

Mountain messenger

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

County Commission sets public hearing dates on zoning changes and hotel occupancy tax increase

By D.L. Bowles

During their meeting on Aug. 11, the Greenbrier County Commission set dates for public hearings on two measures. Public hearings on the proposed increase of hotel occupancy tax are set for Wednesday, Sept. 2 at 11 a.m. and Thursday, Sept. 3 at 6 p.m. Both meetings will be held at Commission Chambers in the Greenbrier County Courthouse.

Public hearings on the proposed zoning changes are set for Monday, Sept. 14 at noon and Tuesday, Sept. 15 at 6 p.m. Both hearings on the zoning changes will be held at the Fairgrounds in the Gus Douglass building.

Information regarding the proposed zoning changes can be found at the website GreenbrierWV.gov under the documents tab, the Greenbrier County Public Library and on the Facebook page titled Greenbrier County Courthouse.

The commission approved the Estate Settlements of Carl Sylvester Simmons, Jr., Kester Dean Ramsey, Charles James Danley and Edward Wilson Rock.

The commission approved a transfer of \$17,000 to cover invoices from Western Greenbrier Little League, Greenbrier Valley Aquatic Center and Meadow River Trail. The commission also approved invoices for engineering and construction in the amount of \$52,932 for the Mapledale Water Storage project and \$43,615 for the Ridges water project.

The commission voted to donate a 2013 Dodge Durango to Lewis-Upshur County Animal Control. The Lewis-Upshur Animal Control lost their vehicle to flooding in July.

The next Greenbrier County Commission Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 25 at 10 a.m.

White Sulphur Springs Council meeting: Bike Park is taking shape; Mayor calls out social media criticisms



Construction of the bike park should commence in 2027

By D.L. Bowles

At the monthly White Sulphur Springs City Council meeting on Monday, Aug. 10, Mr. Clay Elkins gave a presentation regarding the status of the White Sulphur Springs Bike Park at Mylan Community Park project. A 60% design rendering of the future bike park and master plan for park lighting were displayed to the council and citizens in attendance. Elkins addressed questions related to liability and routine upkeep of the project when completed. It was suggested that the present liability insurance carrier be consulted regarding potential rate increases. As for upkeep, he advised it will be minimal. One citizen asked if a survey had been conducted to indicate how many people would use the park. Though there was no indication of a usage survey, Elkins explained the bike park will be for all ages. Construction of the

bike park should commence in 2027 and be completed in 2027.

The council report on July finances revealed the city concluded the month with a surplus regarding various operating Funds. It was also noted that a recent storm had damaged one of the pool pump motors. The motor must be replaced.

The council advised that there was a delay in city utility bills being mailed and customers' due date for payment would be moved from the 20th to the 26th for the month of August.

During public comments, one citizen noted she had seen an increase in motorized scooters being operated on the streets and whether the city ordinance prohibiting use on city streets was being enforced. The Mayor advised he had directed the police department to enforce

See "WSS Council" __ Page 2

West Virginians still waiting for reliable internet. Residents of the state's least connected county say they've waited long enough



Therapist Krissy Kearns works remotely at her home in Union and meets with clients on video calls. She said her internet frequently drops out, but she depends on it for work.
(Photo by Tre Spencer / Mountain State Spotlight)

By Tre Spencer

When the internet cuts out mid-session, licensed therapist Krissy Kearns has more to worry about than a frozen screen. Working from her home in Monroe County, Kearns provides telehealth counseling to patients, some of whom are in crisis. She follows strict protocols when someone is at risk. But dropped connections can suddenly sever those lifelines.

To lower the odds of that happening, she pays about \$300 a month for both Frontier and Starlink. But even with two providers, the connection can still buckle.

She said she has to carefully manage how many programs she keeps open during appointments and often finishes paperwork later in the day.

"I've had several instances where I have had high-acuity patients with mental health needs, and I've lost service," she said. "It's concerning."

West Virginia has committed hundreds of millions of federal dollars to broadband expansion and more in matching funds. But the state still lags behind other states, as 11% of households lack broadband subscriptions. This is because of West Virginia's terrain, aging infrastructure and disputes between utility companies. State officials say federally funded broadband projects are expected to connect thousands of Monroe County homes and businesses over the coming years.

But until construction reaches them, residents say they're paying hundreds of dollars each month for unreliable service, leaving many wondering when the promises will translate into working internet at their homes. They say spotty internet isn't just an inconvenience for streaming movies. It shapes whether they can work remotely, run small businesses, get healthcare and stay connected to emergency services.

See "Reliable Internet" __ Page 3

License to Track: Lawmakers question Flock Safety over data security and privacy concerns

By Steven Allen Adams
For The Parkersburg News and Sentinel

A company executive with Flock Safety defended their Automated License Plate Reader technology as a vital tool for "precision policing" that helps solve crimes and recover missing persons, while opponents argue these AI-powered cameras threaten Fourth Amendment privacy rights.

The Joint Standing Committee on Government Organization met Sunday afternoon on the first of three days of legislative interim meetings at the State Capitol Building in Charleston to learn more about the cameras and how local governments were using them.

Concerns have been growing nationwide and in West Virginia about ALPR cameras and other forms of public cameras used by law enforcement, some of which can utilize facial recognition and artificial intelligence to identify alleged criminals.

ALPR systems photograph license plates and identify vehicles by make, model, color and other details. Flock Safety claims that data from ALPR's is only stored in the cloud for 30 days and all data collected is owned by the customer and not Flock. Cities such as Parkersburg and Clarksburg use some Flock technology.

Most recently, Monongalia County contracted with Flock Safety for 20 ALPR cameras for the sheriff's department, while the City of Huntington signed a five-year contract with Flock for more than 40 ALPR cameras, live video cameras, gunshot detectors and other technology for \$2.1 million.

Civil rights groups and civil libertarian groups, including the ACLU and the Institute for Justice, have raised concerns about the use of ALPRs and other AI-assisted surveillance for mass tracking of citizens, the possible misuse of data and lack of transparency and public accountability.

Kevin Kane, the director of government affairs for Flock Safety, told committee members Sunday that data collected through its technology is "100% owned by our customers," such as law enforcement, homeowners associations and businesses.

"Really what we're talking about is providing communities with, number one, ownership over their own data, control over how it's used and policies that ensure that their community is utilizing this technology in a way that reflects their values," Kane said. "So, really what we're talking about is precision policing."

"By the numbers, today we're looking at about 2,800 crimes solved every single day with Flock, and about 12,000 customers protected. And this reflects communities in just about every single state in the country," he continued. "We're talking about precision policing that can provide law enforcement with that critical first clue."

Kane said Flock's cameras do not use facial recognition programming, focusing on objective information that can be seen through the cameras themselves, such as clothing color. The data collected is not sold, and data sharing agreements are between law enforcement agencies themselves and must be opted into.

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Greenbrier County’s Child & Youth Advocacy Center among those receiving CAC grant funding across West Virginia

Gov. Patrick Morrisey recently announced \$2,128,850.88 in Child Advocacy Center (CAC) Grant funding to support 22 projects serving children and families across West Virginia. The grants will strengthen the state’s multidisciplinary response to child abuse and neglect by supporting advocacy, forensic interviews, medical evaluations, counseling, education, and other critical services for child victims.

“These grants ensure that children who have experienced abuse receive the care, advocacy, and support they need while helping law enforcement, prosecutors, medical professionals, and child advocates work together to pursue justice and protect our most vulnerable citizens,” said Governor Morrisey

The Child Advocacy Center Grant Program provides funding to local nonprofit child advocacy centers that assist child victims of abuse and neglect through a coordinated, child focused approach. The grants are administered by the Justice and Community Services Section of the West Virginia Division of Administrative Services.

Funds were awarded to the following Child Advocacy Center programs:

- Burlington United Methodist Family Services, Inc. \$97,822.75

The funds will be used to provide intake, investigation, and follow up services for victims of child abuse, ages 3 to 17, in Mineral, Hampshire, and Hardy Counties.

- Cabell Huntington Hospital \$96,580.20

The funds will be used to improve the work of the Child Advocacy Center at Hoops Family Children’s Hospital.

- CAMC Health Education & Research Institute \$125,754.94

The funds will be utilized to continue funding for the CAMC Women and Children’s Child Advocacy Center, which provides forensic interviews, medical evaluations, advocacy, and therapy for children and families affected by abuse in Kanawha, Putnam, Jackson and Roane Counties.

- Change Incorporated \$89,016.53

The funds will enable the Comfort House to work closely with law enforcement, prosecutors, social workers, child protective service workers, and healthcare and mental health providers to serve victims of child abuse and their families in Hancock and Brooke Counties.

- Child & Youth Advocacy Center \$98,015.45

The funds will enable the program to provide forensic interviews, advocacy, and therapy to child victims of abuse and neglect while supporting a multidisciplinary approach to investigation, prosecution, treatment, and prevention in Greenbrier, Monroe and Pocahontas Counties.

- Child Protect of Mercer County, Inc. \$85,268.81

The funds will strengthen Mercer County’s Child Advocacy Center by maintaining staff who provide direct services to child victims and their non offending family members.

- Children’s Home Society of West Virginia \$107,747.05

The funds will provide child focused and developmentally appropriate services, including forensic interviewing, mental health services, advocacy, and case coordination in Berkeley, Morgan and Jefferson Counties.

- Cornerstone Family Interventions, Inc. \$86,463.19

The funds will deepen direct services for child victims requiring Child Advocacy Center services in Boone and Lincoln Counties.

- Harmony House, Inc \$91,521.69

The funds will ensure a comprehensive, child friendly, multidisciplinary response to allegations of child abuse using the Child Advocacy Center model servicing Ohio and Marshall Counties.

- Harrison County Child Abuse Task Force \$127,103.87

The funds will ensure a comprehensive, child friendly, multidisciplinary response to allegations of child abuse using the Child Advocacy Center model servicing Harrison, Doddridge, Taylor and Barbour Counties.

- Just for Kids, Inc. \$93,159.69

The funds will provide forensic interviewing, advo-

cacy, counseling, and multidisciplinary team coordination for children and families affected by criminal child abuse in Raleigh and Fayette Counties.

- Logan County Child Advocacy Center, Inc. \$88,631.12

The funds will provide a safe, child friendly location for investigating crimes against children in Logan and Mingo Counties while offering supportive services to victims.

- Marion County Child Advocacy Center, Inc. \$81,318.36

The funds will provide forensic interviews, victim advocacy, case coordination, and community outreach for child victims of sexual and physical abuse in Marion County and North Central West Virginia.

- Monongalia County Child Advocacy Center, Inc. \$83,245.41

The funds will provide forensic interviews, evaluations, advocacy, education, referrals, and therapy for child abuse victims in Monongalia County.

- Mountain CAP of West Virginia, Inc. \$86,993.12

The funds will provide forensic interviewing, advocacy, education, trauma informed case management, therapy, and supportive services for abused children in Upshur and Lewis Counties.

- Nicholas County Family Resource Network \$87,667.59

The funds will provide a child friendly environment for multidisciplinary investigations involving children who have experienced physical or sexual abuse in Nicholas and Webster Counties.

- North Star Child Advocacy Center, Inc. \$134,031.22

The funds will provide a safe, neutral setting where law enforcement and child protective service workers can observe forensic interviews of children who are alleged victims of abuse in Wood, Wirt, Ritchie, Pleasants and Calhoun Counties.

- Randolph Tucker Children’s Advocacy Center, Inc. \$85,885.07

See “Grant Funds”____ Page 3

Rainelle Public Library hosts Summer Reading Program



Sharon Johnson as Uncle Sam (left), guest speaker Gary Johnson, Steve Shaffer as George Washington, Margaret Golden as Abe Lincoln, and Sherry Phipps as Betsy Ross (seated)

The Rainelle Public Library recently hosted its Summer Reading Program. Patrons age 6 to 13 years of age were welcomed by Goddard, Rainelle Library Director.

Themes for the 3-week event included The World of Dinosaurs, Discovering Our Solar System and concluded with a Celebration of United States 250th Anniversary of Freedom.

Gary Johnson, an Army veteran of Rainelle was guest speaker. He explained how our freedom was accomplished and the value of freedom. “Men and women fought long and hard for our freedom,” Johnson said. He also talked about the establishment of first 13 colonies. He demonstrated the proper way of folding the U.S Flag. Those present were given an opportunity to learn the proper method of folding the flag and Johnson explained the individual meaning of each fold. Each fold has a meaning,” Johnson said.

Others present and in costume were Margaret Golden as Abraham Lincoln. She spoke briefly on the Emanation Proclamation and the Gettysburg Address. George Washington, portrayed by Steve Shafer led the group, in the Pledge of Allegiance and also singing The National Anthem. Sharon Johnson portrayed Uncle Sam. Sherry Phipps, library aide, was dressed as Betsy Ross.

WSS Council

Continued from Front Page

the ordinance. Another man questioned why the ADA pool lift was not operational and was advised the city is waiting on a specific battery used in the operation of the lift.

In new business, the council approved a measure to submit a Home Rule application to the State, noting that if the application is accepted, public hearings will be required as well as ordinances being introduced and passed. The council also approved changing auto leasing companies which they advised will save the city over \$3000 per month. A measure to set fees for commercial dumpsters at \$45.75 was also approved.

A resolution was passed for the Mapledale Water Tank Project, which will solve a community concern of inoperable hydrants in the State Route 92 area of the city.

In closing remarks, Mayor Taylor spoke out against people making negative comments about the city’s operation and employees via social media. Taylor suggested that instead of making complaints on social media, citizens should bring their concerns to his office.



Mylan Community Park Lighting Master Plan

“Do not go to Facebook and trash our community” said Taylor, “People make uneducated statements...we are on the ground with you”. Taylor concluded he was “tired of the rhetoric of social media” The comments were met with several scoffs.

The next White Sulphur Springs City Council meeting is scheduled for Sept. 14 at 7 p.m.

PICK OF THE LITTER



MILES
Miles - male hound mix 1 year



SPOOKY
Spooky - female 5 years

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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Greenbrier Valley’s Talk and News Headquarters



The Classics and Today’s Country



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Today’s Rock

Briefly

Veteran Family Day Picnic

Saturday, Aug. 15, Dorie Miller Park Pavillion, Feamster Road, Lewisburg, WV. Sponsored by American Legion Post 69. Picnic starts at 1 p.m. For more information, contact Gordon Campbell 1-404-900-8262. Veterans and family welcome!

The Mountaineer Horseshoe League to host 88th Annual State Horseshoe Tournament

The Mountaineer Horseshoe League will host the 88th annual state horseshoe tournament in 2026, at the Mountaineer Horseshoe Courts on Island Park in Ronceverte, WV on Aug. 29, 2026. We encourage everyone to come out and enjoy some good horseshoe pitching. Admission is free.

Marie Leist Grant application

The Marie Leist Foundation would like to announce that the deadline for accepting grant requests is Sept. 1, 2026. The Marie Leist Foundation was established in 2005 for the general purpose of making grants for charitable, religious, scientific and educational purposes to benefit the communities of Greenbrier and Pocahontas Counties. If your nonprofit or government organization would like to apply for a grant, please send your letter of request to The Marie Leist Foundation, P.O. Box 591 Lewisburg, WV 24901. Also include a copy of your 501(c)(3) tax exemption letter with your request.

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.

Greenbrier County Farmland Protection Board

meets on the 4th Thursday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at the Greenbrier County Courthouse, 912 Court Street North, Lewisburg, WV 24901 in the County Commission Meeting Room. The public is invited to attend. Call 304-520-3221 for more information.

Lewisburg City Council

will meet Tuesday, Aug. 18, at 7 p.m. in regular session in Paul R. Cooley Council Chambers, 942 Washington Street W. On the agenda:

- Resolution
 - Resolution 601 Water System Improvement Project pay request #50
- Communication from Mayor White
 - Appointments
- Communications from City Manager Hill
 - Approval of bid for Green Space renovations
- Communication from City Council Members
- Communication from Commissions
 - Planning
 - Arron & Monica Maxwell, 125 Janet St - minor subdivision of parcel
- Communication from Council Committees
 - Finance Committee report
 - Arts & Humanities funding request
 - Carnegie Hall Taste of Our Town (TOOT)
 - Carnegie Hall restoration of Ivy Terrace
 - Year End Incentive
- Communication from Police Chief Teubert
- Communication from Fire Dept. Chief Thomas
- Public Works Dept. report from Director Legg
- Approval of Minutes - organizational meeting July 20, 2026 & regular session July 21, 2026
- Visitors' reports (3 minute limit per subject not on the agenda)

Grant Funds

Continued from Page 2

The funds will provide forensic interviews, medical services, mental health services, and advocacy for child victims and their non offending caregivers in Randolph and Tucker Counties.

- REACHH Family Resource Center \$73,561.99

The funds will provide forensic interviewing, court accompaniment, medical accompaniment, counseling, advocacy, case management, and community education for children and families affected by abuse and neglect in Summers County.

- Stop the Hurt, Inc. \$89,739.17

The funds will support a multidisciplinary approach to investigating child abuse and neglect while providing direct services to victims in McDowell and Wyoming Counties.

- West Virginia Child Abuse Network, Inc. \$133,053.18

The funds will support programs that provide hope, healing, and justice for children affected by abuse while strengthening statewide responses to allegations of abuse throughout the State of West Virginia.

- Wetzel County Commission- \$86,270.48

The funds will help reduce the trauma of child abuse, protect children from maltreatment, support investigations, and strengthen the community’s ability to protect children in Wetzel and Taylor Counties.

Greenbrier County Magistrate Court Convictions

Autumn Brooke Hoover, Lewisburg, driving with a suspended license, fine \$100, NCP

Tina Marie Rataicsak, Hagerstown, MD, joyriding, jail 60 days - suspended 1 year unsupervised probation, GP

Hannah N. Lemaster, Lewisburg, 1) driving while suspended or revoked, fine \$100; 2) expired motor vehicle registration, fine \$50, NCP

Zachery Matthew Garner, Lewisburg, 1) simple assault, jail 60 days - suspended placed on 12 months unsupervised probation; 2) possession of a controlled substance, fine \$100, NCP

Eric Shane Scott, Hot Springs NTL PK, AR, domestic battery, jail 85 days - time served, GP

Alexander S. Vogelsong, Hillsboro, speeding, fine \$10, GP

Charles T. Jones, Columbus, OH, speeding, fine \$5, NCP

Paul William Burdette, Renick, 1) defective equipment - windshield, fine \$15; 2) defective equipment - muffler, fine \$15, GP

Reliable Internet

Continued from Front Page

Many have resorted to paying for multiple internet providers, phone hotspots and other workarounds because they say affordable, reliable broadband is still out of reach.

Making do without broadband

Sharyn Ogden didn’t wait for broadband to reach her farm outside of Peterstown. For years, the retired accountant relied on Verizon’s cellular network and hotspot service while working remotely after the pandemic.

She even purchased a device to extend her signal, so she could process payroll for multiple companies at home

“I didn’t have any hiccups,” she said. “But the service was literally based off my phone.”

Traditional broadband ends about a mile from her home, and wireless providers have told her expanding farther would require more towers because of the terrain.

“We pretty much have nothing down here,” she said.

State officials say Monroe County has remained one of West Virginia’s hardest places to connect because of its mountainous terrain, low population and aging infrastructure.

The county’s national forest land, sections of the Appalachian Trail and other protected areas can also slow permitting and construction, said Kelly Workman, director of the West Virginia Office of Broadband.

Workman said Monroe County has several major expansion projects planned or underway through multiple federal programs. The county is set to connect thousands of homes and businesses with providers including Gigabeam and Citynet.

Even so, officials acknowledge that maps and project announcements don’t always reflect what residents experience on the ground.

“Maps only tell part of the story,” Workman said.

Paying more for peace of mind

Outside Union, Dana Hiner and her husband pay about \$170 each month for satellite internet, even though they rely on Social Security and a part-time paycheck. The service is better than what they had before, she said, but the cost strains their budget.

“That’s \$200 that should be going toward medicine and groceries in my book,” she said.

Hiner said she’d rather drive to the library to check her email and pay bills than continue paying a high monthly bill. But unreliable cell service near her home means she still needs internet access in case of emergencies.

The frustration, she said, isn’t just the cost. For years, she has watched elected officials promise better broadband service.

“Every election they talked and talked,” she said. “I haven’t seen any action or any change.”

Del. Rick Hillenbrand, R-Hampshire, introduced a bill to give internet customers relief from paying for internet service when it drops, because he said residents in his district were having numerous internet outages lasting days. The bill would’ve required providers to credit customers’ bills and given the Attorney General the authority to bring civil suits against companies that failed to do so. Last year, the state reached a \$119 million settlement against a provider with a history of poor customer service.

But even as the state invests in expanding broadband infrastructure, lawmakers this year didn’t put any proposals on their agendas aimed at protecting internet customers and holding providers more accountable.

Another bill would’ve authorized state regulators to oversee internet companies. The Senate Transportation and Infrastructure Committee didn’t put it on its agenda. It would’ve allowed regulators at the Public Service Commission to impose fines of up to \$7,000 on providers.

Sen. Vince Deeds, R-Greenbrier, said lawmakers have spent several years working to bring federal broadband funding to the region. But construction has taken longer than expected because crews first had to replace utility poles and other infrastructure.

While Deeds said relief is on the way, Kearns said she’ll believe it when she no longer needs multiple internet providers just to make it through a workday.

She moved to Monroe County to build a life in a rural community and provide mental health care to people who need it. But she said living in a rural county shouldn’t mean giving up access to the same technology available elsewhere.

She asked, “Why do I pay the same taxes that other people pay, but I can’t access the same resources?”

Flock Safety

Continued from Front Page

However, Alasdair Whitney, the legislative counsel for Institute for Justice, detailed recent federal lawsuits in Norfolk, Va., and San Jose, Calif., claiming that ALPRs and other public camera systems capture far more innocent people than criminals, violating their Fourth Amendment rights protecting them from unreasonable searches and seizures.

“We are not anti-Flock, we are not anti-any vendor working in this space. ... But what we are, are pro-constitution and pro-accountability.” Whitney said. “Calling them cameras in many ways is like calling an iPhone a telephone. These are networked, highly powered AI systems ... that read far more than a (license) plate.”

Whitney said his core concern is that ALPR data shows “a way of life,” not just a day in the life, allowing government agents to infer religious affiliation, political associations, Second Amendment activities and medical visits.

The Supreme Court has repeatedly said that you do not surrender your privacy rights when you simply back out of your driveway or walk out of your front door every day,” Whitney said.

The Institute for Justice has proposed model legislation for states, called the Protecting Everyone’s Expectations of Privacy, or PEEPS, Act, to regulate historical location information collected by surveillance cameras, such as Flock’s. It would require a warrant for government agents to access ALPR data older than 24 hours. The legislation includes exceptions for emergencies, such as police pursuits and active kidnappings; and administrative uses, such as tolling and parking.

The nearly two-hour meeting was taken up with multiple questions from committee members channeling the concerns of a number of their constituents over the uses for ALPRs, privacy issues, security of the data collected and violations of constitutional rights.

“I have a lot of constituents that are upset about it, and they have a lot of questions, and so do I, because we want to make sure our community is safe and that our police officers and police departments have all the tools necessary,” said Del. Patrick Lucas, R-Cabell. “We also want to protect our Fourth Amendment rights, and we don’t want people coming into our city or people who already live in our city thinking they’re under surveillance.”

Greenbrier Co. Board of Education August meeting

By D.L. Bowles

The Greenbrier County Board of Education held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 11. After a call to order, the Superintendent issued a proclamation regarding “Celebrate Freedom Week.”

The purpose of “Celebrate Freedom Week” is to educate students on the Declaration of Independence, the Emancipation Proclamation, and the U.S. Constitution with an emphasis on the Bill of Rights. Instruction must also include the historical, political, and social environments surrounding each document at the time of its passage or ratification. State law requires all schools in West Virginia to participate in this instruction.

In other business, the board awarded the \$500,000 Food Services Produce Bid to Tri-County Produce of Ronceverte, WV.

In personnel matters the board approved various reassignments, new hires, transfers and resignations.

The next Board of Education meeting is scheduled for Sept. 8, at 6 p.m.

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OBITUARIES

Jeanette R. Smith Burgess



Jeanette R. Smith Burgess, 61, of Neola, WV, passed away at her residence on Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2026. Although she had multiple health issues and scheduled surgeries, she passed away unexpectedly. Born Feb. 21, 1965 at Beckley, WV, she was a daughter of Hattie Tabor Smith of Prince, WV and the late Gilbert Smith.

She enjoyed her flowers and talking about her granddaughter.

In addition to her dad she was preceded in death by two brothers, Lloyd and Russell Smith and a sister, Ieva Wheeler.

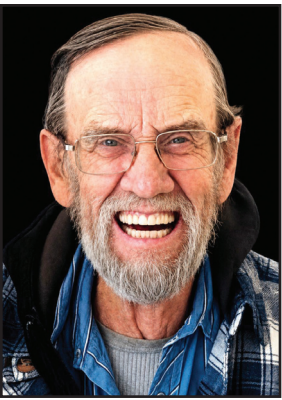
Those left to cherish her memories, other than her mother, include her husband, Michael Burgess of Neola, WV; a daughter, Kristi Gable of Asheville, NC; four step-sons, Shane, Sean, Randall and Cody Burgess; brothers, Joseph Smith (Wilma) of Prince, WV, Rev. Jesse Smith (Sarita) of Ansted, WV, and Quinton Smith (Michelle) of Prince, WV; her sister, Kimberly Johnston (Shawn) of Prince, WV; her dearly beloved granddaughter, Lyric of Asheville, NC; several step-grandchildren, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Per her wishes her body will be cremated.

A memorial service will be 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8, 2026 at the Beaver Church of God, 123 Third Street, Beaver, WV, with Rev. Jesse Smith officiating.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in White Sulphur Springs is in charge of arrangements. Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

Donald “Don” Dee Bridges



Donald “Don” Dee Bridges, 74, of Alderson gained his wings and now walks with Jesus. He was born on Jan. 22, 1952 in Summers County, a son to the late William Drannon Bridges and Effie Isabelle (McBride) Bridges.

Don Will be remembered for his devotion to God and his family. He was a devoted member of the River of Life Church of God and was willing to lend a helping hand to anyone in need. He proudly retired after many years as a groundskeeper at the Greenbrier Sporting Club.

He is survived by his daughters, Kim Neice and her Husband Rickie of Pearisburg, VA, Tracy Brown and her husband Travis of Queen Creek, AZ, April Huffman and her husband Ronald of Creamery; and his faithful

dog Dudley; his grandchildren, John, Courtney, and Billy Ferguson, Lauren Conaway, Edward Chance and his wife Maria, Holly Huffman and her companion Jen Grunski, Ariel Lester and her husband Tyler, Garrett and Cheyenne Huffman; his great-grandchildren, Lily Conaway, Brody Conaway, Hudson Lester (Mr. T); his bonus grandchildren, Kaylee Cruise, Ann Neice, Natalie Brown, Ethan and Summer Brown; his bonus great grandchildren, Kayne and Kamaria Bessman, Isaiah, Erazah, Jeremiah, and Alizah Grunski; his sisters, Ann Mae Adkins, Pansy Bridges, Margret Dean and his twin sister, Dottie Hunt, and many loving nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his loving wife of 38 years, Nancy Ellen Bridges, his brother John Bridges, his sister, Ella Jo Hill, Mary Copeland, and Kathleen Adkins.

Funeral services will be held Friday, Aug. 14, at 2 p.m. at the River of Life Church of God in Alderson, with the Pastor Anthony Carter officiating. Burial will follow at the C. H. Huffman Cemetery at Creamery, WV. Friends may call Friday, Aug. 14, 2026 from 1 to 2 p.m. at the River of Life Church of God.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the River of Life Church of God, 485 Highland Trail, Alderson, WV 24910. All donations will support Samaritan’s Purse and its Operation Christmas Child shoebox program.

Family will serve as pallbearers.

Online condolences and memories may be shared with the Bridges family at www.lobbanfh.com

Brownie Marie Dunn



Brownie Marie Dunn departed this life at the age of 94 years on Aug. 8, 2026 at Seneca Trail Healthcare Center.

Born Nov. 4, 1931 in Renick, WV she was the daughter of the late Lee and Nannie McMillion Faulkner.

Mrs. Dunn retired as the Administrator of Greenbrier Manor Nursing Home, currently Seneca Trail Healthcare Center, following 25 years of service. During this time, she served as president of the Professional Nursing Home Association of WV and as a board member of the WV Health Care Association. She served on several committees of both organizations. While working at Greenbrier Manor she was chosen “Boss of the Year” by the Lewisburg Business and Professional Women’s Club. She was listed in Who’s Who Worldwide Business Leaders for outstanding leadership in her profession.

Mrs. Dunn was active in fundraising projects, one of which equipped Greenbrier Manor with air conditioning. She served on the board of Habitat for Humanity and chaired

an all-church build for a family in the area. She, along with others, worked on “Farm Days” to raise funds to build a new sanctuary for Edgewood Presbyterian Church.

She was an active member of Edgewood Presbyterian Church and served in numerous capacities as deacon, elder, Sunday school teacher and choir member. She was honored with a lifetime membership in Presbyterian Women for her service. She will always be remembered for her chicken and dumplings at family night dinners.

Following the death of her husband, Virgil M. “Jack” Dunn, Jr. she moved to Florida for a few years where she was an active member of Seven Rivers Presbyterian Church. As her health began to fail, she decided to move back to her beloved Lewisburg. She moved into her new, independent residence at Season’s Place and soon became the president of the Resident Council, as well as resident ambassador.

Brownie began her school years in a one-room schoolhouse. She was a graduate of Lewisburg High School and was an Honor Graduate of the Jefferson School of Commerce. She became the first woman in Lewisburg to manage a facility the size of Greenbrier Manor. The nursing home was a 100-bed facility with 100 employees and countless families dedicated to accommodating the needs of their loved ones. It was one of the larger business establishments in the area, at the time.

A \$10,000 gift in Brownie’s honor was awarded to the Greenbrier County Library by the Seneca Trail Charitable Foundation that was established following the sale of Greenbrier Manor. Additionally, a gift to The Shepherd’s Center in the amount of \$20,000 was also awarded by the foundation in her honor. An ardent supporter of West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine from its inception, she was honored for her service to that institution and to the community.

Brownie was preceded in death by her husband, Virgil M. “Jack” Dunn, Jr. and their beloved and only child, Rodney. Also preceding her in death were her parents, Lee and Nannie McMillion Faulkner, sister Frankie Bostic and brothers, Ray, Bruce, Edmond and Buster. She is survived by her grandson, Aaron Dunn, his wife Golda and great-granddaughter, Talia. She is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews who were very dear to her. Additionally, she is survived by her special friends, Dr. Robert and Jean Holstein of Florida, who are regarded as “family,” as their close friendship has endured a span of over 51 years.

Visitation will be held at Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 21, 2026. Family and friends are invited to a graveside service at Greenbrier Memorial Gardens on Saturday, Aug. 22, at 9:30 a.m. A Celebration of Life service will be held at Edgewood Presbyterian Church at 11 a.m. with Pastor Kristi Shay Moore officiating and Rev. Robert Hefner assisting. Eulogy will be presented by Dr. Robert Holstein. A luncheon will

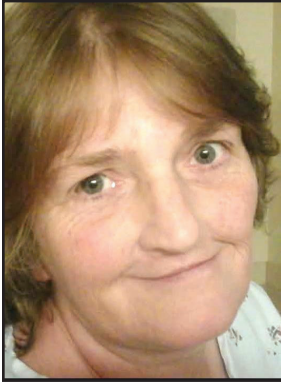
be provided immediately following the service.

Friends and family are invited to a time of sharing personal memories in honor of Brownie during the luncheon.

Donations in honor of Brownie may be made to Edgewood Presbyterian Church.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg is in charge of arrangements. Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

Zena Sue Rudisill Morgan



Zena Sue Rudisill Morgan, 58, of Lewisburg, passed away Friday, Aug. 7, 2026 at Peyton Hospice House in Lewisburg.

Born on Nov. 26, 1967 at Ronceverte, she was a daughter of Velda Louise Thacker Rudisill and the late Albert Eugene Rudisill.

Zena was a graduate of Union High School; was a licensed nursing home CNA and once owned and operated her own Day Care Center.

She was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Ronceverte, where she dearly loved listening to her husband play the organ. She enjoyed watching Dateline and true crime stories on the television; loved board games and card games; enjoyed listening to the music group, Alabama; but most of all she enjoyed spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren.

In addition to her father she was preceded in death by a son, Phillip Scott Morgan; a grandson, Colton Lee Harden Sears; and two brothers, Timothy and Walter Rudisill.

In addition to her mother, Velda, she leaves behind her beloved husband, Barry; daughters, Jessica Lynne Morgan (Donovan Johnson) and Tabitha Clare Morgan (Jordan Sears); sons, Gregory Allen Morgan (Jhonna), Steven Wayne Morgan (Samantha Brant), and Kenneth Barry Morgan; her beloved grandchildren, Orien Joseph Cosgro, Gabriel Wayne Morgan, Emily Rae Morgan, Kinsley Everly Joy Sears, and Julia Lynne Morgan; three sisters, Esther Miller, Reesa Fields and Leona Rudisill. She also leaves behind special friends, John “Ju-Ju” Miller and Donna VanBuren; numerous nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 15, 2026 at Trinity United Methodist Church in Ronceverte, with Rev. Christopher Brewster officiating.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Lewisburg

is in charge of arrangements. Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

Donald C. “Bo” Ford



Donald C. “Bo” Ford, 88, of White Sulphur Springs, WV passed away on Aug. 9, 2026 at his residence with his daughters by his side.

He was born Dec. 27, 1937 in White Sulphur Springs, the son of the late Russell and Daisy Ella Feury Ford.

Bo was a member of Emmanuel United Methodist Church and a U. S. Marine veteran. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and was an avid gardener. Bo was retired from The Greenbrier Hotel starting first, as a security guard and then moving up to maintenance foreman in the engineering department.

Other than his parents he was preceded in death by his wife, Sarah Simmons Ford; daughter Donna Linton and her husband (Steve); sister Betty Sue Ford and his brother Harold Ford.

Those left to cherish his memory are his daughters, Deborah “Debbie” Ford Morgan (Terence Bittinger) and Kathryn “Kathy” Ford both of White Sulphur Springs; sister Mary Lou Fogus of White Sulphur Springs; 5 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren, 4 great-great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services for Mr. Ford will be Saturday, Aug. 15, 2026 at 2 PM at Wallace & Wallace Chapel in White Sulphur Springs with Re. Chris Brewster officiating. A private graveside service will follow in Mapledale Cemetery.

The family will receive family and friends from 1 PM until time of services on Saturday, Aug. 15, at the funeral home.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in White Sulphur Springs is in charge of arrangements. Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

Lucy Velva Vance



Lucy Velva Vance, 92, of Caldwell, WV passed away Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2026 at Seneca Trail Healthcare Center.

Born Feb. 12, 1934 at Glace, WV, she was a daughter of the late Charles

Fairbank Jones and Della Ellen Morse Jones.

Lucy was a homemaker and was a member of Second Creek Pentecostal Holiness Church.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Lee Roy Vance; a son, Lee Roy Vance, Jr.; two sisters, Mary Adwell and Louise Mentz; and a brother, Frank Jones.

Survivors include three daughters, Vicky Pickering (Danny) of Frankford, Linda Allender (Doug) of Ronceverte and Liz Crislip (Rick) of Caldwell; a son, Charlie Robert Vance (Jennie) of Caldwell; grandchildren, Valerie Lint (Chet) Clarksville, TN, Candice Smith (Michael) of Caldwell, Crystal Holliday of Caldwell and Aaron Lee Vance (Tammy) of Charleston; several great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be at 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15, 2026 at Highland Park Community Church, Second Creek, with Pastor Freddie Bostic officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

A visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the church on Saturday.

Wallace & Wallace Funeral Home in Ronceverte is in charge of arrangements. Please send online condolences by visiting www.WallaceandWallaceFH.com

Donald Houston Gilkerson



Donald Houston Gilkerson, 81, of Edmond passed away on Sunday early morning, Aug. 9, 2026 at his home.

He was born on Apr. 10, 1945 at Winona; he was the son of the late Joseph Alex Gilkerson and Erma Wilkerson Gilkerson.

Donald was a real outdoorsman, he enjoyed hunting, trapping, gardening and he was a collector of arrowheads.

Those left to cherish his memory are his loving wife, Nancy Jean Moses Gilkerson; daughter, Gerri Webster of NC; sons, Joseph (Elizabeth) Gilkerson of Edmond and Kent (Jennifer) Gilkerson of Alderson; sisters, Betty Green of SC and Carolyn Gilkerson of Hilltop; brother, Paul Gilkerson of Oak Hill; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; extended family and friends.

Graveside service will be held at a later date at Nuttall Cemetery.

Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting www.wallaceandwallacefh.com

Wallace & Wallace, Inc. of Ansted, WV is in charge of arrangements.

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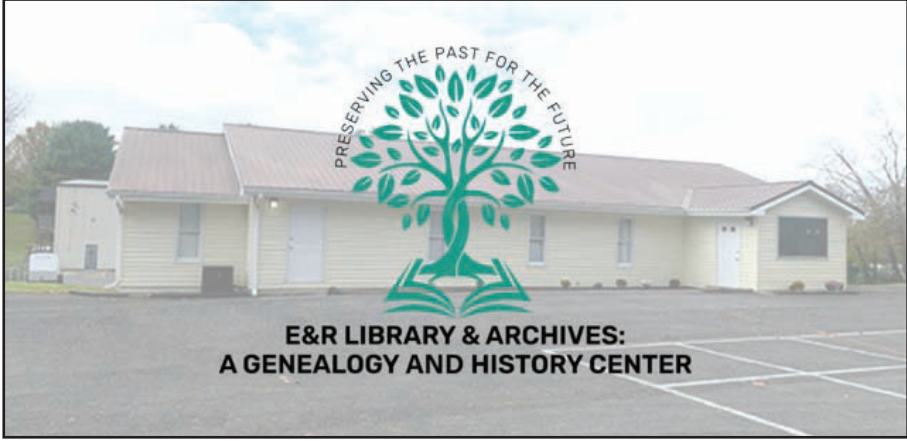
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E&R Library & Archives announces Open House and Ribbon Cutting



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The E&R Library & Archives (ERLA), a genealogy and history center, will host a ribbon cutting and community open house on Aug. 21 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Members of the Board of Directors will be present to meet you. The ERLA invites you to tour the space, see the status of renovations, view some of the archival and museum collection, and hear about their exciting plans for the future. Food and drink will be provided by Corn + Flour and Swift Level Fine Meats and music by the Greenbrier River Optimistic Ukulele Players (Optimistics). The ribbon cutting ceremony is offered in conjunction with the Greater Greenbrier County Chamber of Commerce and will occur at noon. The ERLA is located at 3150 Houfnaggle Road, Lewisburg, WV 24901. While it will take some time for the ERLA facility to become ready, the organization continues to work on renovating its new facility. As the organization moves forward, it will offer a wide variety of genealogical services for the local community and beyond by providing computer workstations with access to a wide variety of genealogical databases, onsite staff to assist users, and will provide classes, workshops, and webinars to help genealogists with their research. The ERLA will also include a DIY memory lab with technology to digitize photographs, documents, and a wide variety of media. Users will be able to digitize items such as slides, family films, VHS tapes, vinyl records and much more to preserve their individual family history!

To learn more about the organization, click [HERE](https://erlibrary-archives.org/): <https://erlibrary-archives.org/>. There are also many ways you can help support the ERLA by helping to prepare the new facility or through generous donations. You can reach out to the organizations President & CEO, Dr. Scott Meyer-Kukan, by emailing president@erlibrary-archives.org or by calling (717) 290-8734.

About the E&R Library & Archives: The E&R Library & Archives is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and first began as the Historical Society for the Reformed Church in the United States in 1863. The ERLA reorganized as the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society to incorporate the Historical Commission of the Evangelical Synod of North America after the 1934 merger that created the Evangelical and Reformed Church. The E&R Library & Archives is the official repository for the former Evangelical and Reformed Church, the (German)

As West Virginians struggle with rising electric bills, here are four ways lawmakers could help bring relief

Rates have risen by 50% in the last decade due to the state’s reliance on coal and new, power-hungry projects. Experts say lawmakers could make electricity more affordable by expanding bill relief, investing in efficiency and curbing utility profits

By Tre Spencer

West Virginians across the state are struggling to afford to keep the lights on.

Over the past decade, electricity rates have climbed more than 50%, while household budgets have remained tight, leaving many families struggling to keep up with monthly bills.

Energy experts say one big reason is West Virginia’s heavy reliance on aging, coal-fired power plants.

Ted Boettner, a senior researcher with the Ohio River Valley Institute, said diversifying the state’s electric mix could help lower rates and retire coal plants that are too expensive to keep running.

“There is an inherent tension between wanting lower electricity rates and over-relying on in-state coal plants,” he said.

State lawmakers have doubled down on propping up the coal industry, keeping expensive coal plants online, and that tension has shaped energy policies in Charleston for years. While lawmakers aren’t likely to move on from coal any time soon, here are four other ways they could help lower energy bills for West Virginians.

Subsidize low-income households

Over one-third of West Virginia households are energy-burdened, meaning they spend more than 6% of their income on electricity costs. Most of the affected households are considered low-income under federal guidelines.

To help, lawmakers could direct the Public Service Commission to create and oversee a low-income affordability program that subsidizes a portion of electric bills for eligible families.

Under this kind of program, households would apply once, document their income, and then receive a predictable discount on their monthly bill so they don’t pay more than a set share of what they earn.

West Virginia already uses a similar program, the Low Income Energy Assistance Program, that helps households with the cost of heating. But the program is federally funded, and the Trump administration is trying to end it.

But the Energy Affordability Program in New York, created in 2016, offers a different model. It provides a monthly discount for low-income families’ electric and gas bills, to keep their energy costs at or below 6% of household income and does not rely on federal funds to operate.

A West Virginia version could have the same goal to tie bills to what a family can afford, rather than just how much power they use.

Increase investment in energy efficiency

One of the simplest ways to lower electric bills is to help households use less energy in the first place.

West Virginia has consistently ranked near the bottom of energy-efficient states.

Boettner said one of the easiest things lawmakers can do to help lower electricity costs is pass legislation to boost energy efficiency in West Virginia.

“We really just completely stand out in energy efficiency,” he said. “A lot of it just has to do with the housing stock being incredibly old and inefficient.”

Over half of West Virginia’s houses were built before 1980. Older appliances, windows and air ducts can contribute to higher energy bills.

West Virginia already receives federal funding through the Department of Energy’s weatherization program to reduce energy costs for low-income families and seniors living in older homes. The state received \$7 million last year for the program.

Lawmakers could expand that work by putting state money into weatherization and energy-efficiency programs, so more households can upgrade insulation, seal leaky ducts and replace outdated appliances.

Many states have adopted statewide energy efficiency standards that help residents pay for insulation, appliance upgrades and other improvements.

Require large power users to help pay for the grid

Electricity demand is growing across the country, driven in part by large power-using projects like data centers. Data center construction can require expensive upgrades to power lines, substations and other infrastructure.

If utilities recover those costs from all customers, residential bills can increase even though households aren’t using more electricity.

And in West Virginia, lawmakers have passed legislation to make the state more attractive to future data center projects.

To help shield ratepayers from higher energy bills, several states have governed how utilities regulate large electricity loads from industrial users. Others have implemented tariffs or additional taxes.

Lawmakers could follow this approach by requiring utilities to implement them, based on a rate that state regulators set.

Emmett Pepper, policy director for Energy Efficient West Virginia, said Appalachian Power has already implemented its own tariff for large-load customers.

Appalachian Power and FirstEnergy, West Virginia’s two major electric utilities, together supply more than 80% of West Virginia’s electricity.

“It’s primarily designed to ensure that large energy users don’t cause utilities to build a bunch of new infrastructure and then go out of business a few years later, leaving the rest of the ratepayers stuck paying for it.”

Lower the cap on utility company profits

Utilities don’t actually decide how much profit they can make. Instead, state regulators determine the return utilities are allowed to earn on investments in power plants, transmission lines and other infrastructure.

In West Virginia, the Public Service Commission typically authorizes utilities to earn a return of about 10%. That means customer bills are designed to generate enough revenue for utilities to earn that return if regulators approve the costs.

Because utilities recover those costs through electric bills, even small changes to the approved return can affect what customers ultimately pay over time.

State lawmakers could require regulators to lower the return utilities are allowed to earn or adopt new standards for

how those profits are calculated.

Pennsylvania legislators recently approved legislation that would lower the maximum return utilities can earn while also cutting about \$1.7 billion in electricity-related taxes that appear on customers’ bills.

Pepper said lowering the allowed return could reduce costs for customers, but regulators also have to ensure utilities earn enough to maintain electric service.

“I think people just inherently understand they shouldn’t be getting extra profits for just providing a monopoly service,” he said.

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Commission on the Future of the Practice of Law releases report and policy recommendations

While demand for court-appointed legal work has risen sharply over the past decade, the overwhelming majority of West Virginia counties currently lack an adequate number of attorneys available for appointment - a problem that will worsen as more attorneys plan to retire over the next five years.

The Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia today released a new report detailing the findings and recommendations of its Commission on the Future of the Practice of Law, a group appointed by the Court in April 2025 and tasked with identifying potential public policy changes and practical solutions to ensure there are enough attorneys practicing in the state to provide representation to the citizens who need it.

“We have heard repeatedly from judges around the state about the practical difficulties they’re facing due to the lack of attorneys available to do court-appointed work or because the existing pool of attorneys are covering so many cases it’s difficult to schedule hearings,” said Chief Justice C. Haley Bunn. “To address this, the Supreme Court voted last year to create the Commission to first establish quantifiable data detailing the scope of the problem, and then to propose potential solutions to address it.”

According to the report, while there has been a substantial increase in case filings which require court-appointed counsel over the past decade - specifically in child abuse and neglect cases - West Virginia has experienced a significant decline in private practice attorneys performing court-appointed work. Additionally, the situation is expected to worsen significantly over the next five years as 25 percent of private practice attorneys retire.

The 13-member Commission is chaired by Supreme Court Administrative Director Keith Hoover and fea-

tures representatives from various sectors of the legal profession and state government, including the state and federal judiciary, Legislature and West Virginia State Bar.

“Our Commission has worked diligently over the past year to accumulate data, identify trends and study potential solutions, including reforms and best practices implemented in other states, to address structural challenges in our state’s legal system,” Hoover said. “We hope this work will help ensure our citizens have equal access to justice, due process and a legal system that can handle their cases effectively and efficiently.”

Among the report’s findings:

- The number of active, in-state attorneys declined 9.29 percent from 2014, outpacing overall population decline of 4.3 percent.
- At the same time, legal demand increased, with the number of child abuse and neglect cases - which typically require court-appointed counsel – increasing 36.63 percent.
- Approximately 248 active, in-state attorneys leave practice each year, with an average of only 203 new attorneys admitted to the bar - a net annual decline of 45 attorneys per year.
- Approximately 25 percent of West Virginia private practice attorneys plan to retire during the next five years.
- Only 32 percent of current private practice attorneys accept court-appointed assignments.
- Forty-six of West Virginia’s 55 counties classify as “legal deserts,” based on the definition established by the American Bar Association, meaning they have less than one attorney for every 1,000 residents.

To address these trends, the Commission recommended a series of potential policy proposals in the fol-

lowing areas:

- Ease restrictions for out-of-state lawyers to practice in West Virginia.
- Create targeted opportunities for new or recent law school graduates to open small firms in rural areas.
- Create incentives to retain existing court-appointed attorneys and encourage more lawyers to accept court-appointed work.
- Explore more opportunities for individuals to enter the legal profession as attorneys or non-lawyers.
- Seek new funding opportunities to support innovation and robust programs.

The Commission in its report included several ideas under each of those areas for policymakers to consider in order to address the overall goal.

“This report provides both a clear assessment of the challenges facing the legal profession in West Virginia and a roadmap for addressing them,” said Robby Aliff, President of the West Virginia State Bar and a member of the Commission.

“The need for talented lawyers has never been greater,” Aliff said. “As many experienced practitioners prepare to retire, law students and young lawyers have an unprecedented opportunity to build rewarding careers while serving their communities. By working together to implement the Commission’s recommendations, we can strengthen our profession and help ensure that every West Virginian has meaningful access to legal services for generations to come.”

The Commission will work with the Supreme Court, West Virginia State Bar, West Virginia University College of Law and lawmakers to review and discuss the recommendations in the coming months.

The full report is available at www.courtsww.gov



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POSITION OPEN: SECRETARY/CASE MANAGER LEWISBURG OFFICE

DESCRIPTION: The Public Defender Corporation Greenbrier & Pocahontas, which encompasses the 29th Judicial Circuit of West Virginia, has an immediate opening for a full-time Secretary/Case Manager in the Corporation's Lewisburg office.

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QUALIFICATIONS: GED/HS Diploma Preferred: Experience in a law firm/legal setting; secretarial experience; Experience with document managements systems; MS Office experience; Knowledge of the criminal justice system.

HOURS: Normal work hours Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.; Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; includes a one-hour unpaid lunch break per day.

SALARY: Competitive Benefits include life insurance, health insurance, retirement plan, paid time off, and paid federal/state holidays.

HOW TO APPLY: Applicants may send resume and professional references to the managing Public Defender, Martha J. Fleshman: martha@defendwv.org.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled or interviews are Scheduled and/or completed.



Greenbrier Valley Fitness (SOUTH)

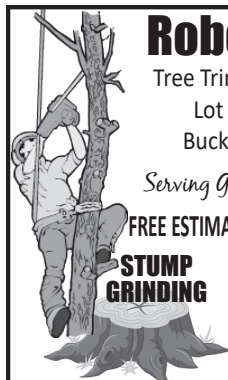
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681-318-3340

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MISCELLANEOUS

PUBLIC AUCTION! HUGE - NO RESERVES. William A. Hazel, Inc. Equipment & Trucks. Friday, Aug 14. 10am. Bid Onsite & Online. Winchester, VA. Motleysindustrial.com. VAAL #16/NCAL #5914

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Dear Recycle Lady,
I was told that the plastic windows in envelopes need-
ed to be removed before they are recycled. Cutting out
windows is a pain. Is it really necessary to do this?
Not Windowless

Dear Not Windowless,
Generally, windows in envelopes should be removed

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Hedge; 2. Sate
3. Scenic; 4. Trail

Today's Word

CHEATING

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Super Crossword

Answers

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

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as they can potentially be a contaminant and affect the quality of the recycled paper. However, plastic windows are such a small percentage of recycled office paper that most post-consumer mills can process the plastic out while recycling the office paper. While these plastic windows are not a large contaminant, the fewer there are, the cleaner the paper. Envelopes with windows are accepted at our local Recycling Center. If in doubt as to the proper way to recycle items, check with your local recyclable center or guidelines.

Dear Recycle Lady,
What does biodegradable mean? I see it used more frequently now.

Interested

Dear Interested,
Biodegradable refers to materials that can be broken down by living organisms into natural substances such as water, carbon dioxide and organic matter. Biodegradable items decompose naturally without leaving any harmful residue. Using biodegradable items helps prevent pollution in oceans and landfills. However, the term biodegradable can be used to describe anything that takes from 6 months to 1,000 years to break down. Consequently, the term “biodegradable” is sometimes used to promote market products that are not good for the environment; a practice called “greenwashing.” Greenwashing is defined as using an eco-friendly word, symbol or color, to market products as good for the environment when they aren’t.

Dear Recycle Lady,
I put my recyclables out for curbside pick-up. What do I put newspapers, magazines, office paper, plastic, and cans in, if I am out of orange and yellow recycle bags?

Recycler

Dear Recycler,
Newspapers, magazines, office paper, plastics, and cans all need to be bagged separately. Any bag is okay. Just be sure it is not a black bag as black bags will be picked up as trash. Newspapers can be bundled and tied with heavy string. Aluminum and steel cans should be bagged separately, as should plastics #1 and #2. It is really helpful for the Recycling Center to receive these items already sorted. Be sure to tie the bags tight so the contents won’t spill out when they are picked up. It is also a good idea to put recycling bags in a separate location from trash containers, perhaps on the other side of the driveway, as they may be viewed as trash. Orange and yellow recycle bags can be found in a green container outside Open Doors across the street from the Lewisburg Post Office. These bags are used only by residents of Lewisburg who have subscribed to trash pickup.

Helpful Hint: The Pacific Ocean, the largest ocean on Earth, spans more than 20 time zones. Protecting something this big starts with small changes at home. Using old cloth items for cleanup instead of paper towels is a small start that can have a big impact.

Good News: Hawaii is exploring innovative ways to recycle ocean plastic by incorporating it into road materials. This approach helps remove plastic waste from the environment while reducing the need for some traditional paving materials. It’s a creative example of turning a pollution problem into a practical solution!

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

A Look Back

By William “Skip” Deegans
Older readers may remember the Tuxedo Six-Horse Hitch that appeared at the West Virginia State Fair in the 1950s. The Early and Daniel Co. that produced the Tuxedo brand of animal feed would, along with its local feed dealers, sponsor a six-horse exhibition team at state and county fairs. The team was usually made up of matching Percheron, Belgium or Clydesdale draft horses and often driven by North Doudna, an Ohio farmer and master horseman.

The Six-Horse Hitch is still a show class and continues to be an attraction at larger state fairs. “Tuxedo” was associated with the class because the driver would sometimes wear a tuxedo, and the team’s elegance would include shiny patent-leather harnesses and matching black horses. The Early and



Daniel Co. folded in 1986, and Doudna passed away in 1965.
Sources: The West Virginia News, Dayton Daily News, News Leader.
Photo courtesy of the Greenbrier Independent.

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BUSINESS

Farmland Protection Boards accepting applications

Greenbrier and Monroe Counties are accepting applications for their Farmland Protection Conservation Easement program.

The Farmland Protection Boards are accepting applications for the FY27 funding cycle. Applications will be sorted by 100 acres and larger, and less than 100-acre parcels. Selections will be ranked and funded at three levels: County, State, and Federal. Selections are

based on available funding within each county.

Applications must be received by October 30, 2026, to be considered for the FY27 funding cycle. Applications can be obtained from your local NRCS and WVU Extension offices, via e-mail: amy@saddlebackservices.org, or by calling 304-667-4877.

Please mail the completed application and supporting documents, as listed in the application, to Farmland

Protection, PO Box 574, Union, WV 24983. You may also return your application via email to amy@saddlebackservices.org.

If you would like an application mailed to you or if you would like to schedule a meeting to review the application and/or learn more about the program, please contact Amy Moloney, Executive Director at 304-667-4877.



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!

Avoid

EGHED

Quench

EATS

Lovely

SCINCE

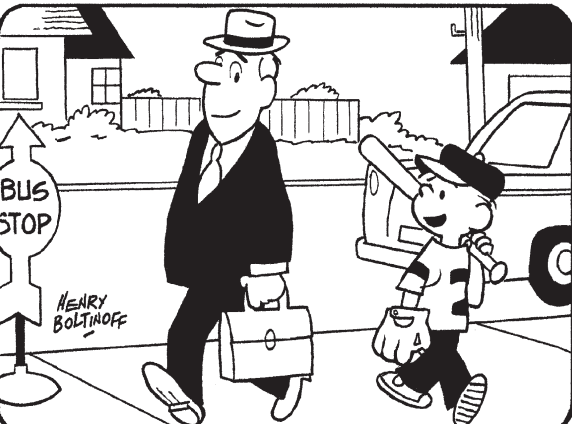
Follow

ALIRT

TODAY'S WORD

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF





Differences: 1. Line in sidewalk is moved. 2. Window sill is missing. 3. Rear car window is smaller. 4. House window is moved. 5. Man is thinner. 6. Briefcase is larger.

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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!

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

Super Crossword

ODD DUCKS

ACROSS

1 Arctic footwear item

9 Triaging Bugs Bunny? concern

15 "Rope- —" (Ali ring tactic)

20 Study of forces acting on mechanisms

21 Twinkled

22 Adversary

23 Brief seconds

24 Diane plays her role flawlessly?

26 See 61-Across

27 Dandy dudes

28 On guard

29 Foxx amuses his audience?

34 Flock babies

37 Droop

39 Phone button abbr.

40 Special span

41 Granola snack option

43 Flood preventer

44 Muscles called "guns"

47 Paul acts in a serious film?

50 Military pupils

52 One of a pair of sense organs

53 Expiators

54 Elmer greatly anticipates catching Bugs Bunny?

57 Favored ones

60 "Hence ..."

61 With 26-Across, maker of Tater Tots

62 Philadelphia's La — University

63 WWII battle city in France

64 Adaptable truck, in brief

65 Christ, in Cremona

67 Oldham fashions clothes?

70 Cheer shouts his audience?

74 Court org.

76 "Look at Me" novelist Jennifer

77 Bunk

79 Gunk

80 "ATM" rapper

83 Small warbler

84 Wynonna puts out her first album?

86 Orchestrate

88 Miracle- —

90 Brown ermines

91 Roger describes a news event?

96 "C'mon, quit it!"

98 "It's all clear"

99 Lightning source, informally

100 TV "Science Guy" Bill

102 Put in a juicer

103 One of a pair of sense organs

104 Cultural spirit

105 Billy steps off his ship?

109 Plow inventor John

111 Swiss mounts

112 "— had it!"

113 Jason bounces the basketball?

117 Kitchen tools

122 Architect Jones

123 — d' (head-waiter)

124 Cubic — (fake diamond)

125 De Mille the dancer

126 Less than retail

127 How this puzzle's nine longest answers are viewed?

2 Writer Anaïs

3 Carry- — (flight totes)

4 Sweaty, say

5 Straitlaced

6 Indian tongue

7 Scale's span

8 Road curve

9 Certain opening for a bolt

10 Elated bliss

11 Gives help

12 German link

13 Rx request

14 Suffix with lime or Gator

15 Seed casings

16 Belly flop, say

17 Unusually big

18 People eating meals, e.g.

19 High trains

25 Maze-running rodent

27 Mrs., in Berlin

29 Burglarize

30 Gourmet

31 Tenths of centuries

32 "Judge —" (Stallone film)

33 Slip up

34 Piece of mail: Abbr.

35 Court org.

36 Mothers, informally

38 Undercoat for an oil painting

42 Skilled sorts

43 Evening eats

45 People who are hoofing it

46 Rock layers

48 — Moines

49 Perfectly

51 Song for one

54 Hazy stuff

55 Not as young

56 Pigeon perch, maybe

58 Yale for whom Yale is named

59 "I swear —!"

63 Capitol fig.

64 No longer bothered by

66 Remove the cargo from

68 Hazard

69 Motions "yes"

71 "Equus" actress Jenny

72 Time in a Jacuzzi, e.g.

73 "Rescue us!"

75 Road curve

78 "The Lady" star Michelle

80 Farr or Foxx

81 Fighting for change

82 Called for a pizza, say

83 Like Cardiff natives

84 Write hastily

85 City in Iraq

87 Go- — (no idler)

89 Climbing roses

92 "Am — blame?"

93 Refusals

94 Cuts off

95 Pink Floyd's Barrett

97 Evening hrs.

101 Add while proofing

104 Paul who published many math papers

106 Surprise win

107 Tennis legend Chris

108 Park seat

110 Threshold

111 Counter-tenor

113 Rio carmaker

114 "— bad boy!"

115 Slugging club

116 Razor brand

117 Israeli weapon

118 College org. of sisters

119 Suffix with opal

120 Tell fibs

121 Mournful

DOWN

1 Do the slopes

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							
54							55	56			57	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												100		101				102			
103					104						105	106				107	108				
	109				110					111					112						
113							114	115	116					117				118	119	120	121
122							123							124							
125							126							127							

PLEASE SEE THE PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PAGE 8

LEGAL

(2025-C-000235 - GREENBRIER COUNTY - SMART INVESTING LLC)
To: MALINDA J GILBERT, OCCUPANT, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT LEWISBURG MAP 20P PARCEL 0009 0000 0000
You will take notice that SMART INVESTING LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2025-C-000235**, located in LEWISBURG District, LOT 12 OR 2.32 AC LESS 15' STRIP (LT 12 SURFACE (B, which was returned delinquent and nonentered in the name of GILBERT MALINDA J, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of GREENBRIER County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on May 28, 2026. SMART INVESTING LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2026 will be as follows:
Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with \$ 1,031.92
interest, for tax year ticket number 2024 - 15203.
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for \$ 0.00
ticket number.
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2025 - 15281. \$ 879.75
Additional taxes with interest. \$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest. \$ 209.95
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest. \$ 1,086.80
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest. \$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order \$ **3,208.42**
or certified or personal check.
You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026 by paying the above total less any unearned interest. If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.
Given under my hand July 30, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Nonentered Lands of GREENBRIER County, State of West Virginia
Please return this letter and payment to the WV State Auditor's Office, County Collections Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East Building 1, Room W-114 Charleston, West Virginia 25305 Questions please call 1-888-509-6568

LEGAL

(2025-C-000263 - GREENBRIER COUNTY - SMART INVESTING LLC)
To: SUSAN A JORDAN, OCCUPANT, SUSAN A JORDAN, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT MEADOW BLUFF MAP 40 PARCEL 0067 0000 0000
You will take notice that SMART INVESTING LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2025-C-000263**, located in MEADOW BLUFF District, 20625 SQ. FT. OR .465 AC CEMETERY ROAD, which was returned delinquent and nonentered in the name of JORDAN SUSAN A, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of GREENBRIER County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on May 28, 2026. SMART INVESTING LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2026 will be as follows:
Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with \$ 415.86
interest, for tax year ticket number 2024 - 22383.
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for \$ 0.00
ticket number.
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2025 - 22448. \$ 337.10
Additional taxes with interest. \$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest. \$ 209.95
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest. \$ 1,105.72
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest. \$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order \$ **2,068.63**
or certified or personal check.
You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026 by paying the above total less any unearned interest. If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.
Given under my hand July 30, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Nonentered Lands of GREENBRIER County, State of West Virginia
Please return this letter and payment to the WV State Auditor's Office, County Collections Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East Building 1, Room W-114 Charleston, West Virginia 25305 Questions please call 1-888-509-6568

LEGAL

(2025-C-000281 - GREENBRIER COUNTY - SMART INVESTING LLC)
To: ED BOER, EVELYN VAN DECK, ED BOER, EVELYN VAN DECK, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT MEADOW BLUFF MAP 84 PARCEL 0014 0000 0000
You will take notice that SMART INVESTING LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2025-C-000281**, located in MEADOW BLUFF District, 9.43 AC DAWSON RD FROM OSBORNE/DEP COMM, which was returned delinquent and nonentered in the name of BOER ED OR DECK EVELYN VON, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of GREENBRIER County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on May 28, 2026. SMART INVESTING LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2026 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2024 - 20020.	\$	158.87
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number.	\$	0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2025 - 20115.	\$	93.05
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor’s Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	209.95
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	1,177.76
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order or certified or personal check.	\$	1,639.63

You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026 by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.

Given under my hand August 3, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of GREENBRIER County, State of West Virginia
Please return this letter and payment to the WV State Auditor’s Office, County Collections Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East Building 1, Room W-114 Charleston, West Virginia 25305 Questions please call 1-888-509-6568

LEGAL

Tariff Form No. 8-C
(Tariff Rule 14.2 et seq. (Historical Rule 30-C))
Case No. 26-0703-G-30C

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CHANGE IN RATES UPON APPLICATION
NOTICE is hereby given that MOUNTAINEER GAS COMPANY, a public utility, has filed with the PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA, an application containing increased rates, tolls and charges for furnishing natural gas service to approximately 218,000 customers at various locations in the Counties of Barbour, Berkeley, Boone, Braxton, Brooke, Cabell, Calhoun, Clay, Doddridge, Fayette, Gilmer, Grant, Greenbrier, Hancock, Hardy, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Kanawha, Lewis, Lincoln, Logan, Marion, Marshall, Mason, McDowell, Mercer, Mineral, Mingo, Monongalia, Monroe, Morgan, Nicholas, Ohio, Pendleton, Preston, Putnam, Raleigh, Randolph, Ritchie, Roane, Summers, Tucker, Tyler, Upshur, Wayne, Wetzel, Wirt, Wood, and Wyoming.

The proposed changes in rates and charges will become effective November 1, 2026, unless otherwise ordered by the Public Service Commission, and will increase revenue approximately \$3,051 865 annually, an increase of approximately 1.9%. The average monthly bill for the various classes of customers of MOUNTAINEER GAS COMPANY who purchase their gas from MOUNTAINEER GAS COMPANY will be changed as follows:

	INCREASE	INCREASE
Residential	\$ 0.86	0.91%
Commercial	\$ 4.29	1.12%
Industrial	\$ 35.60	0.64%
Resale	\$ 101.65	1.50%

Proposed PGA rates for each Mountaineer rate schedule, which include Business and Occupation Tax, are as follows:

Rate Schedule	Present	Proposed	Increase \$	Increase %
RS	\$ 3.960	\$ 4.049	\$ 0.089	2.25%
RS Demand	\$ 2.59	\$ 20.91	\$ 0.320	1.55%
GS	\$ 7.381	\$ 7.534	\$ 0.143	1.93%
LGS	\$ 3.960	\$ 4.049	\$ 0.089	2.25%
WS	\$ 7.074	\$ 7.211	\$ 0.137	1.91%
IS	\$ 3.960	\$ 4.049	\$ 0.089	2.25%
LIS	\$ 3.960	\$ 4.049	\$ 0.089	2.25%

Resale customers of MOUNTAINEER GAS COMPANY include Canaan Valley Gas Company, Cardinal Natural Gas Company, Hope Gas, Inc., and City of Philippi.

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

This filing also contains proposed changes to MOUNTAINEER GAS COMPANY’S rate components for customers that purchase their gas from an alternative supplier/marketer and purchase only transportation services including MDFQ, Storage Balancing Fee, Firm Standby Fee, and Fuel Retention Percentage from MOUNTAINEER GAS COMPANY. These transportation service rates are applicable to customers that voluntarily elect to subscribe to transportation service. The proposed changes to the rate components are as follows:

Rate Component	Present	Proposed	Increase \$	Increase %
MDFQ	\$ 15.861	\$ 16.112	\$ 0.251	1.58%
Storage Balancing Fee	\$ 0.609	\$ 0.625	\$ 0.016	2.63%
Firm Standby Fee	\$ 2.648	\$ 2.684	\$ 0.036	1.36%
Fuel Retention	4.00%	4.00%	N/A	0.00%

Any change in rates and charges will not become effective until authorized and approved by the Public Service Commission. If a hearing is conducted, notice will be given of the time and place of hearing.

A complete copy of the proposed rates, as well as a representative of the Company to provide any information requested concerning it, is available to all customers, prospective customers, or their agents at the following offices of the Company:

Mountaineer Gas Company Office
• 501 56th Street SE, Charleston, West Virginia 25304.

A copy of the proposed rates is available for public inspection at the office of the Executive Secretary of the PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION at 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia.

The Rule 30-C procedure is designed to provide a procedure for changing rates charged to customers by natural gas distribution utilities based exclusively on the cost of purchased gas. Consequently, protest should be limited to the reasonableness of such costs and the method by which they are calculated. Anyone desiring to protest or intervene should file a written protest or notice of intervention within twenty-five (25) days following the date of his publication unless otherwise modified by Commission order. Failure to timely intervene can affect your rights to protest any rate adjustments and to participate in future proceedings. Requests to intervene must comply with the Commission’s rules on intervention set forth in the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure. All interventions must be mailed or hand-delivered and be addressed to

Executive Secretary, Public Service Commission of West Virginia, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, WV 2532 . Protests may be filed online through the Commission website using the “Submit a Comment” link or may be mailed to the Executive Secretary, Public Service Commission of West Virginia, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, WV 25323.

LEGAL

(2025-C-000502 - GREENBRIER COUNTY - SMART INVESTING LLC)
To: DERRICK LAMONTE ALLEN, ERIC LAMONTE ALLEN, ERIC LAMONTE ALLEN, DERRICK LAMONTE ALLEN, DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICES, TBF FINANCIAL LLC, BURKE & HERBERT BANK, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT RAINELLE CORP MAP 9 PARCEL 0002 0003 0000
You will take notice that SMART INVESTING LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2025-C-000502**, located in RAINELLE CORP District, 1.367 AC (FEE) LESS R/W PENNSYLVANIA AVE, which was returned delinquent and nonentered in the name of ALLEN DERRICK LAMONTE & ALLEN ERIC, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of GREENBRIER County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on May 28, 2026. SMART INVESTING LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2026 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2024 - 26215.	\$	755.72
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number.	\$	0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2025 - 26266.	\$	663.69
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor’s Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	209.95
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	1,189.01
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order or certified or personal check.	\$	2,818.37

You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026 by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.

Given under my hand August 3, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of GREENBRIER County, State of West Virginia
Please return this letter and payment to the WV State Auditor’s Office, County Collections Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East Building 1, Room W-114 Charleston, West Virginia 25305 Questions please call 1-888-509-6568

LEGAL

(2025-C-000593 - GREENBRIER COUNTY - SMART INVESTING LLC)
To: JENNIFER UHLINGER, GREEN CLIFFS PROPERTIES, MICHAEL UHLINGER, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT WHITE SULPHUR MAP 22P PARCEL 0033 0000 0000
You will take notice that SMART INVESTING LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2025-C-000593**, located in WHITE SULPHUR District, LOT 60 0.26 AC WHITE SULPHUR HILL NEIGHBORHOODS S, which was returned delinquent and nonentered in the name of UHLINGER MICHAEL & JENNIFER, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of GREENBRIER County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on May 28, 2026. SMART INVESTING LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2026 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2024 - 31996.	\$	829.59
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number.	\$	0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2025 - 32029.	\$	701.89
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor’s Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	209.95
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	1,462.11
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order or certified or personal check.	\$	3,203.54

You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026 by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.

Given under my hand July 31, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of GREENBRIER County, State of West Virginia
Please return this letter and payment to the WV State Auditor’s Office, County Collections Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East Building 1, Room W-114 Charleston, West Virginia 25305 Questions please call 1-888-509-6568

LEGAL

NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING - CAMC GREENBRIER VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER, INC. BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Trustees of CAMC Greenbrier Valley Medical Center, Inc. (“Greenbrier Valley Medical Center”) will hold a meeting at 3:00 p.m. on August 24, 2026, in the physicians dining room of Greenbrier Valley Medical Center, 1320 Maplewood Ave., Ronceverte, West Virginia. Members of the public wishing to address the board must sign up no later than 2:45 p.m. the day of the meeting.

LEGAL

In accordance with W.Va. Code §8A-7-5, notice is hereby given that the Greenbrier County Commission will meet to conduct public hearing regarding the recommendation to adopt an updated zoning ordinance. A public hearing will be held Monday, September 14, 2026 at 12 noon and Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Underwood Building at the WV State Fairgrounds located at 947 Maplewood Avenue, Lewisburg, WV.

Under consideration at the public hearings will be the proposed updated Greenbrier County Zoning Ordinance as recommended by the Greenbrier County Planning Commission and redlined by the County Commission.

Summary of proposal: The proposed update reorganizes, clarifies, and modernizes the ordinance text to better reflect current planning practices, applicable state law, and the needs of Greenbrier County; retains the existing zoning districts and existing zoning map; replaces the text of the ordinance to revise definitions, uses, procedures and performance standards.

The study and report on zoning, including the zoning map and proposed replacement zoning ordinance, are available for review in the County Commission office located in the Courthouse, in county public libraries, and are also available for viewing and download on the county website: www.greenbriervv.gov.

Any member of the public may attend and be heard on the matter at the public hearings. Written comments will be accepted and made a part of the record if they are received prior to the close of the hearing on September 15, 2026 by:

Kelly Banton
Greenbrier County Commission
912 Court Street N, Lewisburg
West Virginia 24901

LEGAL

Greenbrier Valley Economic Development Corporation
Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026
Receipts and Disbursements

In accordance with WV Code 7-12-12, provided below is the organization’s receipts and disbursements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.

July ‘25 - June ‘26

Receipts	
Federal Grants	58,716.08
Local Governmental Grants	66,527.50
State Grants	93,025.00
Investment Income	53,999.86
Administrative Fees	39,264.68
Program Income	16,470.82
Rentals	605,058.26
Total Receipts	933,062.20

Disbursements	
Business Expense & Bank Fees	7,982.34
Insurance	39,869.00
Contract Services	163,105.00
Operations	
Water	3,511.45
Natural Gas	29,898.00
Sewer	1,986.51
Fire/Sprinkler Fees	5,173.65
Electric	58,141.60
Communications/Telecome	9,312.63
Supplies	18,252.78
Marketing	9,787.21
Membership & Dues	1,809.00
Staff & Board Development	769.00
Project Expenses	24,277.08
Payroll Expenses	306,200.25
Travel & Meetings	7,334.34
Interest	13,263.34
Total Disbursements	700,673.18





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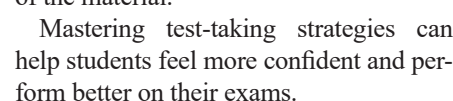
NEWS.COM



The following test-taking tips, courtesy of the University of Arkansas, Huntington

Begin practicing pacing. Another area some students struggle with is running out of time on the test, or finishing too soon.

Don't agonize. Students should move on from questions they don't know instead



Employ metacognitive strategies. Reading Rockets defines metacognition as “thinking about thinking.” While young students may hear the word “metacognition” and run for the hills, the process is far simpler than its name might suggest. Prior to reading, students can be encouraged to

Reading comprehension can be challenging for young students. But various strategies can help kids develop strong reading comprehension skills.



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ENTERTAINMENT

Local entertainer honored at upcoming GVT performance

Red Nose Night in honor of Chally Erb



Local entertainer Chally Erb will be remembered during the Aug. 29 evening performance of Tuesdays with Morrie at Greenbrier Valley Theatre. Chally was a prominent entertainer of all kinds, and a friend to all he met. His uniqueness shown through and wore off on all that he touched, from city events he liked to attend in full costume, to his performances with the Trillium Performing Arts Collective and Greenbrier Valley Theatre.

Red Nose Night on Aug. 29 honors this local legend who touched so many lives. Two dollars of every ticket sale for the Aug. 29 evening performance will be donated to the ALS Association in honor of Chally Erb. In addition, red noses will be sold that evening for \$5 each and all proceeds will be donated as well.

Tuesdays with Morrie is an adaptation from Mitch Albom's 1997 memoir

about the author's re-connection with his former college sociology professor, Morrie Schwartz, who is dying of ALS. They meet for 14 Tuesdays to discuss life's final lessons on love, work, aging, and death.

"My family and I would like to express our gratitude to Greenbrier Valley Theatre for remembering my father, Chally Erb and his passion for performance arts and the importance of live theatre," says Deva Wagner. "Even as he struggled with movement after being diagnosed with ALS, he continued his involvement in performance and theater. He certainly had no shortage of inspiration or ideas. Luckily, he had willing members of our community to help him carry those out. We are grateful for GVT's dedication to Chally and look forward to the production of Tuesdays with Morrie."

Ticket for Tuesdays with Morrie are available at



gvtheatre.org/2026-season or by calling 304-645-3838.

About The Greenbrier Valley Theatre

The State Professional Theatre of West Virginia is committed to its mission statement to create live, professional quality theatre in West Virginia and, through theatre, to enlighten, enrich, and enliven the life of our region.

Throughout each year, GVT produces first-class theatrical productions featuring professional actors. Additionally,

Greenbrier Valley Theatre offers a successful after-school drama program, a summer camp for children and teens, literary readings, live simulcasts of the Metropolitan Opera, special events and musical performances, art appreciation activities, lectures, discussions and workshops.

The Greenbrier Valley Theatre is the State Professional Theatre of West Virginia. Learn more about GVT at www.gvtheatre.org.



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The inviting living room includes a custom wet bar with built-in ice maker, and two fireplaces — including one on the screened-in porch — create warm spaces to relax in every season. Hardwood and tile flooring flow throughout, and a finished bonus room above the garage offers flexible space for an office, media room, or guests. Premium features include a whole-house Generac generator, security system, handicap-accessible design, and custom window treatments.

For luxury, convenience, and move-in-ready living in one of Lewisburg's premier communities, this home is a must-see. *Private showings are available for pre-qualified buyers or with proof of funds.*



Debbie Smith-Canterbury

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2016 Jeep Patriot Sport
Stock #U14067 | Miles: 90,821
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Big Jon Price: **\$12,574**



2021 GMC Terrain SLE
Stock #4G038A | Miles: 66,510
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$18,570**



2022 Ford Edge SEL
Stock #127001A | Miles: 96,354
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$20,569**



2023 Nissan Rogue SV
Stock #800209 | Miles: 53,953
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$21,270**



2024 Chevrolet Trax LT
Stock #126349B | Miles: 33,003
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$21,570**



2023 Ford Escape ST-Line Elite
Stock #U13964 | Miles: 48,219
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$22,072**



2022 Hyundai Santa Fe SEL
Stock #126300A | Miles: 72,139
RDoc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$22,173**



2025 Chevrolet Trax 2RS
Stock #U14067 | Miles: 52,998
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$22,541**



2022 GMC Terrain SLE
Stock #U14293 | Miles: 33,355
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$23,417**



2024 Mitsubishi Eclipse Cross LE
Stock #800268 | Miles: 15,839
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$23,570**



2025 Kia K4 GT-Line
Stock #U14201 | Miles: 23,563
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$23,994**



2025 Jeep Compass Limited
Stock #U14080 | Miles: 29,251
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$24,085**



2025 Hyundai Kona SEL
Stock #U14451 | Miles: 28,525
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$24,331**



2023 GMC Terrain SLT
Stock #17536A | Miles: 42,615
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$24,570**



2025 Ford Escape ST-Line
Stock #17622 | Miles: 24,688
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$24,570**

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2022 Subaru Forester Touring
Stock #U14241 | Miles: 39,044
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$28,924**



2022 Subaru WRX Premium
Stock #U14364 | Miles: 32,216
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$29,191**



2022 Mercedes-Benz GLE 350 4MATIC
Stock #426316B | Miles: 71,455
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$32,569**



2024 Nissan Pathfinder SL
Stock #17550 | Miles: 52,034
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$32,570**



2023 Subaru Forester Wilderness
Stock #17621 | Miles: 19,082
RDoc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$31,570**

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2019 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT
Stock #126249A | Miles: 88,240
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: **\$27,570**



2024 Ford Maverick Lariat
Stock #U14258 | Miles: 23,220
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: **\$32,569**



2020 Ford F-150 Lariat
Stock #U14309 | Miles: 93,445
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: **\$34,985**



2021 GMC Sierra 1500 SLT
Stock #426389A | Miles: 102,948
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: **\$35,573**



2023 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT
Stock #800260 | Miles: 44,021
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: **\$37,369**



2020 GMC Sierra 1500 Denali
Stock #3G062B
Miles: 78,786
Doc Fee: \$575
4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: **\$37,570**



2023 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT
Stock #800259 | Miles: 30,790
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: **\$37,974**



2023 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT
Stock #800263 | Miles: 27,703
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: **\$39,074**



2025 Ram 1500 Big Horn/Lone Star
Stock #17586 | Miles: 10,544
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: **\$40,070**



2025 Toyota Tacoma TRD Off-Road
Stock #800232 | Miles: 14,221
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: **\$40,169**



2023 Ford F-150 XLT
Stock #U14336 | Miles: 42,746
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: **\$42,866**



2024 Ram 2500 Tradesman
Stock #3G183A | Miles: 33,627
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: **\$43,070**



2024 Ram 2500 Big Horn
Stock #426314A | Miles: 49,433
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: **\$43,574**

VERSATILE SUVs FOR EVERY ROAD, EVERY SEASON, EVERY ADVENTURE!



2025 Ford Bronco Sport Badlands
Stock #U13962 | Miles: 19,586
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$30,510**



2021 Jeep Wrangler Rubicon
Stock #4G140A | Miles: 32,682
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$31,870**



2024 Jeep Gladiator Sport
Stock #U14155 | Miles: 26,074
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$31,971**



2026 Jeep Wrangler Sport
Stock #U14004 | Miles: 13,263
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$34,307**

TURN HEADS AND ENJOY THE RIDE WITH SPORTY PRE-OWNED FAVORITES!



2023 Ford Mustang Mach-E GT
Stock #U14251 | Miles: 21,361
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$35,133**



2008 Ford Mustang Shelby GT500
Stock #U14117 | Miles: 9,683
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$43,874**

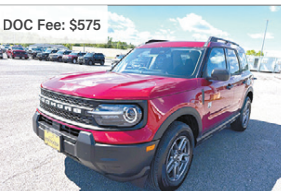


2024 Ford Mustang GT Premium
Stock #U14297 | Miles: 10,367
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: **\$48,951**



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FORD SUMMER SALES EVENT IS HEATING UP!



2026 Ford Bronco Sport Big Bend
Stock #N13779 | MSRP: \$34,485
Ford offers: \$2,250 | Big Jon discount: \$1,675
Big Jon Price: **\$31,135**



2026 Ford Maverick XLT Crewcab
Stock #N13742 | MSRP: \$34,985
Ford offers: \$1,000 | Big Jon discount: \$2,561
Big Jon Price: **\$31,999**



2026 Ford Ranger XL
Stock #N14090 | MSRP: \$38,945
Ford offers: \$2,000 | Big Jon discount: \$1,034
Big Jon Price: **\$36,486**



2026 Ford Bronco
Stock #N13652 | MSRP: \$44,290
Ford offers: \$4,000 | Big Jon discount: \$3,512
Big Jon Price: **\$37,353**



2026 Ford Explorer Active
Stock #N14079 | MSRP: \$50,350
Ford offers: \$4,000 | Big Jon discount: \$2,926
Big Jon Price: **\$43,999**



2026 Ford F-150 XLT Crewcab
Stock #N13914 | MSRP: \$59,625
Ford offers: \$4,000 | Big Jon discount: \$6,201
Big Jon Price: **\$49,999**



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BEST DEALS ON NEW CHEVY AND GMC'S IN THE AREA!



2026 Chevy Trax
Stock #126381 | MSRP: \$25,300
Everybody rides discount: \$1,568
Everybody Rides Price: **\$24,307**



2026 Chevy Trailblazer LS AWD
Stock #126415 | MSRP: \$29,785
Everybody rides discount: \$1,928
Everybody Rides Price: **\$28,432**



2026 Chevy Silverado 1500 Custom
Stock #126346 | MSRP: \$50,764
Chevy offers: \$2,750 | Everybody rides discount: \$5,590
Everybody Rides Price: **\$42,999**



681-355-5973 **THIS SUMMER EVENT IS ALMOST OVER! HUGE DISCOUNTS!**

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2026 Jeep Compass Latitude Altitude
Stock #4G021 | MSRP: \$33,925
Chrysler offers: \$2,250 | Everybody rides discount: \$3,241
Everybody Rides Price: **\$29,009**



2026 Jeep Cherokee Laredo
Stock #4G166 | MSRP: \$40,490
Chrysler offers: \$2,500 | Everybody rides discount: \$1,642
Everybody Rides Price: **\$36,923**



2026 Jeep Wrangler Sport
Stock #4G032 | MSRP: \$46,845
Chrysler offers: \$4,250 | Everybody rides discount: \$2,930
Everybody Rides Price: **\$40,240**



2026 Ram 1500 Tradesman
Stock #3G136 | MSRP: \$58,060
Chrysler offers: \$6,967 | Everybody rides discount: \$3,738
Everybody Rides Price: **\$47,930**



2026 Ram 1500 Big Horn Crewcab
Stock #3G063 | MSRP: \$61,515
Chrysler offers: \$8,882 | Everybody rides discount: \$5,168
Everybody Rides Price: **\$48,040**

DISCLAIMER: This offer is from the dealer. All rebates, incentives, and \$575 doc fee applied. Prices do not include tax, title, and license. Dealer not responsible for typographical errors. Offer Expires 8-17-26