David was a professional painter by trade. He insisted on doing the job well and was proud of the work he accomplished. He enjoyed the outdoors, golfing, listening to music and spending time with friends. Throughout his life, David hunted game, fished, and foraged for wild ginseng, ramps and mushrooms. He enjoyed grilling and cooking what he brought home.

He loved his children, grandchildren and the family he leaves behind.

David was preceded in death by his father, Tony Wayne Richmond of White Sulphur Springs.

He is survived by his mother, Mildred Richmond Black of White Sulphur Springs; two sons; Christopher Richmond (Shannon) of Covington, VA, and Anthony Richmond (Samantha) of Winnabo, NC; daughter, Amie Richmond of Ronceverte; sister, Teresa Parker (Eddie) of White Sulphur Springs; brothers, Jerry Richmond of Sweet Springs, WV, Ricky Richmond of White Sulphur Springs, and Scott Richmond (Christi) of White Sulphur Springs; five grandchildren, several aunts, uncles, nephews, cousins and friends.

David's wishes were to be cremated.

A gathering of friends and family was held to celebrate his life on Sunday, Jan. 29 at Wallace & Wallace Funeral Chapel in White Sulphur Springs.

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

**Virginia Madge Hedrick**

**Alderson** -Virginia Madge Hedrick, 90, passed away at her residence.

She was born June 11, 1932, in Alderson, the daughter of the late Elbey Edward and Ina Mae Still Hedrick.

Other than her parents Madge was preceded in death by her husband, John Lewis Hedrick; infant children, Judith Ellen Hedrick and Daniel Lewis Hedrick; and her brother, Billy Guy Hedrick.

Surviving are her brother, Oscar Lee Hedrick and wife Nancy; daughter, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and one great-great-granddaughter.

The family will be forever and truly grateful for

the love and care provided by Jeannie and Tim Luce, which allowed Madge the blessing to stay in her home, which was her wish, THANKS.

Madge's wish was to be cremated and her remains be with her late husband John.

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

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

**Margaret Katherine Burns Wickline**



**Alderson** -Margaret Katherine Burns Wickline, 100, passed away Saturday, Jan. 28, 2023, at the White Sulphur Springs Center.

Born Nov. 20, 1922, in Fort Spring, she was the daughter of the late Edgar Clyde and Lydia Belle Stone Burns.

Mrs. Wickline was a member of the Alderson Church of the Nazarene where she was active in the women's fellowship and a member of the Alderson VFW. She loved children, and animals and was an avid Belk shopper. Mrs. Wickline was loving, kind, humble and very disciplined. She lived a good clean life and was never known to say a harmful word to or about anyone.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, James Wickline; son, Jackie Junior Wickline; daughter-in-law, Joyce Sams Wickline; granddaughter, Becky Wickline; brothers, Ray, Shorty, Pete, Jim, Buddy and Jackson Burns; and sister, Ruby May Burns.

Survivors are her grandchildren, Jacqueline Wickline Brown (Denny) and Jamie Wickline (Jessica); great-grandchildren, Amanda (Josh), April (Carl), Hanna, Jacob, Levi and Macy; great-great-granddaughter, Addy Lynn; several nieces, nephews and the Sams family.

Funeral service will be at 1 p.m., Friday, Feb. 3, at the Morgan Funeral Home Chapel, Lewisburg, with Pastor Ed Midcap officiating. Burial will follow in the Old Greenbrier Memorial Cemetery, Alderson.

Visitation will be one hour prior to the service, Friday at the funeral home.

Online guestbook may be signed at [www.morganfh.net](http://www.morganfh.net). Arrangements by Morgan Funeral Home, Lewisburg, WV.



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**Melvin G. Hoover**



**Fairlea** -Melvin G. Hoover, 84, passed away Sunday, Jan. 29, 2023 at his home after an extended illness.

Melvin was born Mar. 29, 1938 at Kingston, WV, the son of the late Forrest and Ruby Hoke Hoover.

Melvin was a retired mechanic for ABB in Lewisburg, a member of the Clifton Presbyterian Church where he served as a Deacon and a choir member. Melvin was a proud Navy Veteran having served on the USS Muliphen (AKA-61).

Other than his parents, Melvin was preceded in death his son, Don Hoover; sisters, Margie Frame, Carolyn Ratliff, Virginia Stone and Jean Grady; brothers, Robert, Forrest, Kenneth and John Hoover.

Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Carol R. Hoover; daughter, Ruth Ann Gregory of Fairlea; grandsons, Andrew G. Hoover and Robert M. Gregory; brothers, Bill Hoover and wife Janet Kay of Asbury and Jim Hoover and wife Anna of Lewisburg; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral Service was held on Thursday, Feb. 2, at the Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg where Rev. Ron Miller officiated and Military Rites were conducted by American Legion Post 26 Honor Guard.

Friends called before the service at the funeral home.

The family would like to express a special thank you to Dr. Robert Shirey and Rev. Ron Miller.

In lieu of flowers, the family would like all donations to be sent to Clifton Presbyterian Church.

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

**Alice Mae Crookshanks Howard**

**White Sulphur Springs** -Alice Mae Crookshanks Howard, 77, passed away Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2023 at CAMC - General Division in Charleston of a short illness.

Born May 3, 1945 at Cornstalk, WV, she was a daughter of the late Orval Ray and Irene Blankenship Crookshanks.

She was of the Pentecostal Holiness faith and also attended Grace Baptist Church in White Sulphur Springs. She loved going to church and loved all animals.

In addition to her parents, she is preceded in

death by her husband, Calvin Edward Howard, Sr.; and two brothers, Bobby and Billy Crookshanks.

Survivors include three daughters, Jennifer Feury (David), Jeanette McGraw and April Casey-Randozzo (Bobby); son, Calvin E. Howard, Jr.; sister, Ada Kast (Frank); nine grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Monday, Feb. 6 at Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in White Sulphur Springs, with Pastor Kenny Baker officiating.

A visitation will be held at the funeral home one hour prior to the service on Monday.

Cremation will follow the services.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in White Sulphur Springs is in charge of arrangements. Please send online condolences by visiting [www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com](http://www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com)

**Georgia Gray Hayes**



**Lewisburg** -Georgia Gray Hayes, 87, passed away Saturday, Jan. 28, 2023, at Stonerise Lewisburg.

Born Nov. 9, 1935, in Lewisburg, she was the daughter of the late F.C. and Margaret Gray Piercy Coffman.

Georgia worked as a beautician and was a member of the Lewisburg United Methodist Church.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Maynard B. Hayes; sisters, Ova Coffman, Margaret Lee Stone and Laura Davis; and brother, Floyd Clark Coffman, Jr.

Survivors are her son, Maynard Lee Hayes; and daughter, Alda Gray Gross (Steve) all of Lewisburg; grandchildren, Carrie Childers (Charlie Lilly) of Lewisburg, and Dustin Childers (Jeanne) of White Sulphur Springs; great-grandchildren Breck, Cole and Peyton Keadle and Raina and Wyatte Childers; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral service was held on Thursday, Feb. 2, at the Morgan Funeral Home Chapel, Lewisburg, where Rev. Bev Colombo officiated. Burial followed in Rosewood Cemetery, Lewisburg.

Visitation was one hour prior to the service, Thursday at the funeral home.

Online guestbook may be signed at [www.morganfh.net](http://www.morganfh.net). Arrangements by Morgan Funeral Home, Lewisburg, WV.

See "Obituaries" Page 7

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# Dear Recycle Lady



**Dear Recycle Lady,**

Are Christmas cards recyclable? If so, should they be put with magazines and ad slicks, or with cardboard? Does glitter pose a problem? Thanks!

*Putting Away Christmas*

**Dear Putting Away Christmas,**

Yes, Christmas cards are recyclable. Most Christmas cards recycle with office paper, however, if they are glossy or slick, they recycle with magazines. Cards with gold foil or glitter are not recyclable. The fronts of recycled cards (except Hallmark, American Greetings and Disney, all of which have copyrights) can be sent to St Jude’s Ranch for Children, 100 St. Jude’s Street, Boulder City, NV 89005 for their programs that provide teens with life and work skills. They also accept new cards with or without envelopes. Their programs “help children and youth break the cycle of abuse, abandonment and neglect.”

**Dear Recycle Lady,**

One of the former pickup days was very rainy, yet the wet cardboard was picked up. Can wet cardboard be recycled?

*Concerned*

**Dear Concerned,**

Slightly wet cardboard can be recycled. Cardboard that is saturated with water cannot be recycled as it can clog up the sorting machines. So, if possible, don’t put cardboard out for curbside pickup if it is raining. If you are bringing it to the Recycling Center, weather doesn’t matter as the cardboard bin is under roof. Worldwide, cardboard is the one of the most widely recycled materials and it is made into a variety of new products. New cardboard, more boxes, packaging, paper bags, paper towels, tissues, chipboard, and newspaper paper are all made with recycled cardboard. Cardboard can be recycled up to five times and it helps keep energy consumption down and lowers our dependence on raw materials, such as trees.

**Dear Recycle Lady,**

What is electronic recycling?

*Need Clarification*

**Dear Need Clarification,**

Electronic recycling is also called e-waste recycling. It is recycling, reusing, or repurposing old, broken, or outdated electronic devices. According to www.earth.org, it is the process of extracting valuable materials into tiny pieces that could be reused in a new electronic appliance. Electronic wastes contain toxic substances such as lead, mercury, and cadmium, which must be disposed of carefully. Many manufacturers and retainers of electronics offer recycling programs. Check out Staples, Office Depot, Best Buy, Amazon, Sprint, and Apple for their recycling programs. Dell Reconnect partners with Goodwill to accept “just about anything that can be connected to a computer.” Before donating or recycling used electronics, be sure to delete all personal information. The local Recycling Center accepts all cell phones and electronic wastes connected to a cord, with the exception of TV’s, and monitors that were on earlier computers. Flat screen monitors are acceptable. All such electronic items are collected and sent to a company that specializes in recycling e-wastes.

Interesting Information: Last year,146 new species from around the globe were added to the biodiversity database! The new species ranged from isolated mountain peaks to deep within the ocean, including fish, rays, lizards, spiders, scorpions, and plants. For more information and photos, see freetheocean.com.

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

# Monongahela National Forest selected to provide 2023 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree

*Monongahela previously provided the People’s Tree in 1970 and 1976.*

Monongahela National Forest is honored to provide the 2023 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree on behalf of the USDA Forest Service, kicking off a year-long celebration with the theme of “Endlessly Wild & Wonderful” to connect people to West Virginia’s public lands.

The U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree - known as “The People’s Tree” reflecting the nickname for the U.S. House of Representatives, the People’s House - adorns the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol and is selected each year from a different national forest.

“It’s an honor to have a tree from our backyard selected as the official 2023 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree,” West Virginia Governor Jim Justice said. “This shines a positive light on West Virginia, and I am thrilled in every way. I also want to acknowledge the Monongahela National Forest officials for their care of the forest. Without them, this would not have been possible. Congratulations to all involved.”

Monongahela National Forest was the first national forest to provide the People’s Tree on behalf of the Forest Service in 1970, and again in 1976. 2023 will be the third time West Virginia will have the distinction.

“The Capitol Christmas Tree is a wonderful, historic tradition that brings our great country together during the holidays, and I am thrilled that the 2023 tree will be from West Virginia’s Monongahela National Forest,” said Senator Joe Manchin, chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. “The 2023 Capitol Christmas Tree will represent the wild and wonderful nature of the Mountain State - including our remarkable forestry and wildlife - for the first time since 1976. I’m grateful to the Forest Service for their hard work and partnership on this event, and I look forward to celebrating this honor with my fellow West Virginians and Americans.”

Monongahela National Forest has partnered with the non-profit Choose Outdoors to assist in the creation of a year-long conservation education campaign about the multi-use mission of the Forest Service in support of a multi-stop tour in November that will take the selected tree around West Virginia and surrounding states before delivering it to the Architect of the Capitol in Washington, DC. The initiative is made possible with support from the presenting sponsor, 84 Lumber, and with cash and in-kind contributions from companies large and small, along with vital support from volunteers locally and across America.

“The annual journey is only possible with the help of strong partnerships throughout West Virginia and beyond state lines,” said Bruce Ward, president of Choose Outdoors. “We’re proud to welcome 84 Lumber back as presenting sponsor for the second year and look forward to bringing people together to celebrate our public lands, our diversity and the joy of the holiday season.”

“It’s wonderful to have this opportunity to celebrate the diverse and complex natural ecosystems and cultural heritage that thrive here in central Appalachia. Monongahela National Forest and West Virginia really are endlessly wild and wonderful, and we are excited to share these special places over the next year on a national level, reaching both residents and folks who may have never experienced our home among the hills,” said Shawn Cochran, forest supervisor.

Follow the journey of the 2023 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree and be a part of the festivities at [www.uscapitolchristmastree.com](http://www.uscapitolchristmastree.com), [@uscapitolchristmastree](https://www.facebook.com/USCapitolChristmasTree) on Instagram, on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/USCapitolChristmasTree>, or the Monongahela National Forest website at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/mnf> and <https://www.facebook.com/MonongahelaNF>

# Registration underway at NRCTC for accelerated classes starting in February

Students have another opportunity to take spring classes at New River Community and Technical College with Rolling Start Options beginning Monday, Feb. 27.

“Rolling Start options at New River CTC give students the flexibility to start taking college classes outside of the traditional August and January semester

during the ten-week session include American history, English research and composition, general mathematics, introduction to anatomy and physiology, introduction to business, psychology, medical terminology, Microsoft Office applications, and sociology. Massage therapy classes are scheduled to start at the Mercer County

Campus in Princeton with the ten-week session. Registration for the spring 2023 Rolling Start Options is underway and will continue through Friday, Feb. 24. For more information about New River CTC, visit [www.newriver.edu](http://www.newriver.edu), email [admissions@newriver.edu](mailto:admissions@newriver.edu) or call 866-349-3739.

# NRCTC announces fall 2022 President’s and Dean’s List students

Over 260 New River Community and Technical College students were named to the President’s List and Dean’s List for the fall 2022 semester.

President’s List students must carry a minimum of 12 semester hours and earn a grade point average (GPA) of 4.0 for the semester, not including foundational courses.

President Dr. Bonny Copenhagen announced that the following students have earned the President’s List designation for the fall 2022 semester:

Alderson: Lawrence Lacy Pyles;

Crawley: Kaylee Danielle Hankins; Derek Allan Kashola; Mackenzie Paige Taylor;

Lewisburg: Hannah Catherine Keller; Haylee Raye McKeone; Nathaniel Aaron Muhs; Natalie Elizabeth Williams; Alex Cameron Zimmerman;

Rainelle: Amanda Marie Bryant; Caroline Yulala Sue Davis; Ashleigh Nicole Legg; Christina M. Lester;

Renick: Chelsea Ozell Brown; Jack Sinclair Hanna; Brett A. Mele; Victoria Marie Rose;

Rupert: Kayla Dawn Kyle; Sean Aaron McCutcheon; Jayden Edward Osborne; Katrina Pittman; Abigail Grace Tharp;

Sinks Grove: Debra Gaye Hylton; Chase Bradley Oscar;

Union: Audra Marie Winebrimmer; and

White Sulphur Springs: Peyton Nolan Robinette.

Dean’s List students must carry a minimum of 12 semester hours (foundational courses do not count toward the minimum requirement), earn a GPA of 3.25 for the semester or better and fail no courses.

Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs Dr. Richard Underbakke announced that the following students have earned the Dean’s List designation for the fall 2022 semester:

Alderson: Madison Caroline Allen; Ariana J. Angel; Taylor Ray Baldwin; Tracee Elizabeth Byer; Kiara Jade

Phillips; Emma Grace Robinette;

Caldwell: Justice Nevaeh Wood;

Crawley: Lauren Cierra Heaster; Margaret Lynn Thompson; Michelle Denise Vaughan;

Frankford: Autumn Hope Ingram;

Gap Mills: Heather Leann Wiseman;

Lewisburg: Klaressa Paige Justice-Hanway; Lauren T. Patterson; Zacheriah Carl Patton; Belinda Rochelle Sanchez; Hadley Scott Styskal; Havyn Nicholle Taylor; Kelsie Grace Workman; Hayden Sheen Andrew Yates;

Maxwelton: Jaden Ray Baker;

Renick: Margaret Daelea Bradley; Brittany Nicole Level; Bethany Nichole Peake;

Ronceverte: Zoe Alexis Johnson; Christopher Coy Linton;

Second Creek: Kendall Grace Hylton;

Sinks Grove: Abigail Grace Barkley; Jasmine Nicole Hoke;

Union: Kylie J. Dunbar; William Roy Lester;

White Sulphur Springs: Ella Olivia Bowes; Amelia Eloise Burns; Zackery C. Dolin; Lilly Ann Goodwin; Bryan Alberto Martinez; Sarah Maria Nazario; Tyra Lynette Ray; and Kimberly Rae Lester.

## PUZZLE ANSWERS

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Tribe 2. Crate;  
3. Streak; 4. Teacher

Today's Word

CHECK

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

Answers

R	A	I	S	E	S	U	P	E	M	I	L	I	A	N	A	V	A	L		
E	S	C	A	L	A	T	E	M	E	S	O	N	S	E	L	E	N	A		
W	H	E	N	A	L	A	R	G	E	N	O	R	T	H	E	A	R	N		
F	R	O	S	I	N	S	I	R	A	E	E	L	D	V	I	E				
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D	I	R	E	C	T	S			R	E	O	D	R	A	I	N	P	I	E	
I	L	E	S					T	A	I	N	T	A	R	M	P	I	T		
G	O	F	O	R	A	L	O	N	G	I	S	T	A	N	C	E	R	N	O	
	I	R	I	S	E	S	H	O	B	O	S					R	E	N	O	
J	U	X	T	A	P	O	S	E	L	E	W	U	P	B	R	A	I	D		
E	K	E	S	S	N		W	H	A	T	N	U	T	R	I	E	N	T	S	
T	E	S	T				E	E	O		T	E	E	D						
	R	A	I	N	N		H	E	A	L	E	R		E	S	T	A	S		
S	H	O	U	L	D	I	T	L	O	A	D	U	P	O	N		C	O	L	I
L	O	X		F	I	E	R	O	R	C	A		A	E	R	O	B	E		
A	R	B	O	R		C	A	R	I	B	O	U	H	Y	D	R	A	T	E	S
S	N	O	R	E		E	N	D	S	U	P		R	E	I	M	P	O	R	T
H	E	W	E	D		S	T	E	A	D	Y		S	A	R	A	G	O	T	A

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Obituaries

Continued from Page 5

Hunter Drake Young



**Frankford**-Hunter Drake Young, 28, passed away on Sunday, Jan. 29, 2023 at Roanoke Memorial Hospital.

He was born Jan. 4, 1995 at Greenbrier Valley Medical Center, the son of Mike and Lisa Hargett Young.

Over his life, Hunter touched countless people with his infectious smile, his fun-loving life, his zest for life and the enjoyment of making others laugh. Hunter loved to hunt, especially elk; and fishing

his honey hole at Blue Bend and on the pier at Top Sail. He, along with father and brother Ashton, was a hardworking iron-worker.

Preceding him in death were his great-grandmother, Delcie Milam; and grandparents, David and Ada Jordan and Norris J. and Margaret Hargett.

Surviving Hunter are his parents, Mike and Lisa; brothers, Devin and Ashton and his fiancé, Erin Sharp and her daughters, Cayden and Bella.

Funeral services are scheduled for Saturday Feb. 4, at 3 p.m. at the Redemption Center in White Sulphur Springs with Pastor Garrett Bostic officiating. Friends are invited to call at the church from 2 p.m. until time of services on Saturday.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg is in charge of arrangements. Please send online condolences by visiting [www.WallaceandWallace-FH.com](http://www.WallaceandWallace-FH.com)

Compared to commercial eastern snow skiing that began near Woodstock, Vermont in 1934, West Virginia skiing is a much younger endeavor. The first ski areas in both states began on rural farms. In 1951, skiers from the Washington Ski Club came to West Virginia in search of snow. Legend has it that an airline pilot spotted a large area of snow in Canaan Valley while flying over West Virginia and passed that information on to the ski club. Two members of the club drove to West Virginia in search of an area suitable for skiing. Noticing a large drift of snow on the Heitz family farm in the Canaan Valley, the ski club's scouts asked if they could ski. Encouraged, the club leased part of the farm. They bought a used rope-tow and powered it with an old truck engine. The slope was called the Cabin Mountain Ski Area (pictured above) and by the 1953-54 winter it was in full swing. The daily rate was \$1.00 for members, \$2.00 for non-members, and 50 cents for chil-



dren. That was the humble beginning of what is now a \$250 million industry that supports some 5,000 jobs.

Photo courtesy of the West Virginia University Regional History Center.

Sources: Skiing from Top to Bottom: The History of Skiing in Canaan Valley by John Lutz; The Early History of Skiing in Canaan Valley by Dave Leshner; Ski West Virginia.

## Capito, Manchin announce two National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grants

U.S. Senators Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), Ranking Member of the Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee, and Joe Manchin (D-WV), both members of the Senate Appropriations Committee, announced two grants totaling \$932,193 through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) for projects in West Virginia.

"West Virginia's natural habitats allows wildlife of all kinds to flourish, and it is part of what makes our state such a wonderful place to both live and visit," Ranking Member Capito said. "The grants announced today further support our efforts to strengthen both the waters and forests across our state, and will help restore and protect critical habitats for years to come."

"West Virginia is blessed with beautiful public lands and incredible wildlife. Like many of my fellow West Virginians, I enjoy hunting, fishing and exploring our great outdoors, and I've instilled that love and appreciation in my children and grandchildren," Senator Manchin said. "I am pleased the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is investing in protecting and preserving the trout population in the Greenbrier River, as well as restoring red spruce forest habitats at New River Gorge National Park and Preserve and Monongahela National Forest. As Chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee and as a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I

will continue advocating for funding to ensure West Virginia's beautiful public lands and waterways are protected for generations to come."

Individual awards are:  
• \$488,308 - Trout Unlimited, Inc.: Improving Eastern Brook Trout and Eastern Hellbender Strongholds in the Headwaters of the Greenbrier River. Trout Unlimited will improve eastern brook trout and eastern hellbender populations across pub-

lic and private lands in the headwaters of the Greenbrier River in West Virginia. This project will work with state, federal, and non-governmental partners to remove two barriers to fish passage, reconnect 28 miles of aquatic habitat, and enable seven private landowners to protect and restore aquatic habitat by implementing conservation practices on 500 acres.  
• \$443,885 - Green Forests Work, Inc.: Restoring the Ecology of Legacy

Coal Mines on Public Lands. Green Forests Work will restore native forest to previously mined sites in the New River Gorge National Park and Monongahela National Forest in West Virginia. This project will help restore red spruce forest habitat on 274 acres of legacy mine lands, planting approximately 184,000 trees that will provide vital wildlife habitat while also improving air and water quality and creating carbon storage.

### LEGAL

#### ADVERTISEMENT

Notice is hereby given that PRINCESS POLLY ANNA & JCT ENTERPRISES, LLC, PO BOX 207, LEWISBURG, WV 24901 has a permit on file with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for the surface mining of approximately 128.55 acres and has submitted an application to the DEP, 1159 Nick Rahall Greenway, Fayetteville, WV 25840, for renewal of Article 3 Permit Number S301116 to surface, auger and highwall mine within 100 feet of a public road right of way in the Castle, Iaeger, Sewell A and Sewell seam of coal.

The operation is discharging into unnamed tributaries of /and Big Clear Creek, unnamed tributaries of and Mill Creek of Meadow River of Gauley River of Kanawha River and is located 3.5 miles, southeast of Quinwood in Meadow Bluff District of Greenbrier County, Longitude 80° 40' 18" and Latitude 38° 0' 56" (Coordinates from USGS Topographic Map).

Surface of the area associated herewith is owned by:

NAME	ADDRESS
Herold McClung & Crystal Dietz	c/o Crystal Deitz, HC 71 Box 137B, Crawley, WV 24931
Frederick J. Taylor	P.O. Box 411, Rupert, WV 25984
Weyerhaeuser Company	P.O. Box 89, Fairfield, ME 04937
Merry Gordon III & William	65 Oakwood Road, Huntington, WV 25701

\*and the mineral associated herewith is owned by:

NAME	ADDRESS
Highland Mineral Resources LLC	876 North Jefferson Street, Lewisburg, WV 24901
Frederick J. Taylor	P.O. Box 411, Rupert, WV 25984

\*and the mineral within 100 feet of the permit area is owned by:

NAME	ADDRESS
Highland Mineral Resources LLC	876 North Jefferson Street, Lewisburg, WV 24901

Surface of the area within 100 feet of the permit area is owned by:

NAME	ADDRESS
Wayne Newman EtUx	P.O. Box 405, Rupert, WV 25984
Herold McClung & Crystal Dietz	c/o Crystal Deitz, HC 71 Box 137B, Crawley, WV 24931
Turley Joseph C III Revocable Trust	P.O. Box 10818, Blacksburg, VA 24062
Workman Richard & Smith Janett	274 Settlement Dr, Charmco, WV 24958
Sengdetka Joe	44 Winding Way, Gibbsboro, NJ 08026
Rupert Pistolmen, LLC	P.O. Box 262, Richcreek, VA 24147

Written comments and/or requests for an informal conference of the permit renewal application shall identify the applicant and application number and will be received by the Permit Supervisor at the DEP address above until March 20, 2023, or thirty (30) days from the date of **final publication**. A copy of the application will be available for review until March 20, 2023, or thirty (30) days from the date of final publication in the DEP Regional Office located at the address above and is available at:

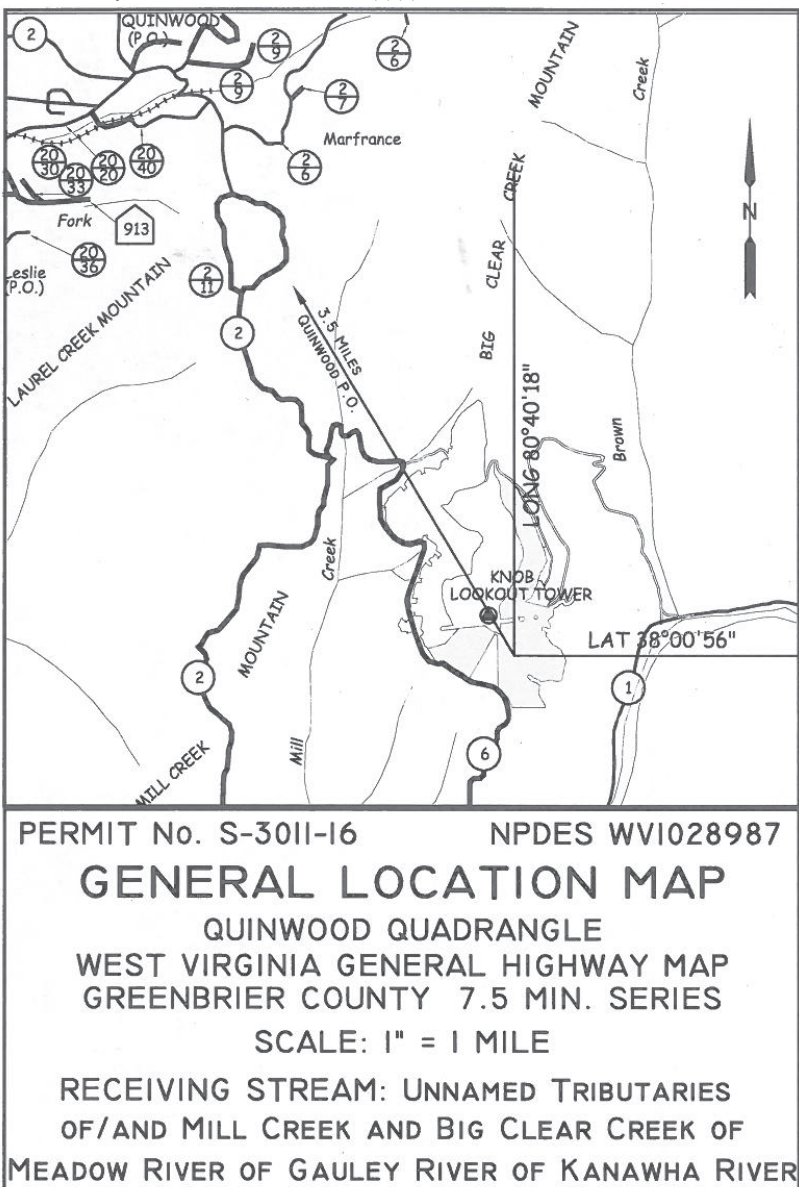
[http://apps.dep.wv.gov/WebApp/\\_dep/Search/ePermitting/ePermittingApplicationSearchPage.cfm](http://apps.dep.wv.gov/WebApp/_dep/Search/ePermitting/ePermittingApplicationSearchPage.cfm)

The above link can be accessed from a computer at all West Virginia Public Libraries.

DEP Telephone Number: 304-574-4465 Permit Number: S301116

\*These items are to be completed only for operations involving mineral removal.

Include location may in accordance with 38-2-3.2(b)(2)



## Historic Preservation Development Grants available

Applications are now available for matching historic preservation Development Grants through the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) of the Department of Arts, Culture and History. Eligible projects include the restoration, rehabilitation or archaeological development of historic sites listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Deadline for receipt of applications is postmarked, or submitted through our on-line portal (GoApply), by Mar. 31.

It is anticipated that approximately \$400,000 will be available for these grant awards, which are contingent upon an appropriation of funds from the West Virginia Legislature or United States Congress.

Privately owned properties are only eligible in instances where there is evidence of public support or public benefit. Governmental properties that are not accessible to the public are not eligible for funding. Applicant may be a state or local government agency, not-for-profit organization, private citizen, for-profit firm or organization, religious organizations, education institution or Certified Local Governments.

A complete program description, including funding priorities and selection criteria, and access to the GoApply on-line grant application portal, are available at <https://wvculture.org/agencies/state-historic-preservation-office-shpo/grants/> or contact Christy Moore, grants coordinator for the SHPO, at 304-558-0240 or [Christina.J.Moore@wv.gov](mailto:Christina.J.Moore@wv.gov)

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### LEGAL

Greenbrier County has released a Request for Proposal for Chromebooks and Cases for the 2023-24 school year. Details are available at [www.greenbrier-countyschools.org](http://www.greenbrier-countyschools.org) or by contacting Vicky Cline at [vccline@k12.wv.us](mailto:vccline@k12.wv.us) or (304) 647-6484.

### LEGAL

#### WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION Division of Highways NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service ([www.bidx.com](http://www.bidx.com)) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia until March 14, 2023 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the constructions of the following project(s):

Call	Contract	State Project	Federal Project	Description
023	2021000793	S399-RPM-23. 00	HSIP-2023(055)D	PAVEMENT MARKINGS 2023 RPM PAVEMENT MARKINGS COUNTY: STATEWIDE

Proposals will be received from prequalified and West Virginia licensed contractors only except that on Federal-Aid Projects a contractors' licence is not required at time of bid, but will be required before work can begin. Registration is required with the Department of Administration, Division of Purchasing, in accordance with Chapter 5A, Article 3, Section 12 of the West Virginia Code. All contractors submitting bids on project(s) must include one of the following forms properly executed with each proposal: Proposal Guaranty Bond, Cashier's Check, or Certified Check for \$500.00 or 5% of the total bid, whichever is greater.

The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways reserves the right to defer, delay or postpone the date for receiving and publicly opening proposals for any project designated in this advertisement, without the necessity of renewing such advertisement. All bidders holding valid bidding proposals will be notified of such deferment, delay or postponement and the date that proposals will be received and publicly opened.

The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex or national origin in consideration for an award.



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# WV Department of Education launches Leaders of Literacy Advisory Council



Front Row: Amelia Courts (left), Michelle Wolfe, Debra Sullivan, Alys Smith, State Superintendent David L. Roach, Senator Amy Grady, Morgan Miller and Amber Nichols; Back Row: Tarabeth Heineman (left), Dawn Miller, JoDee Decker, Lori Dubrawka, Mickey Blackwell, Angela Curfman, Connie Stout-O'Dell, David Gladkosky, Cheryl Ann Jeffers, Fred Albert, Maggie Holley, Kayla Benson, Elisha Lewis, Donna Atwood, Stephanie Hyre, Randall Reid-Smith, Vickie Shannon, Regina Woodcock, Chris Rockenstein, Donna Peduto, Susan Collins, Deputy State Superintendent Sara Stankus and Jim Brown

The West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) recently hosted the inaugural meeting of the state Leaders of Literacy Advisory Council in Charleston. The purpose of the council is to engage a network of stakeholders in the WVDE's Ready, Read, Write, West Virginia literacy initiative. More than 30 individuals representing government, businesses, nonprofits, education, families and communities participated.

Ready, Read, Write is West Virginia's effort to increase literacy proficiency among students in grades K-12. It is rooted in research and the belief that all students can learn to read with effective reading instruction. Based on the science of reading, Ready, Read, Write equips students with tools and strategies that allow them to grow as strong readers using the five pillars that include phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension as well as writing.

Raising literacy proficiency requires the interest, ener-

gy and support of those within the education community and beyond. From policy-makers and business leaders to community representatives and families, the WVDE has worked to bring a diverse group of individuals together to understand the importance of the literacy initiative and to engage in supporting efforts to increase proficiency among students.

"We appreciate the commitment of our Leaders of Literacy Advisory Council in joining us on this important journey," said State Superintendent of School David L. Roach. "Our commitment to enhancing student literacy is critical to student success and is among the most urgent work we have as a Department of Education and as a state."

The council will work within subgroups to support a variety of activities in their local communities and statewide. Their involvement is key to increasing awareness and interest in the Ready, Read, Write, West Virginia efforts. To learn more, visit the WVDE website.

### SCRAMBLERS

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

Clan

BRITE

Box

REACT

Smear

SKATER

Guide

ETCHEAR

TODAY'S WORD

### HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Hair is different. 2. Flower is smaller. 3. Package is moved. 4. Bunting is missing. 5. Hair is missing. 6. Sign is missing.

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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## Super Crossword

### ACROSS

1 Elevates  
9 Faithful attendant in "Othello"  
15 Maritime  
20 Intensify  
21 Quark model particles  
22 Kagan of justice  
23 Start of a riddle  
25 Deserves rub-ons  
26 Violinists' rub-ons  
27 Radio's Glass or Flatow  
28 Fished for morays  
30 Jostle (for)  
31 In — (mired)  
32 Riddle, part 2  
37 English diarist Samuel  
39 Confuses  
40 Aviary homes  
41 Apple, e.g.  
43 Next yr.'s alums  
45 Look after  
49 Riddle, part 3  
56 With  
59-Across, DVD format  
59 See  
60 Supervises  
61 — Speedwagon

### DOWN

62 Liquid-emptying conduit  
65 Bits of land in la mer  
66 Pollute  
68 Target of Arrid or Sure  
69 Riddle, part 4  
76 Some purple flowers  
77 Drifting types  
78 Home of Club Cal Neva casino  
79 Place side by side for contrast  
82 Ayres of "State Fair"  
83 Scold  
86 — out a living  
87 ID for the IRS  
88 Riddle, part 5  
91 Part of MCAT  
93 Fair-hiring abbr.  
94 Irate, with "off"  
95 "The Office" actor Wilson  
99 Cure provider  
103 "Cómo —?" (Spanish greeting)  
108 End of the riddle  
113 E. — (bacterium)

### ACROSS

114 Bagel salmon  
115 1980s  
116 JVC rival  
117 Bacterium that requires oxygen  
119 Shady recess  
121 Riddle's answer  
125 Sleep loudly  
126 Turns out  
127 Bring back in from another country  
128 Axed down  
129 Not wobbling  
130 Florida city south of Tampa Bay

### DOWN

13 Doctors in training  
14 "Boyfriend" singer Simpson  
15 "You — have worried"  
16 According to  
17 Enthusiasm  
18 Markswoman Oakley  
19 Surgical beam source  
24 Encircle with a belt  
29 Sue Grafton's "— for Evidence"  
33 Papas' other halves  
34 Central German river  
35 Deputy: Abbr.  
36 Oct. clock setting  
38 Plan detail  
42 Choose (to)  
44 Fishing pole  
46 Asmara native  
47 Middy snooze  
48 Salon supply  
49 "Understood, dude"  
50 Farm tower  
51 Un-, non-, pro- and con-  
52 Vacation getaway

### ACROSS

53 Shah's land  
54 Horse noise  
55 Boat in Venice  
56 Theda of silent films  
57 Describe by drawing  
58 Potentially offensive, for short  
63 Disloyal sorts  
64 Capital of South Dakota  
66 Throw easily  
67 Lhasa's land  
70 Narrow inlets  
71 African vipers  
72 Singer Redbone  
73 Strewn, as seeds  
74 Military group  
75 "Yes" signals  
79 Boeing plane  
80 Hawaiian guitar, for short  
81 Lamb nurser  
83 In — (prior to birth)  
84 Start for eminent  
85 — one's time  
89 Chocolate snack cake  
90 Lone Star State coll.  
92 Mr. Capote, informally

### DOWN

93 Contest competitor  
96 Filmdom's Hitchcock  
97 Ugandan despot Amin  
98 Girls in family trees  
100 Listening accessory for an iPod  
101 Text written for commercials  
102 Oahu shindig  
104 Tiny pieces  
105 Overly, emphatically  
106 Writer Camus  
107 Middy snooze  
108 Really mark down  
109 Singer Lena  
110 "The — Incident" (Henry Fonda film)  
111 Singer with the #1 hit "Royals"  
112 Bottom point  
118 Humorist Bombeck  
120 Metal source  
122 "That — lie!"  
123 Divs. of days  
124 "For" vote

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13	14		15	16	17	18	19	
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125																					
128																					



# STEPPIN’ OUT

## Carnegie Hall Mainstage Series continues with Black Opry Revue

Carnegie Hall presents Black Opry Revue in the Hamilton Auditorium Thursday, Feb. 23, at 7:30 p.m. as its Mainstage Series continues in 2023. Black Opry Revue is the touring company of the Black Opry, a collective supporting and promoting Black country, folk, blues, and Americana musicians. Guests are invited to come early for the Mainstage Lounge Preshow Reception from 6:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. in the Board Room.

The Black Opry was started in 2021 by Holly G., a writer and flight attendant from Virginia. She was inspired to create a website dedicated to Black country music singers, in response to a study done by a musicologist which found that fewer than one percent of artists played on country radio in the preceding 20 years were artists of color. She began contacting various Black country artists through social media platforms to help raise

awareness of their music. Holly G. has stated that she was inspired by Color Me Country, a podcast hosted by Black country singer Rissi Palmer which also discusses country music artists of color.

The intent of the Black Opry is to allow Black country music artists to tour and perform. The Black Opry lists Black artists in the genre through its website, and through national tours under the name Black



Opry Revue.

In mid-2021, Holly G. and the Black Opry hosted a five-day concert focused on Black country artists, which included acts such as Rissi Palmer and Miko Marks. This was followed by the first performance under the Black Opry Revue name at New York City’s Rockwood Music Hall. Tylar Bryant, Lizzie No, Roberta Lea, Joy Clark, and Jett Holden performed at

this event.

The lineup for the Carnegie Hall performance includes Justin Reid, Lauren Napier, Whitney Monge, and Roberta Lea.

Tickets start at \$23, 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.

This engagement of Black Opry Revue is made possible with support from the National Endowment for the Arts and the West Virginia Division of Culture and History, with approval from the West Virginia Commission on the Arts.



## Carnegie Hall Calendar of Events

Spring 2023 Classes & Workshops: Carnegie Hall offers learning opportunities starting in February and continuing through May. Classes and workshops include woodturning, hand crafting tea pots and mugs, sausage making, salt-rising bread making, soap making, making Appalachian Medicinals, guided ceramic projects for all ages, painting, drawing, printmaking, basket weaving, fiber arts, craft jewelry, and leather craft. To register or for more information visit [carnegiehallwv.org](http://carnegiehallwv.org)

**Saturday, Feb. 11: Pre-**

**show Lounge** - Join Carnegie Hall for a Carnegie Classics preshow reception in the Board Room on Saturday, Feb. 11, at 6:30 p.m. Free admission. Cash bar and snacks available.

**Saturday, Feb. 11: A Valentine Concert** - More Music To Love With Barbara Nissman At The Piano - The Carnegie Classics Series presents A Valentine Concert - More Music to Love with Barbara Nissman at the piano on Friday, Feb. 11, at 7:30 p.m. Join Carnegie Hall for more of Barbara’s favorites as she shares the music and

stories of her composer “friends.” Individual performance tickets are \$20. Complete Series discounts and BOGO available. Students 18 years old and younger have free admission but must reserve a ticket. Call for discounted/free tickets or more information.

**Thursday, Feb. 23: Mainstage Lounge** - Join Carnegie Hall for the Black Opry Mainstage Lounge preshow reception in the Board Room at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 23. Free admission. Cash bar and snacks available.

**Thursday, Feb. 23:**

**Black Opry Revue** - Mainstage Performance on Thursday, Feb. 23, at 7:30 p.m. featuring Black Opry Revue. Black Opry is a home for Black artists and Black fans of country, blues, folk, and Americana music. Tickets start at \$23.

**Friday, Mar. 10: Mainstage Lounge** - Join Carnegie Hall for Chatham County Line Mainstage Lounge preshow reception in the Board Room from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m., Friday, Mar. 10. Free admission. Cash bar and snacks available.

**Friday, Mar. 10: Chatham County Line** - Mainstage Performance on Friday, Mar. 10, at 7:30 p.m. featuring Chatham County Line. Americana staple of the North Carolina music scene for over two decades. Tickets start at \$23.

**Rotating Galleries: Old Stone Room Gallery - Works by Trish Tuckwiller.** Runs through Feb. 24.

**Museum Gallery - Works by Alderson Quilt Guild.** Runs through Feb. 24.

**Lobby Gallery** -

**Works by Kathy Talley.** Runs through Mar. 31.

**Permanent Exhibit:**

**Arts from the Ashes: The History of Carnegie Hall** - The exhibit features memorabilia, photographs, artifacts and more of Carnegie Hall since its construction in 1901. Located on the second floor. Free admission

Carnegie Hall is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, please visit [carnegiehallwv.org](http://carnegiehallwv.org), call 304-645-7917, or stop by 611 Church Street, Lewisburg.

# BUSINESS

## House looks at e-bikes, other policies

**By Matt Young, WVPA**

The House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources, on Monday, advanced four bills with financial implications.

First on the agenda was HB 2062, which seeks to “establish rules and regulations for e-bikes that more closely comport to federal law.” Bicycling.com defines e-bikes as, “bicycles with a battery-powered ‘assist’ that comes via peddling, and, in some cases, a throttle.”

As explained by House Counsel Anita Valentino, “The existing law does not define class two electric bicycles or throttles.” According to Valentino, regulations are in place only for class one and class three e-bikes, as West Virginia does not currently recognize class two e-bikes as bicycles. At this time, only class one e-bikes are permitted on bike paths, and single or multi-use trails. If enacted, Valentino added, HB 2062 would, “permit all three classes of e-bikes to be operated where traditional non-electric bikes are allowed,” and recognize e-bike operators as having the same rights and privileges as traditional bicycle riders.

“I do a lot of hiking and go on a lot of trails, and even with traditional pedal-power bicycles I’ve just about had my elbows taken off before,” Del. George Street, R-Preston, said. “I see this as opening the door for more intrusion of pow-

ered vehicles onto our hiking and walking trails.”

In response to a question from Del. Ty Nestor, R-Randolph, regarding areas where the usage of e-bikes would be permitted, bill sponsor Del. Heather Tully, R-Nicholas, said, “I can tell you that when we drafted this bill, we hoped to comport some of our rules to [match] the national park’s [rules] to allow for extra tourism to come in.”

“Say you come to the New River Gorge National Preserve - that person can go over and use the State Parks, as well,” Tully stated, before noting that a practiced bicyclist could attain the same speeds with a traditional pedal-bike that can be reached on an e-bike.

“And they’re actually really quiet,” Tully added. “They’re not anywhere near the equivalent of a motorcycle as far as power or noise level.”

HB 2062 was advanced by the committee, and will now be referred to the House Judiciary Committee. Next on the agenda was HB 2309, which seeks to, “require the Division of Forestry to create an online renewal process no later than July 1, 2023.”

Valentino once again provided an overview, telling committee members: “The purpose of this bill is to streamline the renewal process of the managed timberland program through the creation of an

online process. Existing law does not provide for an online renewal process.”

If no information has changed from the previous year, Valentino explained, land owners can simply “check a box and submit the form.” However if changes are necessary for renewal, the renewal process would also allow for those to be completed online.

“Submitting the form online completes the renewal application, but does not affect the costs associated with the initial application,” Valentino added. According to the text of the bill, the cost for the design and implementation of the online renewal process is estimated at \$62,730 for the first three months.

HB 2062 was advanced by the committee, and will now be referred to the House Committee on Government Organization.

The final two bills on the agenda, according to Nestor, prompted the committee to “switch over to agriculture.” HB 2439, which seeks to exempt all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) sold for use as farm vehicles from sales tax, as well as HB 2787, which proposes a similar tax exemption for farm-direct feed sales, were adopted by the committee with no debate or further questions. HB 2439 will now be referred to the House Judiciary Committee, while HB 2787 will move on to the House Committee on Finance.



## Grist Real Estate hosts annual Dinner and Awards

It was a festive night at Big Draft Brewing in White Sulphur Springs on Friday, Jan. 20, when Grist Real Estate hosted its annual dinner and team awards. Team members and their families enjoyed an exceptional buffet dinner catered by the brew pub and the opportunity to get together and enjoy each other’s company.

Top honors went to Team Agent Jenny Tuckwiller, who was recognized as the company’s Top Producer in 2022. Jenny also received the Cadbury Award, which celebrates the team member who most embodies the Grist team spirit. Team Agent Kerry Baldwin was the recipient of the Top Producer Runner-Up Award.

The evening’s highlight was Team Agent Donna Stoner’s recognition with the Pinnacle Pack Award for her many contributions to the company’s success since its inception. In Paul Grist’s speech underscoring Donna’s help in growing the company, he recognized both her mentorship and her unique ability to successfully establish a warm relationship with virtually any client. Donna’s husband, Rod, and their daughter Traci were present to hear the accolades.

Clients and team members often note Grist Real Estate’s family-like atmosphere, which was evident throughout the joyful evening.





# Happy Valentine's Day

## Planning your Valentine's Day proposal



February 14 is a day dedicated to love. And for couples who are pondering their futures together, Valentine's Day may seem tailor-made for wedding proposals. According to a survey of 1,000 married adults by James Allen, an online diamond and bridal jewelry retailer, people really love getting engaged on Valentine's Day. Forty-three percent of Millennials report favoring Valentine's Day for proposals - whether they're doing the asking or being asked.

There are a few things to keep in mind when considering whether or not to pop the question on Valentine's Day. Here are some ideas for planning the proposal.

### Make it your own

Even if the proposal is taking place on one of the most popular days of

the year to get engaged, interject some personality into the occasion. Include important elements that are dear to the person to whom you are proposing, such as favorite flowers or a preferred restaurant. Restaurant reservations may be hard to come by on Valentine's Day, so you may want to select a more private meal at home or something catered unless you want to share your proposal with a crowd.

### Visit possible locations in advance

Think about where you would like to propose and visit those areas at different times of the day. Timing a proposal during sunset with the rays creating a warm glow on a park bench or on the incoming tide can make it more magical. Adjust proposal area plans for busier crowds expected on Valentine's Day.

### Have the ring at the ready

Jewelry shops are in demand around Valentine's Day, so be sure to choose and have the ring sized well in advance of the proposal. This ensures the ring will be ready in time. If the ring will be a surprise, get hints beforehand to understand your loved one's design tastes. Consider bringing a friend along when shopping to offer support and advice.

### Use chocolate to your advantage

Boxes of chocolate are ubiquitous on Valentine's Day. Nestle the ring inside of a box of truffles or another favorite confection and have the question "Will you marry me?" attached to the inside of the box.

### Hire a photographer

Work with a photographer to capture the moment, whether it's a professional photographer or a friend enlisted for the task. This way you can be fully immersed in the moment as it unfolds, and then look back on the experience from a different perspective when the photos are printed.

Valentine's Day is a popular time for wedding proposals. With a

little planning, the occasion can be even more special.



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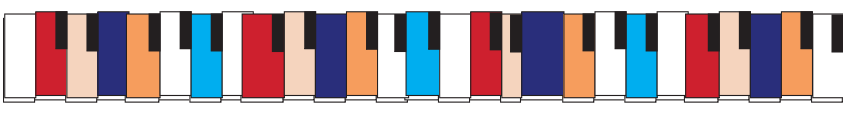
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The Mountain Messenger



# Alternatives to common Valentine’s gifts

Millions of people are set to spend untold dollars on Valentine’s Day gifts or experiences this year. Data compiled by InfographicPlaza.com indicates that individuals traditionally spend the most on jewelry, a night out, flowers, apparel, and gift cards on Valentine’s Day. Fifty-two percent of people who buy Valentine’s gifts will spend money on candy, particularly chocolate.

Though tried and true gifts never fail, those looking for something a little different this Valentine’s day can consider these alternatives.

Traditional: Candy/chocolate  
Alternative: Baked goods

Bite-sized baked offerings can be a welcome change to boxed chocolates or chocolate-covered strawberries. Consider petit fours, which are tasty layered cakes about one to two inches in size. The popular franchise Nothing Bundt Cakes also offers Bundtinis®, which are slightly smaller than cupcakes and can be mixed and matched in a variety of cake flavors.



Traditional: Bouquet of a dozen red roses  
Alternative: Flowering plant

Even well-maintained cut bouquets only last so long. A flowering plant can endure much longer. Beautiful interior flowering plants include African violets, Bromeliads, Orchids, Peace lilies, Amaryllis, Christmas cactuses, and Jasmynes.

Traditional: Dinner out  
Alternative: Feed the needy

Civic-minded sweethearts may appreciate the thought of donating the time and money they might normally spend on a restaurant meal by helping to ensure needy children and adults have access to hot meals. The Feeding America network is a nationwide network of food banks that secures and distributes meals. Individuals can learn more about volunteerism or how to make donations at [feedingamerica.org/](http://feedingamerica.org/).

Traditional: Stuffed animal  
Alternative: Adopted animal

There are only so many stuffed animals, particularly fuzzy teddy bears, an adult can collect. Instead, why not adopt a shelter animal or donate to an animal rights organization? Before gifting a pet, confirm the recipient is on board with the idea. A pet is a years-long emotional and financial commitment that requires forethought and planning.

Traditional: Lingerie  
Alternative: Time spent together

In a poll of more than 350 women, Business Insider discovered that lingerie was one of the gifts women did not want to receive on Valentine’s Day. In fact, 97 percent of respondents weren’t fans of receiving lingerie on Valentine’s Day. Spending time together doing something couples are passionate about may be more well-received.

## Plan a special Valentine’s Day



Couples have been commemorating their love for one another in February for quite some time. Couples may go about such celebrating in their own unique ways, but it’s not uncommon to focus on a night out on the town.

Valentine’s Day is a busy holiday for many businesses, but especially so at restaurants and other romantic venues. So it’s best to plan ahead to ensure a perfect evening. These tips can help you organize a Valentine’s experience to remember.

Tip #1: Reserve early

The closer to Valentine’s Day, the more likely popular restaurants will be all booked up. If the goal is to dine at a particularly trendy spot - or anywhere but the most obscure establishment - be sure to make a reservation well in advance. Start planning the Valentine’s Day dinner in December so you won’t have to look far and wide to book a reservation. If a restaurant does not take reservations that far out, ask when they will start collecting names for Valentine’s Day and book the moment you can.

Tip #2: Secure transportation

One way to make the night more romantic is to snuggle in the back seat of a vehicle and have someone else do the driving. This also is a safer option if you plan to pop a bottle of bubbly or sip some wine while celebrating. Hiring a limousine, luxury car, horse-drawn carriage, or something similar also will require advanced reservations. However, going the extra mile can make the night memorable.

Tip #3: Emulate a scene from a favorite film

The person you love may adore a romantic movie, whether it’s a classic or more recent tear-jerker. When planning a romantic evening out, consider reenacting a movie scene with you and your special someone in the starring roles. For example, recall when Tom Hanks met Meg Ryan at the top of the Empire State Building in “Sleepless in Seattle.” Include a visit collecting names for Valentine’s Day

entine’s Day and book the moment you can.

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to the observation deck or roof as part of a whirlwind Valentine’s Day experience.

Tip #4: Attend a live music performance

Music can touch the heart and soul. That makes an evening watching a band play or enjoying a musical on the stage even more memorable if it occurs on Valentine’s Day. Select an intimate venue to add to the romantic ambiance of the night.

Tip #5: Think outside tradition

While dinner and a movie are Valentine’s Day favorites, any activity done together can be memorable and romantic. Why not book a couple’s cooking class? Or enjoy a winter sport like skiing or ice skating? Or warm up after window shopping on Main Street by sipping hot cocoa and snuggling on the sofa under a blanket at a nearby B&B?

Romantic nights out on Valentine’s Day can be made even more special with some forethought and planning.

## Set a romantic tone with cheesecake this Valentine’s Day

Romance is in the air come Valentine’s Day. Though chocolate, oysters and honey are often seen as aphrodisiacs, there is no evidence to back such perceptions up. However, Healthline reports that fenugreek, saffron, red ginseng, and pistachios might boast the properties often associated with aphrodisiacs.

People have been eating pistachio nuts since 6,000 B.C. Pistachios improve blood cholesterol and stimulate better blood flow throughout the body. They’re also tasty, which makes them a worthy addition to Valentine’s Day recipes. such as this one for “Pistachio Cardamom Cheesecake,” courtesy of the American Pistachio Growers. It’s a rich, creamy, vegan no-bake dessert to share with that special someone.

### Pistachio Cardamom Cheesecake

#### Ingredients

- 6 servings
- 20 Biscoff® cookies, crushed
- 16 ounces vegan cream cheese, softened at room temperature
- 2/3 cup organic white sugar
- 9 ounces coco whip (vegan whipped topping)
- 3 teaspoons masala chai spice
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 3 tablespoons roasted and salted pistachios, crushed

#### Instructions

1. Blitz Biscoff cookies in food processor. Press into the bottom of six 8-ounce ramekins. Set aside.
2. In a food processor or blender, add softened cream cheese, lemon juice, sugar, and chai spices.
3. Transfer cream cheese mixture to a mixing bowl and gently fold in coco whip. Do not over mix; you want it to be light and airy.
4. Pour mixture into prepared ramekins.
5. Chill in fridge for an hour to set before serving.
6. Garnish with crushed pistachios.



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## Why is Valentine’s Day celebrated on Feb. 14th?

Sweethearts who want to keep their relationships running strong know that Valentine’s Day is celebrated each year on February 14. But even the most ardent Valentine’s Day enthusiast might not know just why this day designed for lovers to express their affections for one another is celebrated in mid-February. According to the Library of Congress, it’s hard to pinpoint exactly why Valentine’s Day is celebrated on February 14, though the date might have ties to the ancient Roman celebration of Lupercalia. Lupercalia was a spring festival celebrated each year on February 15. The holiday was moved to February 14 after the spread of Christianity. The Christian faith had several early martyrs named Valentine, and each of them were celebrated with a saint day on February 14. But the unique history of Valentine’s Day and its association with February 14 as well as its romantic sentiments does not end there. The Library of Congress also notes that, in the Middle Ages, people believed birds selected their mates on February 14. As a result, it was not uncommon for lovers to recite prose to one another on this date.