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Mountain messenger

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

Time to Decide...
WHO IS THE BEST OF THE BEST?

wvliving
Best of
2024 WEST VIRGINIA

Best of West Virginia nomination period open

By Sarah Richardson

Earlier this week, WV Living magazine announced that the annual Best of West Virginia Awards nomination period has officially opened. Each year WV Living seeks to identify and celebrate the most outstanding establishments from around the Mountain State.

Participants are encouraged to nominate their preferred venues before July 30 over a variety of categories including dining, entertainment, shopping, and more.

Following the initial nomination phase, finalists will be determined through a voting process scheduled from Sept. 25 to Oct. 15. Voters can cast their ballots once per day per category.

WV Living states, "Each year we showcase the best places to eat, drink, and be merry, from the tippy top of the state to our most southern borders. Not only is the Best of West Virginia an important recognition for our small businesses and destinations, but it's an incredible resource for our readers. Looking for new places to visit, best spots to shop, or an amazing barbecue sandwich? We'll bring you our readers' faves in 85 categories in our Winter issue!"

To nominate a business, visit <https://wvliving.com/best-of-west-virginia-2024/>

Greenbrier East Spartan Band invited to attend Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day in Hawaii, fundraising underway

By Chelsea Blair

The Greenbrier East High School Spartan Marching Band is excited to announce they have been invited to attend the Annual Pearl Harbor Remembrance Parade in December 2025 in Hawaii. The band will represent the state and the battleship USS West Virginia in the parade.

The Annual Pearl Harbor Memorial Parade will be held on Dec. 7 in remembrance of those whose service and sacrifice preserved freedom and liberty for our country. According to their website, the parade is an important reminder of the fateful day of the attack on Pearl Harbor while providing hope that from conflict and the devastation of the war, peace and friendship can occur. The parade will also feature the WW1180 Pearl Harbor Massed Band and Choir in the official opening ceremony.

The band works extremely hard, sometimes practicing seven days a week, to achieve their goals. The band director, principal and band boosters started a fundraiser to help reach their goal of \$250,000 needed to make the trip possible.

Band Director Jim Allder said this invitation is a huge honor, and that the band has attended this event once before in 2001 for the 70th anniversary

of the Pearl Harbor attack. He said that while \$250,000 is a lot of money, the life experience for the band students experiencing the trip makes it well worth it. An anonymous donor has already contributed a lump sum to kickstart the fundraising, and the band is seeking support not just from Greenbrier County, but from around the state to make the trip a reality.

If you would like to donate to the band for their trip you can find more information on the Greenbrier East Band's Facebook page. You can also mail donations to P.O. Box 1336 Lewisburg, WV 24901, or send donations via CashApp at \$gehsbandboosters, PayPal at GEHSMusicBoosters and Venmo at gehsbandboosters. When sending donations, please indicate that your donation is specifically for the trip to Hawaii, as the band gets donations for a variety of occasions.



State Fair advanced discounted ticket deadline approaching

The deadline to purchase advanced discounted tickets to the 2024 State Fair of West Virginia is Monday, July 29. Tickets may be purchased by visiting statefairfowv.com/tickets/, calling 1-800-514-ETIX (3849) or at the State Fair Box Office.

The Box Office is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday, Jul. 24, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

"We are just a few weeks from our 99th Annual event and we are getting excited," CEO Kelly Collins stated. "This year, inflation unfortunately caught up with the fair, and we made the tough decision to raise prices at the gate. To help our fairgoers, however, we've left advanced ticket prices at the same price and our gate specials have not changed!"

See "Advanced Ticket Deadline" ___ Page 4

Meet the WV potter whose products sell out in 10 days each year

By Stephen Baldwin,
RealWV, www.therealwv.com

"Come on in here," Maryanne Tuck Grimmett says as she opens the pink door to her pottery studio and invites me inside. "Thank you so much for coming to visit."

She's got a smile the size of Texas, and I quickly learn it's as genuine as Indian Creek, which runs near her farm.

Maryanne and her husband, BJ, make their living on their property just outside Greenville, WV, in Monroe County. He is a horse trainer and preacher; she is a potter.

You can't just find her pottery anywhere, though. She sells most everything she makes each year during a ten-day period in one historic West Virginia venue.

"Growing a small business is doing the best you can with what you have," she reflects. "I'm lucky and proud...and just so thankful."

Early struggles

Maryanne first took an interest in pottery in 2008. She was attending graduate school in North Carolina, pursuing a Master's degree in English at Appalachian State University, when she first saw a potter's wheel in action.

"I didn't know a thing about pottery," she remembers. "I was amazed. There was a woman working at a studio on campus. I asked her how long she'd been doing this. She said seven years. I remember thinking that if she could learn how to do it in seven years, I could too."

So Maryanne charged her iPod, downloaded the dramatized New Testament, and started making pottery. Kind of.

"I was very, very bad at it," she says with a laugh. "In my first six week class, I didn't produce a single piece."

"I just wasn't naturally good at it," she reflects. "That's ok. You don't have to be naturally good at things if you enjoy it and it's worth it to you to keep doing the work."

She did enjoy it, and she did keep up the work. Not long later, she took her first few pieces to a small farmer's market in North Carolina one weekend. "A little old lady bought a spoon rest from me," she says with the joy of a child on Christmas morning. "I was playing it cool on the outside, but I was ecstatic. Then it just grew from there."

The potter's process

When Maryanne & BJ moved back to West Virginia (she's originally from Rainelle), she set up a pottery studio in the basement. Now, she works out of a dedicated, separate space beside her house.

See "WV Potter" ___ Page 4



Maryanne Tuck Grimmett is a PhD candidate and potter who lives in Monroe County, WV. She primarily sells her products at the State Fair of West Virginia each year.
(Photo by RealWV)

Greenbrier Humane Society announces full capacity

Earlier this week, the Greenbrier Humane Society announced that they are operating at full capacity with animals at the facility, and are therefore closed for intakes except in cases of sick or injured animals.

"While we want to be able to continue to help our amazing community, our first priority must be the animals that are currently in our care," they state in a social media announcement. "We encourage you to call us to schedule a same-day intake appointment if you do find a sick or injured animal. We appreciate your patience as we maneuver this very challenging time in the animal welfare world. We will provide the public with an announcement when we are able to return back to our regular intake procedures. Thank you all for your patience, your kind words, and most certainly, YOUR SUPPORT!"

The Humane Society is open their regular hours, Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. for adoptions and foster placements only. Call 304-645-4775 for more details.

See "Humane Society" ___ Page 2

Nature's Way

By Karen Cohen
on page 4



Visit us at —
www.mountainmessenger.com
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Humane Society Continued from Front Page

GHS has also shared the following information for those wanting to help:

- **Adopt:** Don't forget that right now ALL adoptions are sponsored by BISSELL Pet Foundation and Cathy Bissell for #EmptytheShelters.
- **Foster:** They will send you home with all necessary food, toys, treats, etc. If you're interested in a slumber paw-ty, you're more than welcome to take a resident for a night or foster for our length of two weeks OR more if necessary! (Foster fails are encouraged)
- **Volunteering:** Spending just a couple minutes outside or even on a Doggy Day Out makes these dogs feel so special and gets them out of their kennel!
- **Donate:** In honor of #FiveDollarFriday, if multiple people are able to donate just a couple dollars, imagine how far it could go! Mail-in checks are accepted, over-the-phone transactions, as well as PayPal and Venmo donations. Wish list supply items that are needed include bleach, laundry detergent, trash bags, dog/cat food, treats, toys, and clip-on leashes for adopters.

Friends of the Library Book Sale set for first weekend of August

The annual Friends of the Greenbrier County Public Library Book Sale is coming up on Friday, Aug. 2 and Saturday, Aug. 3. Held in conjunction with the Lewisburg Literary Festival, the sale will feature around 10,000 volumes of used fiction and non-fiction that have been donated to the library. The Friends of the Library donate proceeds to support library programming and operations.

The sale opens at the library, located at 152 Robert W. McCormick Drive in downtown Lewisburg, at noon Friday, and runs until 6 p.m. On Saturday, the sale starts at 9 a.m. and closes at 2 p.m. On Friday, books will be priced at \$2 for hardcovers and \$1 for paperbacks. Saturday shoppers can buy books for \$5 a bag. (The bags are supplied by the library.) The book sale accepts credit cards and checks, as well as cash.

In order to prepare for the sale, the library will not accept large donations of books until September. Small donations of one or two bags are still being accepted. Call the library at 304-647-7568 for additional information.

Master Gardeners prepare for State Fair

Master Gardeners met at the Demonstration Garden at the West Virginia State Fairgrounds to get things ready for "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year." The West Virginia State Fair opens in just two weeks and runs from Aug. 8-17.

For the Master Gardeners, a lot needs to happen to get things ready. Weeds need to be weeded, bloomed plants need to be dead-headed, and the garden needs watered, and watered, and watered. While most of the plants in the famed Demonstration Garden are native to West Virginia and can bear the heat, the new plantings are vulnerable and need additional watering to establish strong roots.

On the topic of roots, the Master Gardener workday is an intergenerational effort, involving grandparents, children, and grandchildren. Master Gardener Lorrie Hammond brought her three grandchildren, Cole, age 10; Andrew, age 7; and Mason, age 12, to help out.

If you want to stop by and see the Demonstration Garden as it is being readied it is open throughout the week and weekend.

For further information and to sign-up to be a Master Gardener call the Greenbrier County Extension Office at 304-647-7408.



Lorrie Hammond with her grandchildren Cole, Andrew, and Mason.



Lori and Cole hard at work.

PICK OF THE LITTER



GUS
Gus is a two-year-old male retriever mix and weighs 50 pounds. (No kids under 12)



MAX
Max is a two-month-old male 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.

DON'T SHOP • ADOPT!

WV lawmakers urge passage of Raylee's Law during special session

By Nadia Ramlagan

After the tragic death of Kyneddi Miller, a 14-year-old West Virginia girl found dead in her home, some state lawmakers are calling on the governor to pass a bill known as "Raylee's Law" during a special session expected in August.

Named after Raylee Browning, an 8-year-old girl who was removed from public school and home-schooled after teachers reported abuse to child protective services, versions of the law have stalled in the Legislature the past few years.

Del. Joey Garcia, D-Fairmont, said the law would ban county school boards from authorizing home-school instruction if there's a pending child abuse or neglect investigation against a parent or guardian.

"I think what we're looking at is there has to be some level of accountability," Garcia contended. "Just like there is in the public school system, that children are being taught, that they're not being abused."

A 2023 analysis by the Washington Post estimated there are 1 million to nearly 3 million home-schooled children in the United States. In West Virginia, the number is around 13,000, according to the West Virginia Home Educators Association, which said it opposes any oversight of home schooling.

Garcia emphasized the law is designed to help improve one aspect of the state's failing child welfare system. In 2019, current and former foster care children filed a class-action lawsuit arguing the

state repeatedly failed to protect children in its care. He added West Virginia has work to do when it comes to child safety.

"Across the aisle, Democrats, Republicans, people of all different beliefs with respect to education, to try to provide for a reasonable and narrowly tailored law that protects children," Garcia explained.

Lawmakers also are in discussion with local school boards about enforcing assessment completion for home-schooled kids. State law requires assessments at certain grade levels and local public school officials have few options to check on children when a parent or guardian fails to submit them. Data show just 37% of home-school households submit assessments.

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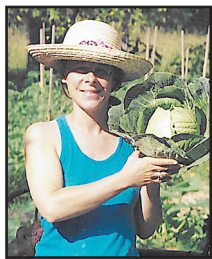
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By Karen Cohen

Throwing in the Trowel

I kicked off my garden clogs and decided to walk bare-foot through the grass and garden today. My feet will get filthy but a good long night soak will help melt off the dirt before I slip under the sheets tonight. TMI: I don't bother getting pedicures anymore. Why bother spending all that money on colored toenails or for that matter, fingernails? I am a gardener and proof of that lies under each digit. All 20 of them. Years ago, a designer whom I worked with remarked, "Your nails are all uneven and ragged." My reply was, "You pick colors and I pick tomatoes." Period. Nuf said. Move along now.

Speaking of moving along, have you noticed how quickly time has flown by? I am considered officially an elder! Did I have to tell y'all that? Nah, but why hide that fact? I do consider myself lucky to be around this long! AND I still have my synapses firing in the ole brain-eroo... The whole world has heard recently from way too many younger folks that our current president (due to his old age), must relinquish his title to someone younger in our 2024 elections. Those darn young folks keep popping up everywhere, don't they! There seems to be a long line of them in back of older folks just ready to push us off the proverbial cliff! Seriously, that's okay by me! I have a parachute on and I am ready to face up to the facts about aging. I've earned my badge of honor and may still have more in store, too!

But here's my dilemma that clouds my thoughts after the Biden incident. Do I want to spend my next ten years tending to crops that may/may not fail? What am I actually able to accomplish? The all powerful and all knowing Mother Nature never considers my past accomplishments including all my hard work toiling year after year in my garden. I now present to you my brief summation of my 20x50 fenced garden; I include both successes (because I remain positive despite all the BS), and the failures (ouchie). Let's begin, shall we?

My cabbages that were doing so well and rounding up into hard balls have now become squishy and brown and stink! Cabbage moths lay eggs and then the "caterpillars" eat up everything they are born on. Ditto with my once attractive brussel sprout plants. The eggplant

plants, which okay, okay, I know don't grow well here but I nursed along anyway, have recently become lace doilies due to flea beetles. I squished the little black dots almost daily but then I left for a few days of visiting out of town friends and came back to...what? Flowers on them have come and gone, dropped off to the ground before pollination, and yesterday I spent \$5 on one eggplant from our local farmers' market to fulfill my eggplant craving. I questioned the farmer, "\$5, really??" But he knew he had the right to charge that. He grew his eggplants in the covered hoop house where no flea beetle even thought to enter. They were too busy consuming all the arugula outside. @\$%^& (that means I cussed.) I was careful and deliberate with my tender eggplant plants. I covered them securely with remay cloth and that worked. When they grew to two feet I thought they were strong and would survive. Wrong. Can you say Dec-E-ma-tion?

Basil. Oh basil. Why do I have not one single basil stalk to chop up for my tomato and cheese caprese salad? What did I do wrong? Beats me! I do have two resident toads that are lurking about in my garden. They look guilty! They never make eye contact with me, I've noted that. Yes, they eat bugs but do they also go for tender young plants too? Don't ask, don't tell is the reply I get from them. Ok, I give them leeway because, well, toads are cool and bumpy! Ugly but in a cute way, you know what I mean.

Enough of the failures that remind me that maybe "I don't want to do this again next year." Do I? Successes are worth counting too: Swiss chard and mustard greens (nothing seems to eat or kill those in my garden). Our six foot fence around the perimeter of our growing area works to keep out the critters. Pretty it ain't, but then, who's looking! Deer, rabbits, chipmunks, mice, etc. don't have any clue about good taste... but they do know what tastes good. My human friends are not a bit impressed by our ugly chain link fence, but it does keep out my dog who digs and my cats who pee; I won't mention those marauding, crepuscular deer! They're heading for your yard as we speak!

Zucchini! Can anyone get too much zucchini? Mais



Toads eat plenty of crawly bugs in the garden. (Photo by Karen Cohen)

oui, mon ami, (that's my high school French kicking in-look it up!). Everyday there is another zuke to harvest before it turns into a baseball bat that could whack someone dead as quickly as you can say Tony Soprano! I do love zucchini much more than the numerous cucumbers that proliferate. Want some? Pickles! Cucumbers certainly taste much better when they are aging... into pickles! Who wants pickles for the rest of your life?

So let's segway and go back to aging. I'm aging... but let's face it- you are aging too! What age is actually old? Nevermind-who asked you! I ask myself in a moment of very deep self-contemplation, "Do I want to continue coaxing baby seedlings into fruition till the very end of my precious days? Do I want to bend, stoop, kneel, weed, plant, hoe, and then do it all over again year after year for a few measly vegetables?" The heat got to me this summer; we opted to install a window A/C for the first time living here in 25+ years. Even here in the cooler temps of West Virginia, it was H.O.T.! Must we water daily to keep plants from fainting and turning crunchy? Whether or not you believe in climate change, I know and you know, temperatures are getting hotter everywhere! No diggity, no doubt!

Presently, we have much needed daily rain. That causes mildew to set in on the tomatoes. The straw mulch I've spread in my garden now grows mold around the plants so I just raise my hands and say, "Ok, I've had enough of this guessing game!" Call it before it calls me... Growing food and flowers is a test of endurance and stamina. I just might throw in my trowel! But wait, I've still got a few seeds left in this packet right here.

Karen Cohen is an organic grower and would love to hear about your garden success! Share your tips and comments via email to: natureswaykaren@gmail.com and Happy Gardening!

Advanced Ticket Deadline

Continued from Front Page

- Specials for 2024 include:
- Free admission for children ages 10 and below all week
 - \$7 admission and \$25 ride pass on opening day (Aug. 8)
 - Communities in Schools of Greenbrier County School Supply Drive - For three school supply items, receive a ride pass and admission for just \$25 OR \$8 admission.
 - Senior Citizen Day, Tuesday, Aug. 13 - \$7 admission for 55 and over
 - All Day ride special, Tuesday, August 13 - \$20 ride pass
 - DOLLAR DAY – Get into the fair for just \$1 on Wednesday, Aug. 14 until 4 p.m.
 - Military Day, Thursday, Aug. 15 - \$7 with Valid Military or Veterans ID
 - Afternoon Specials -\$7 admission after 4 p.m. on Aug. 13, 14 and 15.
 - Lunch Special - Come between the hours of 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and get your admission refunded if you leave by 1 p.m.

For 2024 Advanced Adult tickets (11 and older) are \$10 if purchased by July 29, or \$15 at the gate. Carnival advance discounts include a \$30 Mega Pass, which is valid for one day and includes 12 hours of unlimited rides (11 a.m. to 11 p.m.).

Concert tickets are available for all shows and may be purchased via the website or the State Fair Box Office. Concert tickets are not offered at a discounted rate, but gate admission is included.

Tickets purchased online and through ETIX are subject to a convenience fee.

The 10-day State Fair of West Virginia is celebrating 99 years on Aug. 8-17, 2024. The State Fair of West Virginia, with a \$16.9 million economic impact on the state of West Virginia, is a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation committed to the traditions of agriculture, family entertainment, and education. For more information, please visit www.statefairfwbv.com, or follow fair events on Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok. Join the conversation by using #sfwbv!

WV Potter

Continued from Front Page

"People tend to think pottery is this abstract creative process. It isn't," she says. "I hate to break people's hearts, but pottery is 95% hard work and 5% creativity."

For her part, Maryanne loves every step on the path. "I love the work. I love to work hard. I love having a plan, making a plan, putting systems in place, and sticking to it."

After several years in business, Maryanne has a well-oiled system in place. She creates pottery starting every January, making as many pieces as her "one woman show" can until the State Fair of West Virginia kicks off in August.

Then she loads up her Shasta Airflyte Camper, named Bernadette, and takes all of her work to the fair to sell. Within 10 days, nearly all of it is gone.

"Thanks to beautiful, amazing, supportive customers who come and pick out pottery," she says. "They give it as gifts, they keep it for themselves, and they come back."

Maryanne says time and time again that "West Virginians show up for each other," something she has seen in her business time and time again. It's a principle she does her best to give back to the state that's given her so much.

If she has any pottery left after the fair, she chooses a local business, "preferably woman-run," and sets up a pop-up store.

"I may sell a few pieces online if any is left, but I don't ship or sell online."

'Functional & flawed'

Maryanne offers a wide variety of items including mugs, bowls, plates, spoon rests, dog bowls, tumblers, and ornaments.

As she crafts each piece, she thinks about who will buy it and how they might use it. "Somebody will put this in their camper and drive to Pipestem," she thinks. "Somebody will sit on their front porch each morning as they drink coffee from this mug." So she aims to make every piece as unique as the person holding it. No two

are exactly alike.

"Everything I've learned about pottery I've learned by making mistakes," she says, with a confidence that belies her confession.

Her Rotten Tomato mugs are a perfect example. "They were born of a mistake. I was throwing mugs, and I accidentally smashed one. My sister in law said it looked like a rotten tomato."

"It was sunk down and squatty," she remembers. "They're wrinkly and kinda weird but they're easy to hold. I have customers who have a hard time gripping and they love these. They're very easy to hold. They're functional and flawed."

She introduces the famous Rotten Tomato mugs in a new color each year. This year, her customers can look forward to a light blue hue.

Maryanne doesn't take her success for granted. As I look around her pottery studio, I notice history textbooks. I ask the talented potter if she reads heavy-duty history textbooks in her spare time for...fun?

She laughs and says, "I'm actually 2/3 of the way through a PhD in History at Liberty University. It's strange to switch back and forth between the French Religious Wars and the Thirty Years War in Central Europe. And then do my pottery!"

But somehow it all makes sense for Maryanne - the pink studio, the teal camper, the bright smile, the history textbooks, and the pottery with a personality to match its maker.

"I'm just really grateful to do what I love," she says. "People don't need pottery; they choose to make pottery part of their lives. I really respect that. I'm very thankful for that and try to produce something that's worthy of people's generosity."

For more information on Maryanne's pottery, visit her under the grandstand at the State Fair of West Virginia or check out her website at www.maryannegrimmett.com or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/potteryby-maryanne.

This Week in WV History

The following events happened on these dates in West Virginia history. To read more, go to e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia at www.wvencyclopedia.org.

July 28, 1915: Frankie Yankovic was born in Davis, Tucker County. Yankovic did more to popularize polka music than any other performer.

July 29, 1873: Malcolm Malachi "Mack" Day was born. As sheriff of McDowell County, he claimed that God had called him to enforce Prohibition, even arresting an uncle and his own son.

July 29-31, 1915: Camp Good Luck, believed to be the world's first 4-H club encampment, was held at Elkwater in southern Randolph County.

July 29, 1918: Novelist Mary Lee Settle was born in Charleston. Her literary reputation rests on the "Beulah Quintet," a sequence of five historical novels spanning four centuries.

July 30, 1973: The Frederick Hotel in downtown Huntington closed to transient trade. After it was built in 1905, it was touted as the most elegant hotel between Pittsburgh and Cincinnati.

July 31, 1932: Actor Theodore Crawford "Ted" Cassidy was born in Pittsburgh but was raised in Philippi. He was best known for his role as Lurch on The Addams Family.

Aug. 1, 1921: Baldwin-Felts detectives shot and killed Sid Hatfield and Ed Chambers as they approached the McDowell County Courthouse in Welch. As Matewan's police chief, Hatfield had assisted the United

Mine Workers' campaign to organize Tug Fork miners.

Aug. 1, 1940: Justice Franklin Cleckley was born in Huntington. In 1994, he became the first Black justice to serve on the West Virginia Supreme Court. The Supreme Court once referred to Cleckley's handbooks on evidence and criminal procedure as "the bible for West Virginia's judges and attorneys."

Aug. 2, 2009: Golfers Sam Snead and Bill Campbell became the first two inductees into the West Virginia Golf Hall of Fame.

Aug. 3, 1897: Fire destroyed much of downtown Lewisburg. The town rebuilt and evolved in the next century into the hub of one of the state's major farming areas and a center for education and the arts.

Aug. 3, 1907: Harley Orrin Staggers Sr. was born in Keyser. Staggers served in the U.S. House of Representatives for 32 years.



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Club & Church

Annie McMillion to lead Get Out the Vote effort for Blue Skies Ahead

Greenbrier County Democratic Women's Club/Blue Skies Ahead is pleased to announce the appointment of Annie McMillion as our Get Out the Vote Coordinator (GOTV) for 2024. Annie is a lifelong resident of West Virginia, living in Greenbrier County. She earned a Bachelor of Arts from Bluefield State College and a Master of Information Science from Florida State University.

Annie's previous work experience includes working as an Academic Technology Specialist at the WV School of Osteopathic Medicine and Library Director at New River Community and Technical College. She is currently the owner/founder of McMillion Eolas Services, a private consulting firm focused on research and support services for businesses.

Voter turnout for the May primary election was dismal. As GOTV Coordinator, Annie will work to mobilize volunteers to change that, using various voter outreach strategies, and providing voters with information about the important choices in the November election. Annie will also coordinate with local and statewide candidates to assist with their campaigns.

The Greenbrier Democratic Women's Club is a volunteer organization promoting democratic values. Blue Skies Ahead is the political action committee affiliated with the club.



Annie McMillion

For more information, check out our website at www.greenbrierdemwomen.org or www.blueskiesaheadwv.com

GV Disability Awareness group meets

Greenbrier Valley Disability Awareness met recently for their monthly meeting. Mary Thompson, the first Honoree of the White Sulphur Springs STRIDE Gala in 2023, led the discussion with the group regarding disability and accessibility issues. STRIDE stands for Supporting, Transforming, Rights, Inclusion and Disability Empowerment. Mary has a genuine interest in seeing our area be the most accessible for everyone. Greenbrier Valley continues to work to be the healthiest and most accessible in the state.

This group meets regularly and encompasses Pocahontas, Greenbrier and Monroe Counties. The group is comprised of those with a disability, a family member with a disability or individuals who have an interest in accessibility issues. For more information contact Mack at 304-767-1646.



Mack McIntire and Mary Thompson

Brooks brings entertainment to Senior Center



Songwriter and vocalist Kodie Brooks

Recent entertainment for the seniors at Greenbrier County Committee on Aging, Eastern Site, was provided by songwriter and vocalist Kodie Brooks. Site Supervisor Jeannie Hanna presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation and also placed a copy on the Wall of Fame at the Senior Center.

Upcoming events are Eric Mercer, Sr. singing gospel and country music on July 26, and Randy Smith, singer and guitar player, playing on July 31. All seniors in the area are encouraged to participate and enjoy the fun and fellowship. Located on Taylor Lane in Fairlea, the senior center is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information call 304-645-1978.

Church Bulletin

Annual Homecoming at First Baptist Church of Trout

Bring a covered dish Sunday, Aug. 4 and join in fellowship and song. Service starts at 11 a.m. Special singing. Pastor Roger Williams welcomes everyone!

Worship Services and other events at Lewisburg Baptist Church

Please join us for services and events at Lewisburg Baptist Church - a Bible believing and preaching Church nestled in the heart of Greenbrier County. Worship services are offered on Sundays (11 a.m. and 6 p.m.) and on Wednesdays (7 p.m.). Sunday School for children and for adults are on Sundays (10 a.m.). Van pick up is also available on Sundays and Wednesdays. On Wednesdays, other events include Awana Clubs (age 3 to Grade 6) at 6:45 p.m. and Youth Teen Ministry at 7 p.m. Lewisburg Baptist Church is located at 246 Grand Avenue in Lewisburg, WV. Further information is available at www.lbcwv.com, on Facebook, or please call 304-645-3797.

Reunions

Bennett

The Bennett Family Reunion descendants of JC "Jimmy" and Nora Myrtle Sawyers Bennett will be held Saturday, July 27 at Hollowell Park, Matthews Street, Lewisburg. Plan to eat around 1 p.m. Bring a covered dish and visit with your relatives and friends. Share a good meal, family history, family pictures and a good time! Let's make more good memories together! If you have questions, feel free to call: Joyce Morgan 304-661-6455, Charlotte Morgan 304-645-1179 or Genevieve Wiley 304-645-2573.

Bowden

The Bowden Family Reunion will be held Saturday, Aug. 10. Lunch 12 noon at The Sweet Springs Resort Park, 19540 Sweet Springs Valley Road, Sweet Springs, WV 24941. A \$10 charge per family. Organizers will provide drinks, paper plates, napkins and plasticware. Like previous reunions, please bring a covered dish of vegetables, pasta, meat, and/or dessert to share. If you want to participate, there will be a "Grab Bag" for sale for \$5 each. If you decide to bring one, stuff it with something special and staple it closed. It should have a minimum value of \$5. The family hopes to see everyone there!

Notice of Public Sewer Service Availability

Notice is hereby given that Greenbrier Public Service District No. 1 has made public sewer service available to new customers in the Rolling Hills subdivision and the Brush Road area, including Stone Glen Lane, Laura's Lane, Whitehill Lane, Tall Timbers Drive, Elizabeth Kay Lane, Edgewood Lane, Nature Lane and part of Stonehouse Road. A notice for affected customers will be posted on each premise advising that service is now available.

Each customer upon receiving notification must apply for service, at which time a \$50.00 security deposit is required. If not previously paid, a tap fee will also be required. As required by the West Virginia Public Service Commission's Rules for the Government of Sewer Utilities, each customer, regardless of the status of the connection to the public sewer system, must complete an Application for Service and pay a security deposit. The Application for Service and payment of the deposit MUST be completed prior to September 5, 2024.

Upon payment of fees and proper application being made, the District will provide the necessary assistance to each customer in order for the customer service line to be connected to the public system. Each customer is required to construct the necessary pipeline(s) from each residence or structure to the end of the property, at their expense, where service is available. Upon installation of the necessary pipeline(s) by the customer, the customer MUST notify the District that the service line has been installed. The District will physically inspect and approve all customer service lines. The customer must make available for inspection any and all portions of the customer service line and it must meet or exceed requirements set forth in the Rules and Regulations.

As authorized by West Virginia Code §16-13A-9 and the West Virginia Public Service Commission's Rules for the Government of Sewer Utilities, Greenbrier Public Service District No. 1 will begin billing customers immediately after each customer is connected or September 5, 2024, whichever comes first. All customers, regardless of the status of the connection to the public sewer system, will be billed based on each individual water meter usage.

Based on metered water supply, each customer will be charged monthly the following rates for general domestic, commercial, and industrial service contained in the approved tariff:

First 2,000 gallons used per month	\$15.13 per 1,000 gallons
Next 8,000 gallons used per month	\$12.75 per 1,000 gallons
All over 10,000 gallons used per month	\$12.06 per 1,000 gallons
Flat Rate Charge	\$62.14/month (for all customers with non-metered water supply)
Minimum Charge	No bill will be rendered for less than \$22.96 per month. The above minimum is subject to an additional \$3.65 per 1,000 gallons used per month.

West Virginia Code §16-13A-9 authorizes the District to petition the circuit court to compel connection to the public sewer system. Each customer which has been provided service is required to connect. A low interest loan program to provide financial assistance to cover the cost of connecting to a public sewer system is available through the West Virginia Housing Development Fund. For more information, contact the West Virginia Housing Development Fund at 1-800-933-8511 or 304-391-8727.

Title 64, Series 9 of the WV Department of Environmental Health requires property owners to abandon an existing septic tank system upon connection to a public sewer system. For more information on the abandonment of septic tanks, please contact the Environmental Health office at the Greenbrier County Health Department at 304-645-1539. Property owners located within the corporate boundaries of the City of Lewisburg will need to meet requirements as set forth by the City. For more information on municipal regulations, please contact Lewisburg City Hall at 3046452080.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the District at the following location:

Greenbrier Public Service No. 1
9035 Seneca Trail S, Fairlea WV
Phone: (304)645-6632
Fax: (304)645-5362
E-Mail: greenbrierpsd1@gmail.com
Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Closed for lunch 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Thank you for your cooperation.



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Dear Recycle Lady,

A Look Back

Dear Recycle Lady,

Several times I have heard or read that items put in recycled bins are often taken to a landfill.

Say it Isn't So

Dear Say It Isn't So,

I can absolutely and positively say this isn't so for any recycle items taken to the Recycling Center in Ronceverte. First of all, our buyers not only pay us for the recyclables, but they also pay for the 18 wheelers and drivers that come to pick up the very large bales of recyclables - and 18 wheelers and drivers are not cheap! Before committing to a price, we check with several buyers for the best price - which is most often Georgia Pacific (GP). Newspapers and other recyclable papers go to several large processing plants in Virginia where the most common up-cycled product is more paper. Plastics are also purchased by GP and sent to locations in Georgia where they are used to make various items including plastic car parts. Cardboard, also purchased by GP, is sent to Tennessee or Virginia, including Big Island, VA, where recycled cardboard is made. WV Cashin in Nitro, WV buys our aluminum cans, processes them and ships them off for further processing. Scott Recycling in Virginia buys electronic items, sorts them and grinds them up. Gold, copper, silver, plastics, glass and palladium can all be recovered from recycled electronics. The Center has an excellent reputation for clean recyclables that are free of trash so there are no problems finding buyers. Absolutely, nothing goes to the landfill.

Dear Recycle Lady,

Help! Exactly what can and cannot be recycled in the cardboard bin?

Conflicted Reader

Dear Conflicted Reader,

This is a question I am often asked, so I will attempt to list all items that go in the cardboard bin and all items that do not go in the cardboard bin. Readers, if I have missed something in either category, please let me know.

What CAN be recycled in the cardboard bin:

- Brown corrugated cardboard boxes

- a three-layer cardboard that everyone recognizes.

Be sure to remove ALL packaging materials, including Styrofoam, plastic peanuts and bubble wrap. These items can be taken to Post-Net on Route 219 North where they reuse them when shipping packages. Brown paper packaging can be left in the boxes and packing tape, labels and staples can be left on. Boxes do not need to be flattened.

Paperboard - a single layer cardboard - smaller boxes such as household and personal use boxes. For example, toothpaste boxes, cereal boxes with plastic liner removed, shoe boxes, and empty paper towel or toilet paper rolls. It is helpful for the employees if you flatten smaller boxes and place them inside larger boxes or in bags. Doing so keeps them from falling out on the floor during the baling process.

- Brown paper and brown paper bags of all sizes - with or without handles.
- Manila folders, envelopes, and hanging folders—if the metal hanging rod has been removed.
- Pressed cardboard carry-out forms that are clean and free of food.

What CANNOT be recycled as cardboard:

- Contaminated cardboard or bags - pizza boxes or boxes/bags that contained grease or oil.
- Cardboard containers with traces of food - coffee cups, takeout containers, paper plates.
- Boxes containing chemicals from cleaning supplies or other household products.
- Waxed-coated cartons that contained liquids, such as milk or juice.
- Shipping bags with a plastic liner.
- No plastics of any kind.

Good News: Lewisburg Boy Scout Troop 70 has received their Trex bench and it will be placed on the walking trail at Montwell Commons.

Have questions about recycling, or interesting information about recycling? Send questions or requests Recyclelady7@gmail.com. Dear Recycle Lady is sponsored jointly by the Greenbrier Recycling Center and Greenworks Recycling.

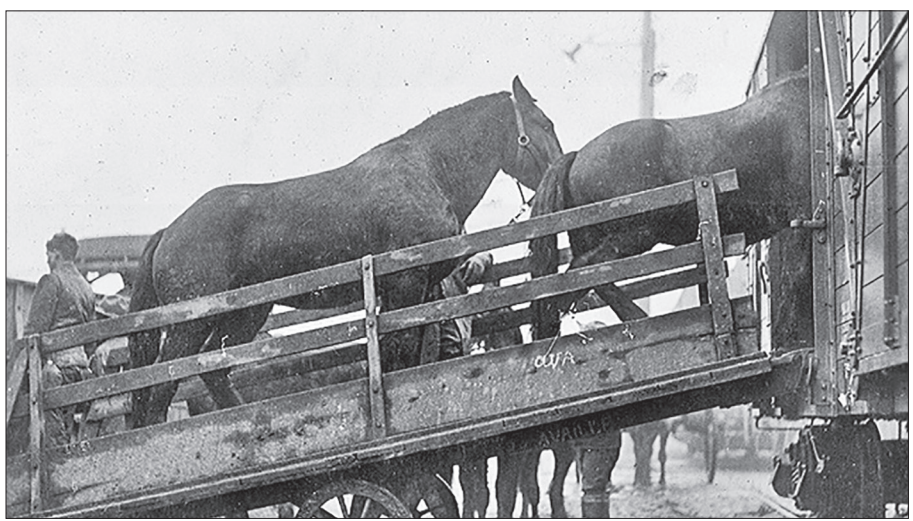


Photo courtesy of NPR. Sources: Hinton Daily News, The West Virginia News, The Independent-Herald, NPR, WWI Centennial Commission.

By William "Skip" Deegans

The 2022 film adaptation of the novel, All Quiet On The Western Front, showed the audience, in sometimes disturbing scenes, the importance of horses and mules in World War I. Most of those animals came from the United States, and Hinton, West Virginia, played a crucial role in the logistics of exporting over 1 million horses and mules to Britain, France and Spain.

Large horses and mules were needed to pull guns, supply wagons, and ambulances. Smaller horses were needed for the cavalry. Europe could not meet the demand, and it turned to the United States for help. Many of the animals came from the midwest, particularly Missouri, and they were transported by train to Avis, just outside of Hinton, where pens and sheds were constructed. The animals were unloaded and those that were sick or exhausted were treated and cared for by Dr. P.A. Gough, a

veterinarian, and 40 employees. Horses that took longer to recuperate were turned out to pasture to rest. Each day, a railroad car of hay and one of oats were consumed by the animals. From Hinton they were transported to Newport News on the C&O Railroad to be loaded onto ships.

The importance of horses and mules in the war was underscored by efforts of German saboteurs or sympathizers to poison the animals while they were waiting to board ships and to blow up trains that were carrying them. In active battle the lives of horses were short, and they had to be replenished. The supply never caught up with demand. At the end of the war, remaining animals were surplus property, and they had to be fed daily and cared for by veterinarians so the government was anxious to get rid of them. While a few horses were returned to the United States, most were sold and many to butchers.

West Virginia 211 Reaches 150,000 Calls: A Testament to Community Trust and Support

West Virginia 211, the state's premier helpline connecting residents with essential services and resources, proudly announces a significant achievement: receiving its 150,000th call. Since answering its first call in March 2019, West Virginia 211 has been steadfast in its mission to provide critical assistance and support to individuals and families across the state.

Established through the collaborative efforts of many United Ways across the state, West Virginia 211 has become a lifeline for thousands of residents. The helpline assists with housing, utilities, food, healthcare, and more. Each call received represents a person or family navigating challenges and seeking pathways to stability and resilience.

"Our 150,000th call is not just a number; it symbolizes the trust and reliance that the people of West Virginia place in our services," said April Knight, State Director of West Virginia 211. "We are honored to have reached this milestone and remain committed to being a beacon of hope and assistance for every caller."

West Virginia 211 operates 24 hours

a day, 7 days a week, connecting callers to a comprehensive network of community resources tailored to their specific needs. Whether it's providing information on disaster relief during emergencies or offering guidance on accessing social services, West Virginia 211 stands ready to assist.

"We are deeply grateful to our dedicated staff, partners, and other stakeholders whose unwavering support has enabled us to achieve this milestone," added Knight. "Together, we will continue to strengthen our communities by ensuring that help is always just a phone call away."

As West Virginia 211 celebrates this milestone, the organization reaffirms its commitment to continually improving services and enhancing accessibility. Our goal is to meet the evolving needs of the community and ensure every resident knows that help is always available.

For more information about West Virginia 211 or to access their services please visit <https://wv211.org>. WV 211 can also be reached by dialing 211 or 833-848-9905.

HAVE LEGALS? EMAIL THEM TO legalads@mountainmedianews.com

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School

WVSOM students in The Health Plan's Medical Scholarship Program

The Health Plan (THP) has opened its medical scholarship program to students at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM).

Since 2009, The Health Plan Scholarship program has provided over \$3 million in scholarships to more than 50 medical and nursing students who intend to stay and practice in the state of West Virginia.

On July 19, Jeff Knight, president and CEO of THP, and James W. Nemitz, Ph.D., president of WVSOM, celebrated the osteopathic medical school's inclusion in the need-based scholarship program, which is also available to medical and nursing students at West Virginia University and Marshall University.

Knight said including WVSOM builds on THP's efforts to support West Virginia medical community.

"The healthcare staffing shortage continues to be a significant issue in West Virginia. The Health Plan is committed to supporting our state's healthcare workforce, and we're thrilled to team up with WVSOM to offer our scholarship program to its students. WVSOM does amazing work in both educating our future providers and advocating for healthcare initiatives important to all West Virginians. We're proud to be partners," Knight said.

Nemitz thanked Knight and The Health Plan for offering the scholarship program at WVSOM, which educates an average of nearly 800 medical students each year. According to the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, the school is No. 1 in producing physicians who practice in West Virginia, with 40% of the state's physicians being WVSOM graduates.

"WVSOM is appreciative that The Health Plan has included osteopathic medical students in its scholarship program. Medical school is not inexpensive. This scholarship, by financially assisting recipients who want to stay in West Virginia, benefits not only our students but the state. The Health Plan shows its commitment to the health and well-being of the communities it serves through its products and services and by supporting healthcare professionals, medical education and healthy-living initiatives. The program is a tremendous opportunity for WVSOM students," Nemitz said.

With this new opportunity, WVSOM students were able to apply in the final month of the 2024-25 scholarship cycle and will be eligible for the full 2025-26 period. The scholarship pays for tuition and fees at the school's in-state rate and can be renewed for up to four years.



James W. Nemitz, Ph.D., president of WVSOM, left, and Jeff Knight, president and CEO of THP, announce the osteopathic medical school's inclusion in The Health Plan Scholarship program

Local student represents West Virginia at American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation

Mollie Pack of Lewisburg is one of 100 high school seniors selected to attend American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Girls Nation July 20-27 in Washington, DC. The weeklong program, founded in 1947, has provided exceptional civic education to thousands of students, teaching them about how the federal government works.

Pack is one of two participants who will represent West Virginia as a "senator" at ALA Girls Nation. Two delegates from each ALA Girls State program are chosen to represent their state after participating in an ALA state-level program held across the country. At ALA Girls Nation, senators will participate in mock Senate sessions complete with caucuses and debating bills that range from personal to political interests.

Other activities on the agenda include a visit to Arlington National Cemetery where they will place a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, a visit to Capitol Hill to meet with real-life U.S. senators from their state, and a tour of D.C. monuments.

Pack, a rising senior at Greenbrier East High School, was active in many ways during her week at ALA Rhododendron Girls State. She also participates in many activities in her school and community, including student government, National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta Math Honorary, Academic Showdown Team, Math Field Day, volleyball, and CrossFit.

ALA Girls Nation is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our nation's future leaders to learn about the inner workings of the federal government before they are of voting age. Students leave the program with increased confidence and leadership skills for college and in their future career paths. Some participants of the program go on to have careers in public service at the local, state, and national levels. No matter what their future holds, all leave with a better understanding of civic responsibilities. After attending ALA Girls Nation, the participants return home ready to be engaged citizens at all levels of government.

You can learn more about ALA Girls Nation online and on Facebook and Instagram.

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 gap.

Order SEESIR [] [] [] []
Meet EVENCON [] [] [] []
Concede IDELY [] [] [] []
Flurry PASTE [] [] [] []

"Something smells good. Are we having _____?"

TODAY'S WORD [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Pillow is larger. 2. Pillow is larger. 3. Telephone pole is moved. 4. Bush is smaller. 5. Fence boards are wider. 6. Man's legs are longer.

Super Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19				
20									21							22						
23									24							25						
26				27				28						29	30							
			31				32	33				34	35	36								
37	38	39					40					41					42					
43					44	45				46	47					48	49					
50					51					52						53						
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58					59			60	61	62				63	64	65		66	67	68	69	
70						71						72						73				
74						75						76						77				
						78	79									80			81	82		83
84	85	86						87	88	89				90	91				92			
93								94						95					96			
97								98	99										100			101
102																						
108																						
114																						
122																						
125																						

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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Mountain State Spotlight: Biden's drug czar is in West Virginia this week

Here are five things the federal government can do to address the overdose epidemic

As Dr. Rahul Gupta visits Charleston, public health workers told Mountain State Spotlight the federal government could improve West Virginia's addiction crisis by changing requirements for some treatment options and increasing funding for recovery resources.

by Allen Siegler

This story was originally published by Mountain State Spotlight. Get stories like this delivered to your email inbox once a week; sign up for the free newsletter at <https://mountainstatespotlight.org/newsletter>.

Dr. Rahul Gupta is back in West Virginia. The state's former health officer has ventured west of Washington this week, hosting seven public discussions in Martinsburg and Charleston as part of his new role as White House Office of Drug Control Policy Director.

Over the last three years, Gupta and the Biden administration have taken significant steps to address the country's devastating overdose crisis. They've promoted harm reduction aggressively, even finding ways to test out hard-sell, evidence-based strategies like safe injection sites.

Still, the addiction crisis continues to ravage U.S. families, especially in Gupta's former state. Last year, about four West Virginians died of a drug overdose every day.

As the nation's "drug czar," Gupta is in a better position to advocate for addiction-related changes than just about anyone else.

Here are five steps the federal government could take to help abate West Virginia's overdose crisis.

1. Change opioid treatment program restrictions

West Virginia has policies and regulations that restrict access to opioid addiction treatment. The state makes it difficult for some people with opioid use disorders to receive medications like methadone, which is considered a "gold standard" of treatment. Since 2007, West Virginia has limited the number of methadone



Dr. Rahul Gupta speaks at West Virginia University. Photo courtesy of West Virginia University.

clinics, the only places methadone can be prescribed to treat addiction, to nine locations.

But while that's a state law, federal law is the reason methadone can only be prescribed for treating substance use disorder at these clinics.

People who research addiction have called on Congress to change this policy to allow doctors to prescribe methadone for addiction treatment outside of specialized clinics. Because West Virginia's moratorium is focused on methadone clinics and not the medication itself, that type of change could make the treatment more accessible to state residents.

Last winter, when Gupta was asked in an interview about a federal bill that would accomplish parts of this goal, he stopped short of endorsing the proposed legislation. Instead, he said it's important for Congress to "let the science and the data guide policy-making."

2. Change restrictions on treatment for methamphetamine addiction

A decade ago, less than 5% of West Virginia fatal overdoses were related to methamphetamine. But that's changed dramatically; last year, more than 50% of the state's nearly 1,400 drug deaths involved meth.

That presents a difficult public health problem for West Virginia.

Scientists have yet to develop reliable medications for treating methamphetamine addiction.

Of the available treatments, the most effective options are behavior training programs, also known as contingency management. These types of programs reward people regularly with money or other incentives for abstaining from a drug.

Dr. Philip Chan, an addiction and infectious disease researcher at Brown University, said if he could provide patients with \$400 to \$500 every two to three months, it would be more effective at keeping them from using meth. But the federal government caps contingency management payments at \$75 a year.

3. Repeal the federal funding ban for syringes and needles

West Virginia has many restrictions around needle exchanges. In 2021, the Legislature passed a law that forces syringe service programs to offer a variety of other harm reduction services, and it instructs them to deny service to those who don't have valid state IDs or return their used needles.

The additional requirements led many programs across the state to shutter. For the ones that remain, restrictions at the national level make it even more difficult to operate.

Needle exchanges are already prohibited from using federal funds to purchase clean needles and syringes. And there have been pushes, including from West Virginia Senator Joe Manchin, to extend the prohibition to safe smoking devices as well.

Nikki Dolan, the Greenbrier Health Department administrator, said this policy makes it more difficult to fund her county's only syringe service program.

"We've been doing harm reduction since 2018 and have never been able to purchase needles with grant funding," she said.

4. Include West Virginia in the Ending the HIV Epidemic initiative

West Virginia's recent drug-related HIV outbreaks have been among the worst in the nation. In 2019, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention stepped in to help with a Cabell County outbreak. A couple years later, the agency returned to address cases in Kanawha County, with one top health official calling the outbreak the "most concerning in the United States."

West Virginia HIV cases have decreased over the last two years, but many doctors and researchers worry about undetected spread, especially in rural parts of the state.

Despite the national attention, no West Virginia counties are included in the federal government's Ending the HIV Epidemic initiative. The program is designed to direct additional funding and resources to communities heavily impacted by the infectious disease.

Gregg Gonsalves, a Yale University School of Public Health professor who studies HIV transmission, said he was surprised to learn West Virginia and its counties weren't included in the program.

He said Gupta, using his position in the federal government, could ask Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra and CDC Director Mandy Cohen to include West Virginia or some of its counties in the initiative.

5. More funding for recovery residences

Even if state residents with addictions find and receive treatment, sustaining recovery can be challenging. West Virginians in recovery can struggle to find places to live where they aren't around drugs or alcohol.

Recovery residences, also known as sober living houses, can help with that. The state and federal governments have said the housing units can help people in recovery avoid relapsing.

But in West Virginia, recovery residences often face financial barriers. A survey of state sober living homes last year found that the biggest challenge the organizations faced was financial resources, and the surveyed organizations said only 12% of their revenue comes from federal grants.

Jon Dower, the executive director of West Virginia Sober Living, said the federal government could make these grants easier for recovery residences to win, especially for people who are looking to start state-certified homes.

"If we look at what's most needed in the recovery housing space in West Virginia, in my opinion it's capacity," he said.

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS GREENBRIER COUNTY COMMISSION MEADOW RIVER RAIL TRAIL PHASE 3

The Greenbrier County Commission (Owner) will receive sealed bids properly endorsed "Meadow River Rail Trail Phase 3" until 10:00 a.m., EST on Tuesday, August 27, 2024, in the offices of the Greenbrier County Commission, 912 Court Street, North, Lewisburg, WV 24901, at which time all bids will be opened publicly and read aloud. The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any informalities in bidding and to accept the bid considered to be in its best interest from the lowest responsible bidder. All interested parties are invited to attend.

The work consists of the following:

Construction of approximately 9.15 miles of rail trail, to include a trailhead parking lot, signage, crushed stone trail surface, culverts, ditch clearing, one (1) prefabricated pedestrian bridge, one (1) trestle conversion, park benches, slope repairs, removable bollards, railing, seeding/straw mulch, and erosion control, and other trail amenities.

The Plans and Contract Documents may be examined at the following locations:

Greenbrier County Commission
912 Court Street, North
Lewisburg, WV 24901
(304) 647-6689, Ext. 0

Contractors Association of WV
2114 Kanawha Blvd., East
Charleston, WV 25311
(304) 342-1166

Kanawha Valley Builders Association
1627 Bigley Avenue
Charleston, WV 25302
(304) 342-7141

Parkersburg-Marietta Contractors Association
4424-B Emerson Avenue
Parkersburg, WV 26104
(304) 485-6485

Construction Employers Association NCWV
2794 White Hall Blvd.
White Hall, WV 26554
(304) 367-1290

E.L. Robinson Engineering Co.
5088 Washington Street, West
Cross Lanes, WV 25313
(304) 776-7473

A MANDATORY pre-bid conference for the purpose of discussing the scope of work, labor standards and other requirements will be held on Thursday, August 8, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in the Rainelle Town Hall, 201 Kanawha Avenue, Rainelle, WV, 25962, and will adjourn at the project site.

Copies of the Plans and Contract Documents may be obtained from the office of the Engineer, E.L. Robinson Engineering Co., 5088 Washington Street, West, Cross Lanes, WV, 25313, upon a nonrefundable payment of one hundred dollars (\$125.00) for each set of documents.

A certified check, bank draft or a satisfactory bid bond furnished by a solvent surety company authorized to do business in the State of West Virginia in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the total amount of the bid, payable to the Greenbrier County Commission, shall be submitted with each bid.

The successful bidder will be required to furnish a satisfactory Payment and Performance Bond, Labor, and Material Bond for 100% of the contract amount and the fee for same shall be included in the bid proposal.

Prospective Bidders are advised that the contracts awarded under this bid are to be funded in whole or in part by Greenbrier and Fayette County Commissions and the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection - Office of Abandoned Mine Lands Economic Revitalization (AMLER) Program.

Bidders on this work will be required to comply with the President's Executive Order No. 11246 and "HUD Section 109," which prohibits discrimination in employment regarding race, creed, color, sex, or national origin. Attention of bidders is also called to Section 3, Segregated Facilities, Title VI, and the conditions of employment to be observed and minimum wage rates to be paid.

Bidders must comply with the requirements for Affirmative Action and Minority Business Enterprises participation as described in the Federal specifications insert to the contract documents. Special provisions will be made by the bidder to show what portions of the bid within each division are supported by Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) work. In addition, bidders may obtain, upon request, information concerning local MBE firms.

Contractors will ensure compliance by its consultant(s) and contractor(s)/subcontractor(s), with the Copeland Act "Anti-Kickback" Act (40 U.S.C. § 276C and 18 U.S.C. § 874), the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§ 327-333), "Equal Employment Opportunity" Executive Orders 11246 and 11375 and 41 CFR 60, the Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988, the "Build America, Buy America" (BABA) requirements concerning the use all iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials for Federally funded projects in the United States (Build America, Buy America (BABA) Act, P.L. 117-58, Secs 70911 - 70917, and Worker Visibility Regulations that require that all persons working within the right-of-way of a Federal Aid Highway wear highly visible safety apparel that meets the Performance Class 2 or 3 requirements of ANSI/ISEA 107-204 publication entitled, "American National Standard for High-Visibility Safety Apparel and Headwear." Although no Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal has been set for this project, the Greenbrier County Commission strongly encourages the consideration of DBE's when hiring contractors for this or any sponsored project. Minority, Female and Section 3 owned firms are encouraged to apply.

No bid may be withdrawn after the scheduled closing time for the receipt of bids for at least ninety (90) days.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
Greenbrier County Commission
Tammy Tincher, President

LEGAL

Greenbrier County has released a Request for Proposal for new or refurbished desktops and monitors for the 2024-25 school year. Details are available at www.greenbrier-countyschools.org or by contacting Vicky Cline at vccline@k12.wv.us or (304) 647-6484.

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT: Appearing on the ballot for the 2024 General Election scheduled for November 5, 2024, is a proposed amendment to the West Virginia Constitution as authorized by HJR 28 (2024 Regular Session). The title of the proposed amendment is "Protection of persons against medically assisted suicide" and its summary purpose is "to protect West Virginians against medically assisted suicide."

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) 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 August 13, 2024 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
027 2023130019	S313-60/34-9.01 00	HWI-6034(003)D	CLEAN AND PAINT STRUCTURE KATES MOUNTAIN BRIDGE Termini: 0.24 mi S US 60 - 0.29 mi S US 60 COUNTY: GREENBRIER

BRIDGE: 0002 CONCRETE ON ROLLED I BEAM
SPAN(S): 4 STRUCTURE STEEL:
DBE GOAL: 6 % OF CONTRACT BID AMOUNT. BIDDER MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCE OF MEETING GOAL ON FORM IN PROPOSAL.

REMARKS:

Proposals will be received from prequalified and West Virginia licensed contractors only except that on Federal-Aid Projects a contractors' license 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. The deferment, delay, postponement, and the date that proposals will be received and publicly opened will be available on www.bidx.com.

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.

THANK YOU FOR READING THE
MOUNTAIN MESSENGER

STEPPIN' OUT

Upcoming Ivy Terrance Concert performances scheduled

Browns Creek Night Crawlers - Thursday, August 8

The Browns Creek Night Crawlers are an old-time Appalachian string trio of multi-instrumentalists Mike Burns, Mary Sue Burns, and Jay Lockman. They live in Pocahontas County, West Virginia and have been playing music together for more than 20 years. Since 2007, they have played and recorded with the band, Juanita Fireball & the Continental Drifters, and performed at the Pocahontas County Opera House, Shepherd University Appalachian Heritage Festival, The Ivy Terrace, The Vandalia Gathering, and numerous square dances, fairs, festivals, and other events in Pocahontas and surrounding counties. Members of the trio have played for square dances and dance contests throughout the region, including the Appalachian Stringband Festival at Clifftop and have participated in the Dolly and the Devil recording project.



Browns Creek Night Crawlers

Thomas Taylor Band - Thursday, August 22

The Thomas Taylor Band formed in 2017 and is dedicated to preserving and promoting traditional country music. They focus primarily on the honky-tonk genre, but also have a vast catalog of mate-



Thomas Taylor Band

rial, including western country swing. The band released their first album "Another Round" in August of 2020. Band members include Thomas Taylor, Don Drummer, Butch White, Alan Copenhaver, Bill Clapham, and Jerry Wood.

The West Virginia Department of Education Announces 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant Awards

The West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2025 Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) grants. Funds are awarded competitively to youth-serving organizations and local educational agencies to provide high-quality, academic-focused afterschool programs for students.

The 2025 awardees are:

- Greenbrier County Schools
- Morgan County Schools
- Partnership of African American Churches
- Playmates Preschool and Childcare Centers, Inc.

- Preston County Schools
- Save the Children Federation, Inc.
- Tucker County Schools
- World Vision, Inc.

"The success of our students is built on the combined and cooperative efforts of our schools, our families and our expanded communities," said State Superintendent of Schools Michele L. Blatt. "These grantees represent the commitment of organizations and systems across our state to fully serve our children. Each offers the level of supplemental programming that will positively impact students today and in the future."

The 21st CCLC program offers students access

to high-quality and engaging afterschool activities that support their learning and development. Funding provides students with homework assistance, tutoring and a broad array of enrichment activities that complement their regular academic programs during out-of-school hours. Additionally, this grant requires grantees to engage parents and caregivers in their children's learning and progress.

Grants are available for up to five years, if the grantees successfully implement afterschool programs with fidelity, meet federal and state requirements and the United States Department of Education continues to provide federal funding.

Entertainment Calendar

July 26- August 4

Friday, July 26

Friday Night Community Market, Edgar Ave, Ronceverte, 5 p.m.
The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Carnegie Hall, 7:30 p.m.
Western Greenbrier Farmer's Market, Main St, Rainelle, 3:30-6 p.m.
59th Annual WV State Water Festivals Fireman's Parade, Hinton, 8 p.m.
Blues and Brews Festival, Snowshoe

Mountain, 9 a.m. to Saturday at 11 p.m.

Saturday, July 27

The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Carnegie Hall, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Ben and the Sons Live at GVBC, Maxwelton, 5 p.m.
Courthouse Farmer's Market, Robert C. Byrd parking lot, Lewisburg, 8 a.m.-12 p.m.
Flea Market, State Fair parking lot, every Tues. and Sat. 7 a.m.-1 p.m.

Sunday, July 28

Marketfest at Sunset Farm, Alderson, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Pence Springs Flea Market, 8 a.m.
Dragon Tea Party and Mythical Creature Trivengo, Fox and Fairy Tea House, Hinton, 1 p.m.

Tuesday, July 30

Alderson Farmers Market, 3 p.m. - 6 p.m., Alderson
Pinoy Inspired Cuisine, Mountain Table 3-8 p.m.
Farmer's Market, Mountain Table, 4-7 p.m.
Patrick O'Flaherty, Mountain Table, 5-8

Wednesday, July 31

Pocahontas County Farmers Market, Green Bank Fire Department, 2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., Green Bank

Thursday, August 1

White Sulphur Springs Farmer's Market, Main Street, 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
WV Grown Networking Event, Hawk Knob Cidery, Lewisburg, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Friday, August 2

Lewisburg Literary Festival, 8 a.m. to Sunday at 12 a.m.
Community Market, Edgar Ave, Ronceverte, 5-7 p.m.
LLF Workshop: Memoir with Diane Tarantini & Renee Nicholson, Lewisburg, 5 p.m.

LLF Presents: The Porch Poets, Lewisburg, 6 p.m.
Mike Jones live, GVBC, Maxwelton, 7 p.m.
Patrick O'Flaherty live, Patina, first Friday of every month, 4-8 p.m.

Saturday, August 3

Pocahontas County Farmers Market Discovery Junction, Marlinton, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
LLF Presents: Victoria Christopher Murray, Lewisburg, 3 p.m.
Courthouse Farmer's Market, Robert C. Byrd parking lot, Lewisburg, 8 a.m.-12 p.m.
Chaise Robertson book signing, Alderson Public Library, 10 a.m.
LLF Presents: Patrick Bringley, Lewisburg, 1 p.m.
Treasure on the Mountain, Snowshoe Resort, 2 p.m.
Matt Mullins and the Bringdowns live, GVBC, Maxwelton, 7 p.m.

Sunday, August 4

Marketfest at Sunset Farm, Alderson, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Flea Market, Pence Springs, 8 a.m.
Yoga with Jacque Minarik, Hawk Knob Cidery, Lewisburg, 10-11 a.m.

To submit information to Mountain Messenger's Entertainment Calendar, email news@mountainmessenger.com. Information should be submitted two weeks in advance.

59th Appalachian Arts & Crafts Fair



August 2nd & 3rd
10 am - 6 pm

Over 80 vendors featuring artisans works in pottery, leather, macrame, glass, silver, coal jewelry, wood turners, quilters and so much more!



Plus food vendors, face painting, cloggers & live music!



\$4 WEEKEND PASSES AVAILABLE
Please call the Chamber for more details @
304.252.7328

The Beckley-Raleigh County Convention Center.
200 Armory Dr., Beckley, WV 25801

ONLINE REAL ESTATE AUCTION

Bidding start closing Thursday, August 8th at 6:00PM
3798 BACK MOUNTAIN ROAD, CASS, WV

Beautiful Cabin Near Cass Railroad and Snowshoe Mountain



2 Bedrooms, 2 Full Bathrooms | Potential 3rd Bedroom 1,854+/- Sq Ft 2-Story Home | 0.23+/- Acre Lot as Assessed | Large Detached Barn/Storage Shed

Questions? Please call Taylor Ramsey, Agent (304)-552-5201
RE Terms: 10% down payment made day of auction w/balance due at closing w/in 60 days. 10% BP. Additional Terms on Website



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