

# The Parsons Advocate

Serving the people of Tucker County since 1896

Volume 127 No. 35

Wednesday, September 7, 2022

\$1.00 (tax incl.)

## Spitznogle Found Guilty of Sexual Assault and Abuse

By: Jennifer Britt  
The Parsons Advocate

In February of 2020 Darrell "Gene" Spitznogle was formally charged with sexual assault and abuse after a juvenile male family member disclosed that he had been touched in inappropriate manners and was forced to touch the defendant. The juvenile was aged nine through 11 during the time of abuse. The abuse was said to have taken place at the Sawmill Lodge located in Davis, and on one occurrence in a hotel in Morgantown.

The juvenile had been displaying behavior issues at home and at school which lead to him being hospitalized at the Psychiatric Institute in Washington (PIW). The juvenile testified that during this stay he was heavily medicated and spoke the details of his abuse to the staff. The staff called in the Child Advocacy Center (CAC) to conduct an interview. That interview was then turned over to the Tucker County Sheriff's office on February 13, 2020. The juvenile male was 16 at the time of the interview.

The Tucker County Sheriff's office brought



Defense Attorney Morris Davis presenting the jury with opening arguments. Seated at the table from L to R Defense Attorney Brent Easton, Defendant D. Spitznogle, Assisting Prosecuting Attorney Frank Bush and Prosecuting Attorney Savannah Wilkins

Spitznogle in for questioning and during that interview Spitznogle denied having any sexual relations with the juvenile. Accord-

ing to the report prepared by the Sheriff's office Spitznogle stated he had never touched the juvenile's genitals, seen him naked or mistreated him in any way.

After four hours of the jury selection process the jury of 12 with one standby was chosen for the trial of the state of West Virginia vs. Spitznogle and was reigned over by Judge J. Courier. The jury consisted of eight women and five men to decide whether the state had proved sufficient evidence to convict Spitznogle of one count of first-degree sexual assault and six counts of first-degree sexual abuse.

Prosecuting Attorney Savannah Hull Wilkins and co-counsel Assisting Prosecuting Attorney Frank

Bush for the state of West Virginia were in charge of providing the burden of guilt. In a criminal case, the prosecution bears the burden of proving that the defendant is guilty beyond all reasonable doubt. This means that the prosecution must convince the jury that there is no other reasonable explanation that can come from the evidence presented at trial.

In her opening remarks to the jury, Wilkins said, "Just so you know what you are listening for, first-degree sexual assault is committed when someone over the age of 14 has sexual intercourse or sexual intrusion with someone under the age of 12 to whom they are not married. First-degree sexual abuse is committed when someone over the

age of 14 has sexual contact with someone under the age of 12. The evidence we are about to present will establish that the defendant did those crimes."

Wilkins continued explaining to the jury that they would hear from five witnesses that included testimony from the juvenile male (18 at the time of the trial), Tucker County Chief Deputy Sigley, the mother of the juvenile, the father of the juvenile and cousin of the defendant and licensed psychologist expert Dr. Rodney McCullough, PSYD.

Wilkins in her opening remarks to the jury said, "(the juvenile male) is going to tell you that between the ages of nine and 11 he was sexually

See GUILTY page 4A

## TC Solid Waste Authority Encourages TC Commission to Back EMS Levy



TC Solid Waste Authority board member's meeting

By: Jennifer Britt  
The Parsons Advocate

For the month of June, the Tucker County Solid Waste Authority reported collecting 6,259.75 of solid waste tonnage. This brings the total for the fiscal year from July 2021 to June 2022 to 61,260.74. This is 4059.64 less than previous fiscal year. There was a monthly average of 5,673.33 tons.

Leachate ended the fiscal year with 68,079.99 gallons with the month of June having 6,482.39 gallons. There were 122 loads of leachate hauled in the month of June with one going to Moorefield, with

6,129 gallons and costing \$153.23 to treat; 110 loads were taken to Westport, Md. for a total of 687,550 gallons and a treatment cost of \$17,188.75; and 11 loads were taken to the City of Thomas water treatment plant with a total of 106,169 gallons and a treatment cost of \$4,777.61. There was a one percent increase in the fiscal years ending in 2022 verses 2021.

Mark Joseph, accountant for the authority was on hand to provide a financial update. Joseph said, "We have everything in pretty good shape. Carol worked on this so we can have this ready. So, if the auditors come in at anytime our books are in

See TCSWA page 2A

## Carr Earns the American FFA Degree

Ethan Carr Earned the American FFA Degree is the highest degree the National FFA Organization can bestow upon an FFA member. Less than one percent of FFA members earn the American FFA Degree. It is awarded to high school graduate members with demonstrated leadership, community service, academic success and outstanding SAE (supervised agricultural experience) programs. The requirements that have to be met are quite extensive at the county level, the greenhand and chapter degrees. At the state level the State FFA degree has to have been received, been an active member for the past three years and have recorded participation in chapter and state level activities. The recipient must have graduated from high school with a scholastic record of "C" or better, and having to have graduated at least 12 months prior to the National convention. They must also have at least 50+ community service hours, and have productively invested the minimum of \$7,500 in their SAE products.

There will be one Tucker County FFA Member, from Tucker County High School graduating class of 2021 to receive his America FFA Degree in October of 2022 at the National Convention in Indianapolis, IN. Carr will walk across the stage with the top FFA members of the United States of



America. Carr has been a member of the Tucker County chapter since his freshman year at TCHS. He has participated in the county fair with exhibits of market hogs, market steers and feeder steers; held the office of treasurer and president for the local chapter, spent hours of volunteer time at the Tucker County Fair; participated with the veterans (Christmas parade) and Parsons City hay rides, the St. George United Methodist Church youth, Clover Crusaders 4-H Club and many other community events. Carr is now employed with the WVDH and living and farming in Tucker County.

## Stevens' Florist Celebrates 60 Years



A variety of items are available for purchase or made fresh to order at Stevens' Florist.

By: Jennifer Britt  
The Parsons Advocate

On July 3 the flower shop on Davis Street called Stevens' Florist celebrated 60 years of being in business. A business started by Ethel Stevens in the late 60's after her children had grown and left the house was purchased for her by her husband Willard. The Stevens had located to Parsons in 1949. Sadly, E. Stevens passed in 2004 at the age of 88, many years after her husband's passing in 1978.

Deloris Stevens' grandmother lived to be 103 years old and would make deliveries with her. D. Stevens said, "My grandmother always went with me to deliver flowers. I would call her and say I am going here, here, and here you want to go? She would say just give me time to change my shoes. That was her remark every time."

Now two generation later the shop is owned and operated by Deloris Stevens



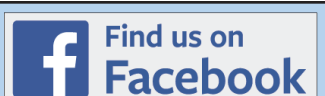
Current owner and operators of Stevens' Florist Deloris Stevens and her daughter Leana Johnson

and her daughter Leana Johnson. Along the way many family members have joined the business and helped make the shop the success it is today. D. Stevens' brothers, Darney and Jeep, both worked for a time at the business making deliveries. Johnson said, "Someone in the family has been here working the whole time. It started out with her (E. Stevens) brother John. He worked here for awhile while she was working elsewhere. Then my uncle Darney started,

See STEVENS' page 4A



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# Five Rivers Public Library Newsletter

## Fall and Winter

### (September – May) Hours

Monday... 8:30 a – 6:30 p  
 Tuesday... Friday 8:30 a – 5:00 p  
 Saturday ... 9:00 a - Noon

Check the Library web page, <https://fiverivers.wvlibrary.info/> facebook or call the library for updates.

### September Happenings

- 7 - Toddler Time @10:00 a.m.—Back to School
- 14 - Toddler Time @ 10:00 a.m.—Friends
- 20 – Book Club @ 1:30
- 20 - Board Meeting @ 5:00 p.m.
- 21 - Toddler Time @10:00 a.m. – Field Day
- 28 - Toddler Time @10:00 a.m.—Science

### Book & Other Donors:

Debbie Gutshall; Sherry Burns; Becky Arbogast; & Sarah Bowley.

The Library is now accepting Credit/Debit cards.

Processing fee of 3% or \$1.50 minimum. Fee is charged by a third party.

### Wednesdays @ 10:00 a.m.:

September’s themes are Back to School, Friends, Field Day, Science  
 \*Please contact the library to register your child for Toddler Time.

### Book Club Discussion Group

- Note: Time and Day change.
- Meets the third Tuesday monthly at 1:30 p.m. in the library meeting room.
- Book for September : Peace Like A River by Leif Enger

Kindle Paperwhite E-Readers available for check out by Adults only. Check with Library staff.

(Required to sign e-reader agreement)

Meeting Room is now available for rent. Cost \$35.00 Non-Profit - Donation accepted for use.

### Mobile Hotspots

Now available for check out.

\*You have to have cell service available to use these at your home.

Loan period 3 weeks. Check with Library staff for more information.

Notaries are now available for your convenience during library hours. Signer Photo ID required. Donations accepted.

### Ancestry Library Edition Available at Five Rivers Public Library

Check out WV READS for Free E-Books, Audio Books and e-Magazines. Download the Libby App at <https://wvreads.overdrive.com/>

Five Rivers Public Library is a member of WV Library Network covering 33 counties and 110 Library Locations

Now available by using a mobile app on your phone. (Search loyalty on your app store, gives you a few options). Download App and scan your library card.

\*Please present your library card on your phone, to check out materials.

## Work to begin Thursday, Sept. 8, 2022, on temporary replacement for Laneville Bridge

CHARLESTON, WV – Work to install a temporary replacement for the Laneville Bridge in Tucker County is scheduled to begin Thursday, Sept. 8, 2022, and last until early November.

The bridge, which provides access to the community of Laneville, the Red Creek trailhead, Dolly Sods Wilderness and other recreational facilities, is a key connection between Randolph, Tucker, and Grant counties. The bridge was built and is maintained by the U.S. Forest Service,

but is on a road maintained by the WVDOH.

Forest Service officials announced Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2022, that an \$800,000 contract was awarded to A.L.L. Construction, Inc. of Mt. Storm, West Virginia, to complete the Laneville Bridge Replacement Project. The temporary bridge will restore access to local communities until a permanent bridge can be built.

“We are doing everything we can to expedite this project and minimize the impact to the local Laneville

community,” said Jon Morgan, Forest Service District Ranger. “While the bridge replacement project will cause some disruption for a short time, we are very optimistic that the project will be complete before winter arrives.”

The WVDOH has agreed to design a permanent bridge to be built downstream of the existing span once the temporary bridge is constructed. The Forest Service intends to pay for the new bridge with funding from the Great American Outdoors Act.

## TCSWA

good order for that review.”

During the director’s report, Chairman Mark Holstine said, “We do not have the ability to go into any long-term major debt at the moment nor do we necessarily need to either. We are that end that with the purchase of the compactor we have pretty much upgrade the fleet to where it needs to be to operate in somewhat of an efficient manner. However, with the fuel increase and the cost of other supplies but mainly because of the fuel you see us at a cash strapped situation.

Some of us were in a meeting to discuss the potential for a rate increase. What that may have to look like, which I do not want to state publicly yet. It is not an enormous amount, but in order for us to defray from continuing down this slippery slope of being cash poor, once again, we have to do something.

That something needs to come from either internally, once again, or we need more money at the gate per ton. Those are the considerations being made. A good point made during the meeting was that it was better to do little numbers at a time than big numbers spread further apart.”

Holstine finished his report by saying, “Fred (Davis) I am just going to relate this to you since you are the county commissioner on the board. I am considered as the Chairman of the Tucker County Solid Waste Authority that we only have one bus (ambulance) running through the county. On the way up here today on the other side of

Kerens basically there goes a bus (ambulance). There is no ambulance in Tucker County right now.

We are running a very dangerous operation on this hill. Since we have been here, we have had to call the ambulance three times. It is not careless or anyone’s fault, things happen. The wind blows and blows the doors out of some one’s hands in one of these trailers and smashes a guy’s hand.

I encourage the county commission to get behind the EMS levy and support it publicly and convince people that is what they need. This is a very dangerous operation, and I am just looking at from right here and I do not like not having an ambulance unavailable if we need it.

Like these guys (employees) we should support them as a board and their safety should be on everyone’s plate. We do all we can to train them, to help them and give them the equipment that they need but still stuff hap-

pens, and you cannot control what comes into your facility. I cannot control everybody else’s drivers. I can not control the public and what they are going to do.

All of that is exposure and I would love to have the back up of the county commission with the levy. I do not know if I have read it in the paper or wherever but there just seems to be too much conflict between EMS and the county. When you come from a county like where I come from those two are seamless. If you pick up the phone and call 911 for an ambulance that bad boy is going to be sitting there in about five minutes and that is nice to have.

I am encouraging you to put more buses (ambulances) on the road because that is what we need.”

The next Tucker County Solid Waste Authority meeting will be held on September 20, 2022, at 3 p.m. and will be located at 284 Landfill Road, Davis.

Cont. From Front Page

# News of Record

The following property transfers have been recorded in the Tucker County Clerk’s office:

- City of Parsons, Black Fork, W ½ Lot 175 Section C to Roger Lee Jones, \$0.
- Karen White/Executrix of Estate of John B. Davis, Dry Fork, 1.2 acres to Patowmack Properties LLC, \$390,000.
- Michael A. Dickerson and Harriet R. B. Dickerson, Dry Fork, Lot 20 North Lake II 0.70 acres to Bryan Tangren and Rebecca Schwartz, \$639,000.
- WV’s Pride of the Mountains LLC, Clover, 9.92 acres to Craig Hyre, \$150,000.
- Mitchell Corey Adams, Parsons, Lot 101 to The Church of God of Parsons, \$14,000.
- Candace C. Pleasant, Dry Fork, Unit 32 Week 52 to Nick Hermosilla and Sheray Efaw, \$0.
- Land of Canaan Home Owners Association Inc., Dry Fork, Unit E6 Week 19 to Darrell M. Gaddy and Debra D. Gaddy, \$300.00
- Canaan Valley Land Developers LLC, Dry Fork, 11.84 acres to Windwood Fly Inn Resort LLC, \$450,000.
- Frank Brooke, Dry Fork, Windwood Hts. Townhouse Complex Unit 13A-2, 071-0 sq. ft. to DCD Holdings LLC, \$240,000.
- Inka Properties, Dry Fork, Unit 13B-2, 071.0 sq. ft. to Urban Investments LLC, \$240,000.
- Inka Properties, Dry Fork, Unit 9A-2, 510.6 sq. ft. to Kevin Patrick and Marcy Patrick, \$240,000.
- Inka Properties, Dry Fork, Unit 9A-2, 510.6 sq. ft. to Nichole Koenig and Drew McClanahan, \$240,000.
- William M. Bailey, Dry Fork, 5.34 acres more or less to John S. Bailey, IIS465,000.
- Frank Brooke, Dry Fork, 1.1215 acres more or less to Windwood Fly Inn Resort LLC, \$100,000.
- Pat A. Nichols and Linda S. Nichols, Davis Corporation, Lot 348 to Inka Properties LLC, \$25,000.
- Pat Nichols and Linda Nichols, Davis Corporation, ½ Lot 345, Lot 346 and Lot 347 to Inka Properties LLC, \$56,000.
- Joshua E. Surguy, Black Fork, 1.35 acres Pheasant to Tammy Sue Heitz, \$32,500.
- Bonnie Schickram, Hambleton, Parcel and 40 X 159.5 Lot to Derrick Knapp, \$30,000.
- James Loudon and Lisa Loudon, Dry Fork, Unit F5 Week 10 to Land of Canaan Home Owners Association Inc., \$1,050.
- Mickel Mobley, Licking District and Dry Fork, Mineral Interest in Multiple Parcels to Mickel Mobley, \$0.
- Mickel Mobley, Black Fork and Hendricks, Lots 76, 76, 105, 106 – 1.94 acres, 30 acres and 10 acres to Mickel Mobley, \$0.
- Paul Scott Hicks, Dry Fork, Lot 29 Poi9nty Knob to Molly Anne Russell, \$72,000.
- John Richard Marra, Jr. and Kathy Lynn Marra, Dry Fork, Unit 113 Building 1 Deerfield Condo to David Magness and Karin A. Magness, \$300,000.



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\* Donations Appreciated & benefit Williamsburg Vol Fire Dept \*

**Cruise-In Car Show • Horseshoe  
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**3-4 PM: Richie Holliday (Gospel Mix)  
4-6 PM: Appalachian Countdown  
6-8 PM: Thomas Taylor Band  
8-10 PM: Stockyard Parade**

**Concessions Available starting at Noon**  
**-Hot Dogs -Nachos -BBQ -Smoked Chicken  
- Baked Beans -Potato Salad -Cold Drinks**

**6471 Shoestring Trail, Williamsburg, WV 24991**  
**Contact 304-667-8041 or 305-733-6639**  
**Presented by Williamsburg Fire Department**

### PARSONS ADVOCATE LETTERS TO EDITOR POLICY

The Parsons Advocate encourages letters to the editor. Letters can be mailed to P.O. Box 345, Parsons, WV 26287 (envelopes must show a return address), faxed to 304-478-1086, e-mailed to [mikie@parsonsadvocate.com](mailto:mikie@parsonsadvocate.com) or dropped off at our office at 219 Central Ave.

Submissions must include a daytime telephone number, name and address. This is for verification purposes.

Letters can be submitted only once each 30 days and can not exceed 500 words.

Submitting a letter does not guarantee it will be published. All letters become prop-

erty of The Parsons Advocate. The Parsons Advocate reserves the right to edit and/or reject letters. Personal attacks, lies, and etc. will not be published.

The views expressed in letters are not necessarily the views of the Parsons Advocate.

Thank you notes and advertising are not considered as letters to the editor. When submitting letters do not use all caps, italics or bold. Use punctuation, upper and lower case letters and indent for paragraphs.

If you have any questions, please call us at 304-478-3533.

## The Parsons Advocate

**Editor and Publisher Michael Showell**  
**Associate Publisher Mikie Dumire**  
**Office Manager Teri Cayton**  
**Production Layout Amanda Workman**

The Parsons Advocate (422-420) is published weekly at 219 Central Ave Parsons, WV 26287. Phone 304-478-3533. Fax 304-478-1086.; email [mikie@parsonsadvocate.com](mailto:mikie@parsonsadvocate.com). Yearly subscription rates : \$41 annually in West Virginia; \$46 annually outside West Virginia. Periodical postage paid at Parsons, WV. 26287. Established Nov. 27, 1896. Member: West Virginia Press Association and National Newspaper Association. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Parsons Advocate, 219 Central Ave, Parsons, WV 26287. [www.parsonsadvocate.com](http://www.parsonsadvocate.com) "Without, or with, offense to friends or foes, I sketch your world exactly as it goes."

## Senior News

The next trip to the Gandy Dancer Theatre is Saturday, October 22, 2022. The doors open at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6:00 p.m., and show at 7:00 pm. The prices will be the same as the July trip. The meal for this show includes rotisserie chicken breast, BBQ pulled pork, coleslaw, parsley potatoes, baked beans, dinner roll, dessert, and beverage. If you have your own transportation the cost is \$38 and if you want to ride on the van the cost will be \$45. You may begin signing up and/or making payments any time now. The final day to make reservations or payments will be October 11, 2022.

We are trying to get more seniors involved in our Centers. We need to get more of the younger seniors to participate. We are asking for suggestions of activities we could include in our program. If you would like to have a dance class, chair exercises, tai chi class, more crafts (be rather specific), more speakers, or whatever you would be willing to attend, please call or write to Linda J Bonner at 304-478-2423 or Tucker County Senior Citizens 217 Senior Lane Parsons, WV 26287. Thank you in advance for your suggestions.

We have been discussing trips for next year. We have decided to offer the following long trips for consideration:

1. Amish Theater Land Cruise in Ohio. 3 days/ 2 nights all-inclusive vacation. 2 dinners, 2 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 2 nights at Berlin Encore Hotel, the Amish Country Theater shows, game shows, contests, trivia, bingo, swimming, etc., most of the things included on a regular cruise except you are on land, not water. There are even "shore excursions" for an additional cost.

2. Cape Cod & Martha's Vineyard 7 days/6 nights includes a seafood dinner, ferry ride & tour of Martha's Vineyard, visit to Newport, RI, tour a historic mansion, and tour Hyannis.

3. Savannah and Charleston 7 days/6nights includes hotel, breakfasts 1 dinner cruise with entertainment, 1 dinner at the Charleston Crab House, guided tour of Historic Charleston, visit the historic market, guided tour of Savannah, performance at the Historic Savannah Theater, guided tram tour of Jekyll Island, Tour of St. Simon Island, and visit to Famous River Street.

4. Nashville 6 days/5 nights includes live show at the Grand Ole Opry, dinner show at Evening at Nashville Nightlife, scenic boat ride through Opryland Atrium, tour of iconic landmarks including backstage tour of the Grand Ole Opry, 3 dinners—2 with entertainment breakfast.

These are short summaries of the possible trips. All trips include motor coach transportation, baggage handling, and gratuities. We are working on the pricing so keep posted for further details. When we have the pricing, you can begin voting for your top 2 favorites. Voting will close on October 13, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. Thank you in advance for helping us decide.

We have already reserved tickets for Sight & Sound Theatre for next July to see "Moses." We do not know what else we will be doing on that trip yet or the pricing.

We will let you know as soon as we decide.



### START YOUR WEEK AT WORSHIP

#### Stevens' Florist

120 Poplar St., Parsons, WV 26287  
(304) 478-2161

If you do not have a church,  
we invite you to consider

#### St. John's United Methodist Church

River St., Parsons, WV 26287  
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## OBITUARIES

### Merle Evelyn Lipscomb Shaffer Havens

Merle Evelyn Lipscomb Shaffer Havens, 92, of Vienna, WV, passed peacefully away Sunday, Aug. 28 at her residence.

Merle was born June 1, 1930, in Leadmine, WV and grew up in the St. George, WV area. She was the daughter of Daniel Stephen and Rosa Wiles Lipscomb.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her siblings, Vittie, Elmer, Odes, Velva, Lena and Verla.

She married J.D. Shaffer on her 17th birthday and from that day went on to live a long and remarkable life. She became an active partner in ministry with her husband while raising four children, Dennis (Ervaleen), Rich (Deborah), Patti Butcher (Harry Ricker) and Robb. After J.D.'s death she later married a longtime family friend, Rev. Jeff Havens who survives and his children, Rev. Calvin Havens (Dorothy) and Winnette (Rick) Leonard all of Alabama. Grandma is also survived by grandchildren, Chad Butcher, Britni Butcher and Maria Shaffer.

Merle also completed her college degree from Glenville State College in Special Education. She lovingly taught and cared for students who needed extra attention and love for 23 years. After retirement she and J.D. traveled the world which brought her great joy as well as a new bell for her vast collection. She also remained active a chair of Ruth Fellowship and United Methodist Women at Wayside United Methodist Church.

Visitation was Friday, Sept. 2 at 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. followed by the funeral service at 1 p.m. Both was at Wayside United Methodist Church with Rev. Jeremy Daniels officiating. Memorial gifts may be made to the Wayside Building Fund.

Lambert-Tatman Funeral Home, Vienna is honored to serve the Shaffer family.

### Rev. Ronald Miller, Jr.

PRINCETON – Rev. Ronald Miller, Jr., 78, of Princeton, went to be with the Lord on Thursday, September 1, 2022. He had been in declining health for the last several years, but continued his ministry until the end. Born April 29, 1944 in Parsons, he was the son of the late Ronald Miller, Sr. and Helen Hebb Miller.

On September 3, 1965 he married Linda Ashcraft, in Oakland, Maryland. He was a graduate of Parsons High School and Hobart Welding School and was a certified welder. He was an ordained Bishop with the Church of God, pastoring for 32 years at West Union, Moneta, Virginia, Glade Farms, Weyanoke, Maybeury, Clarksburg, and most recently, did Pastoral Care at Lifeline Princeton Church of God.

He loved God and his family. He was a role model husband, father and grandfather, and was a mentor to many. He loved the outdoors, working in the yard, garden and enjoyed WV football.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by son-in-law, William Addison; and brother-in-law, Thomas Collins.

Survivors include his wife of 57 years, Linda Miller; daughter, Beverly Addison of Conyers, GA; son, Steven Miller (Penny) of Kellysville; grandchildren, Steven Miller, II of Princeton, Jenna Stowers (Ethan) of Bluefield and Emily Addison of Loganville, GA; sisters, Shirley Colbert (Gary) of Nutter Fort, Donna Collins of Princeton and Karen Simmons (Ronnie) of Belton, TX; and several nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life was conducted at 1 p.m. Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at Lifeline Princeton Church of God with Dr. Ray Hurt, Rev. Kenneth Abram and Pastor Ken Bogart, Sr. officiating. Friends may visit with the family from noon until service hour at the church.

Burial will be at 2p.m. Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at the Mountain State Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Elkins, WV.

To view a video tribute to Rev. Miller, or share condolences with the family, please visit [www.bailey-kirk.com](http://www.bailey-kirk.com).



### Ernest Wilmer "Sonny" Evans, Sr.

Ernest Wilmer "Sonny" Evans, Sr., 87, of the Porterwood Community, passed from this life Friday, September 2, 2022, at Garrett Memorial Hospital in Oakland, MD.

Sonny was born Tuesday, January 22, 1935, at Shafterstown, the son of the late Herbert "Bus" Evans and Ruth Elizabeth Humphrey Evans. On January 23, 1957, at Red House, MD, he married Beardean Jane Moats Evans, who survives. They had celebrated sixty-seven years of marriage.

Left to cherish Sonny's memory besides his wife are four sons, Ernest Evans, Jr. of Elkins, Greg and Lesa Evans, Mike and Judy Evans, Richard Evans and companion, Tina Bohon, two daughters, Penny Moody and husband, Clay, and Judy Long and husband, Dave, all of Parsons, fourteen grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, a brother, Theodore "Buster" and Cookie Evans of Oakland, MD, two sisters Kathryn Ball of Aurora, Patricia Knotts of Eglon, two sisters-in-law, Wanda Evans and Peg Evans of Horseshoe Run, several nieces and nephews, his two "best girls", Blackie and Gray, and many friends.

Preceding Sonny in death besides his parents, were four children, Wilda, Elizabeth, Robert, and Ernestine, and two brothers, Ken and Bob Evans.

Sonny attended Tucker County Schools and had served with the United States Army. He enjoyed mechanic work having been employed for John Bartlett, Jerry Sturms, Bishoff's Exxon, Mullenax Lumber, and Tucker County Board of Education. He was a Ford man and enjoyed hunting and telling stories.

Visitation was held at Hostetler Funeral Home on Tuesday, September 6, 2022, from 4 until 6 p.m. at which time a funeral service was conducted by Rev. Sue Metzner. Sonny's request for cremation was then be honored. The Hostetler Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements for Ernest Wilmer "Sonny" Evans, Sr. Send online condolences to the family at [www.hostetlerfuneralhome.com](http://www.hostetlerfuneralhome.com).

## Historic Investment in Health Insurance Navigation Programs to Benefit WV

### WV Navigator to Offer Free Enrollment Assistance

The West Virginia Navigator program has received funding to continue providing free assistance to West Virginians who need assistance enrolling in health insurance. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently announced 98.9 million dollars in grant funding nationwide for navigator organizations. Navigators help consumers determine eligibility, select plans and prepare applications. WV Navigator, which assists uninsured West Virginians with enrollment in Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP), and Marketplace plans through

the Affordable Care Act (ACA), is one of these grantees.

Last year, over 23,000 West Virginians enrolled in Marketplace plans, and over 622,000 people in the state were enrolled in either Medicaid or CHIP. Still, there are a lot of West Virginians who are going without health insurance. According to United Health Foundation, approximately 6.7% of West Virginians lack health insurance coverage.

As part of the American Rescue Plan, new rules greatly expanded subsidies and lowered monthly ACA premiums to their most affordable level yet. Last year, 94% of West Virginian applicants qualified for financial help in obtaining health care coverage, with many qualifying for plans at less than \$10 per month. Most high-income earners are also now able

See HISTORIC page 2B

### TURNER'S TIDBITS



This is a photo of the Miller Family. 1st Row: George Harrold, Ray Adams, Ray Harrold, Phillip Miller; 2nd Row: Ralph Miller, Dorothy Harrold, Wilda Adams, Beatrice Adams, Betty Miller; 3rd Row: Hazel Miller, Nora Miller, George Miller, Elmo Miller, Selby Adams. Ideas, comments, suggestions, items to share contact Tim Turner (304) 478-3389.

## Guilty

abused and sexually assaulted by the defendant, Darrell Spitznogle. He will tell you that the defendant would let him pick out candy from the store, get his favorite drink, give him hot chocolate and pizza. They played video games together. They watched movies together. The kind of guy a kid would like to hang out with. He is also going to tell you that he was repeatedly sexual abused by the defendant including the defendant taking (the juvenile's) hand and putting it on his penis and he also put his hands on (the juvenile's) penis. Eventually the defendant would put his penis in his anus while (the juvenile) told him no and tried to get away.

You are going to hear from Chief Deputy Sigley about his investigation into this case. He is going to present some evidence that the defendant has a lustful disposition towards children.

You are going to hear from each of (the juvenile's) parents and they are going to tell you what they observed during this period of time and maybe some of the changes they observed in (the juvenile's) behavior.

And finally, you are going to hear from a Rod Mccullough. He is a licensed psychologist who specializes in treating children who have been victims of childhood sexual abuse. He is going to talk about his treatment of (the juvenile) as well as his observations when reviewing (the juvenile's) initial disclosure."

Spitznogle's defense team consisted of public defenders Morris Davis and Brent Easton. Davis provided the opening remarks to the jury. Davis said, "Today our client is Darrell Gene Spitznogle, and I am going to refer to him as Gene. We are here today because certain allegations have been made against Gene. I do not need to go into those, you guys are already aware of those allegations by the statement the prosecutor just made. The evidence you are going to hear in today's trial is that one and only one of the state's witness' has first hand knowledge of what happened.

The person that has that knowledge is the alleged victim. You are going to hear from (the juvenile) and a number of other people that (the juvenile) talked to and communicated with after he made his disclosure."

Morris went on to explain that no one else would come forward to say they have experienced the same as the accuser and that the state's case was based solely on testimonial evidence. Morris said, "You are not going to hear from a forensic expert. You are not going to hear from a blood expert or serologist. You are not going to hear about DNA evidence or physical evidence that was collected from the victim. What you are going to hear is testimony from the victim and the people the victim told. Credibility of the victim is going to be the main issue in this case."

The victim was called to the stand to provide testimony on the events that occurred starting in the year of 2013 when the victim was nine years old. The victim testified that Spitznogle touched him in his genitals over 20 times through the course of three years. During those three years, the victim stated that Spitznogle would



**Victim of D. Spitznogle pointing out the defendant as the man who sexually assaulted and abused him**

have him in his room at the Sawmill Lodge playing video games or making him hot chocolate and then would proceed to pull his pants down to fondle his privates.

The victim testified that Spitznogle took him to a hotel in Morgantown and tried to force him to have anal sex with him and how it ended only by him screaming over and over. The victim also testified that on several occasions the accused forced him to fondle Spitznogle's privates until he ejaculated. The victim further testified that the defendant showed him pornographic material of female anatomy parts from Spitznogle's phone.

When the victim was asked why he never told anyone he said, "I felt really embarrassed and I was already picked on in school. I did not want to be called gay or made fun of even worse. He told me that if I told them (his parents) the business would never make it (referring to the Sawmill in Davis where Spitznogle worked with the victim's mother and father, after the father's uncle gave Spitznogle a job as a housekeeper. He would tell me things like he would hurt my dad."

The court convened for the day and reconvened the following day and started with the testimony from Chief Deputy Sigley. Sigley testified that he was present during the recorded interview process with the defendant. Wilkins presented the court and jurors with the recorded interview with the defendant.

During the recording Spitznogle reported at first that he rarely hung out with the male but as the interview went along, he admitted to going on walks with the male, having the juvenile in his room playing video games and watching movies, letting the minor drive his truck, and taking the juvenile with him to Morgantown to visit family.

On the recording playback Spitznogle could be heard saying, "I am telling you now, there was nothing that ever happened with that boy. I do not know what is going on or why he is doing this. I did not do anything with him."

When asked if the victim had ever seen him naked Spitznogle replied, "Everybody knows that when they come to my place I am sitting there in my underwear. I let everybody know that, but I

leave pair of shorts close by in case I need them."

Sigley then testified he found prior convictions that during a review of the defendant's prior criminal history that led Sigley to believe that Spitznogle had a lustful disposition towards children. Those prior convictions consist of guilty pleas to charges in Monongalia County for first-degree sexual assault and sexual assault of a child by a parent in 1994. The victim in this case was the stepdaughter of Spitznogle and was of the age five to eight.

During cross examine by the defense attorney Sigley was questioned about a report done of an interview with a witness, a friend of the victim, and was not presented in the police file. Defense attorney Morris asked if the prosecution was hiding something by not presenting the report for evidence. Wilkins objected and stated that the report was in fact included in the disclosure for the defense, but the witness was not present to testify of its authenticity. Hence, they were not hiding anything as stated by the defense.

Morris entered the interview report into evidence and asked Sigley to read it. The report stated that the victim had told the interviewed witness that he had been abused by the defendant and she wanted to tell the victim's family but was afraid to. The defense's stand on submitting the report was an attempt to rebuttal previous testimony from the victim that he never had intention of ever telling anyone what happened to him but because of the heavy medication at the psych ward he told the counselors there.

In the report the witness stated that the victim had told her that he had went to Spitznogle's room where he made the victim a hot chocolate and then pulled his pants down and made the victim touch him.

The victim's mother took the stand next. Wilkins entered into evidence pictures of the victim showing the age of the victim at the time of the events. With tears in her eyes the mother stated which child was her son in the photos taken from when he went to camp in the summer of 2013. The mother described herself as being a "helicopter" mom and how she feels like she let her son

down.

The mother testified that she knew about the prior charges against the defendant and had fought to not allow Spitznogle to come to work at the Sawmill Lodge. She testified that her husband's uncle had wanted to give Spitznogle a job and a second chance to get his life in order. She always testified that she felt because the prior charges were with a young female child that her son was not in immediate danger but kept her daughter away from Spitznogle.

The mother while crying said, "I talked to my daughter about things because I was worried for her given his (Spitznogle's) past. So, I did not want them alone. It did not dawn on me that (the victim) being a boy that it would be an issue. His past was against a girl not a boy, so I assumed his past was towards females not children."

The mother explained during her testimony how the victim's mannerisms and behavior changed after the events occurred in the juvenile's life. The mother said, "He started misbehaving in school. He did fairly well in school through third grade. Fourth grade is when things started falling apart. He was getting into trouble for acting out during school. He stopped bathing. He started withdrawing and did not want to participate in things with us.

The school thing is what got me the most. I got calls from the teachers all the time. I tried to help (the juvenile). I would talk to him, and he would have outburst and say things like "you do not know, you just do not know" and he would storm off."

After talking with professionals, the mom now understands that the actions of her son were not the usual hormonal actions of a boy. The mother said changes in her son's attitude towards Spitznogle severely changed after their trip to Morgantown.

The mother testified she found out about the abuse during her son's stay at PIW. She stated she had received a call from the school counselor that her son had told a fellow student that he wanted to harm himself. The counselor suggested the parents take the victim to a hospital to be evaluated. They took him to a hospital in Oakland and during the drive the victim was in a constant state of turmoil pulling at his hair and trying to get out of the car. The mother said, "He was not ok. He was quite angry at himself. I had to actually call the hospital and have people waiting outside to get him in the hospital."

After his evaluation in Oakland the victim was transferred to PIW for further treatment and because he was not on the medication that calmed him at Oakland he went into another fit and had to be heavily medicated upon arrival at PIW. At which point the victim testified he told the story of what happened to him.

Further testimony was heard from the father of the victim that reiterated what the mother had testified to earlier. Testimony was also heard from Dr. Rodney Mccullough, PSYD that the victim was treated by and had showed the signs of

abuse. Mccullough testified that he treated the victim on several occasions via tele health which is video calls made with each person present. Mccullough testified that the victim was depressed, and experienced thought confusion and sleeplessness due to trauma.

Mccullough stated that the victim was experiencing what is commonly known as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) with bouts of depression, thought confusion, paranoia, anger and self-withdrawal. Mccullough explained that the process of Spitznogle buying candy, drinks, pizza, play video games, and watching movies with the victim is known as grooming. This grooming enables the perp to gain an emotional bond with the victim as well as the victim's trust.

During his testimony Mccullough stated that 63 percent of males are abused before the age of 18, and most do not ever report it.

Spitznogle took the stand to defend himself stating that the victim was lying, and he never did anything to the boy. He confused to spending time with the victim in his room alone and taking him on a trip to Morgantown where they stayed the night in a hotel.

When questioned about his prior charges Spitznogle stated that he said the guilty plea because his lawyer had suggested he do so to save him from spending many years in prison. He stated under oath on the stand that he lied about doing the acts he was accused of doing to his stepdaughter. Spitznogle also stated that the prior charges put a target on his back because he was labeled as a sex-offender and the victim used this to get out of the way.

Spitznogle was originally charged with 16 felony counts of sexual abuse in the prior case. He signed a statement saying he had vaginal and oral sexual intercourse with his stepdaughter that was five to seven years old.

During closing arguments both the defense and the state went over the testimony of the witnesses. Bush for the state of West Virginia argued that Spitznogle has lustful intentions towards children and was guilty of the crimes of which he was charged. Easton for the defense argued there had been no photos, no videos, no eyewitnesses or anything on social media and the case was based solely on the credibility of the witnesses and the believability of their testimony.

Both sides rested their cases and after lengthy jury instructions the jury was sent to deliberate a verdict of guilty or not guilty. The jury was sequestered at 5:17 p.m. to deliberate and returned to the court room with a verdict around 6 p.m.

The jury of 12 found Darrell Spitznogle guilty of first-degree sexual assault and guilty of six counts of first-degree sexual abuse. Sentencing is scheduled for October 17 at 1:30 p.m. providing all paper work and sentencing evaluations had been completed.

The name of the victim and his family have been omitted to protect their privacy.

## Stevens'

and my uncle Jeep worked for the gas company and when he retired, he came to work here to help with deliveries. Those two doing deliveries was a riot."

Johnson said, "I started when I was still in high school helping getting the flowers out for the prom, deliveries, and that kind of stuff. I grew up here basically. I went on deliveries when I was a little toddler with one of the women that worked here. About 1985 when I started working here full-time. I went to college after graduating in 1986 but still worked weekends when they needed me. I went to college for two years and then started here. I have been here ever since."

For the past year Reva Stemple has been assisting Johnson with arrangements and work around the shop.

Even after being flooded out during the 1985 flood due to side affects from Hurricane Juan the Stevens have remained strong. Both E. Stevens and Johnson had flood damage to their homes and the flower shop

was flooded up to the top of the door jam. With help from another florist in Oakland, Md during the Christmas season they were able to continue some business, but it was months before E. Stevens could return to her home on Virginia Street.

The shop specializes in just about anything floral that would be needed by someone from floral arrangements, candy arrangements, memorial grave saddles, weddings, funerals, all with added touches from flowers and plants grown in their greenhouse.

Johnson hopes that the tradition of the family-owned business will continue on in the years to come and thanks everyone for their patronage during the past 60 years.

Stevens' Florist can be found at 210 Davis Street in Parsons offers same day delivery options. During the summer months of June, July and August they are open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., closed Saturdays and during the busy season from December to May they



**Original owner of Stevens' Florist Deloris Stevens' mother Ethel Stevens**

are open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. They can be reached anytime, someone will always answer the phone according to Johnson, at 304-478-2161. A website page is not currently available, but they are working on one.

Cont. From Front Page

# YOU ARE INVITED!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11  
FROM 2 TO 4 P.M.

to help UNVEIL the Parsons Mural at  
PRO PLAZA and to CELEBRATE PARSONS.

- ★ Music
- ★ Corn Hole
- ★ Food

and MUCH more  
*See You There!*

For more information, please contact  
Diana DeLuca at 941 467-2420 or any  
PRO ON TRAC Board Member.





Charleston WV – The following events happened on these dates in West Virginia history. To read more, go to *e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia* at [www.wvencyclopedia.org](http://www.wvencyclopedia.org).

**Sept. 7, 1808:** Peter Godwin Van Winkle was born in New York City. Van Winkle was elected as one of the first two U.S. senators from the new state of West Virginia.

**Sept. 7, 1848:** Christopher Harrison Payne was born in Monroe County. In 1896, Payne became the state's first black legislator when he was elected to the House of Delegates from Fayette County.

**Sept. 7, 1937:** Photographer Arnout "Sonny" Hyde Jr. was born in Bluefield. His images of nature and people have appeared in magazines, books, and calendars throughout the U.S. and Europe.

**Sept. 8, 1862:** Raiders led by Confederate Gen. Albert G. Jenkins, a Cabell County native, rode into Barboursville. They skirmished with the enemy, then rode into Wayne, Logan, and Raleigh counties.

**Sept. 8, 1947:** Morris Harvey College (now University of Charleston) moved to its current location on the south side of the Kanawha River.

**Sept. 9, 1839:** Anderson "Devil Anse" Hatfield was born in Mingo County. He was the patriarch of the Hatfield family and their leader during the Hatfield-McCoy feud.

**Sept. 10, 1782:** Frontier heroine Betty Zane is credited with saving Fort Henry in Wheeling during an attack by the British and Indians. According to one account, Zane sprinted across a field to retrieve gunpowder from the Zane family cabin.

**Sept. 10, 1861:** The Battle of Carnifex Ferry took place on the Gauley River. Union General William Rosecrans sent in brigades one at a time as they arrived at the battlefield, allowing the outnumbered Confederates to repulse the piecemeal attacks. During the night, the Confederates decided to retreat before they could be defeated in the morning.

**Sept. 10, 1996:** Movie and television actress Joanne Dru died in Los Angeles. Dru was born Joan Letitia Lacock in Logan, West Virginia. Her movie career included more than 40 films.

**Sept. 11, 1913:** Ritter Park in Hunting-

ton opened. During the Great Depression, the Works Progress Administration contributed to constructing the roads and stonework around the park.

**Sept. 12, 1872:** The Great Bend Tunnel was completed. The tunnel, also known as Big Bend Tunnel, is the place where John Henry defeated the steam drill, becoming one of the world's great folk heroes.

**Sept. 12, 1952:** A group of local youths were startled from a game of football by a fireball streaking across the sky. The fireball fell to earth just beyond a hillside at Flatwoods. This sighting led to the legend of the Braxton County Monster.

**Sept. 12, 1974:** Kanawha County schools were closed for four days because of an escalation in violence during the Kanawha County Textbook Controversy. Throughout October and November, sporadic violence continued as protesters demanded the resignation of pro-textbook board members and the superintendent of schools.

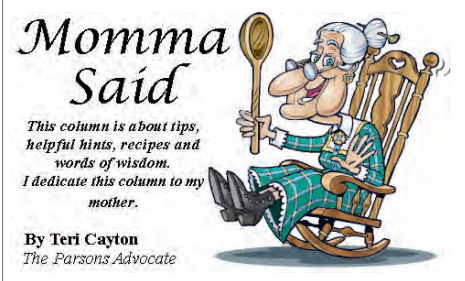
**Sept. 13, 1844:** Milton Humphreys was born in Greenbrier County. During the Civil War, he enlisted in the Confederate service as a sergeant. At the battle of Fayetteville, Humphreys fired his cannon at Union artillery from behind an intervening forest. This demonstration set a precedent for modern warfare by the use of indirect fire.

**Sept. 13, 1848:** Attorney "J. R." Clifford was born in present Grant County. In 1887, Clifford became the first African-American admitted to practice law before the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals. He was one of the first lawyers in the nation to challenge segregated schools.

**Sept. 13, 1862:** Confederate and Union forces clashed in Charleston. Southern artillery gained the high ground on Fort Hill and smashed the federals who were lining the west bank of the Elk River.

**Sept. 13, 1910:** Musician Leon "Chu" Berry was born in Wheeling. He was one of the most highly regarded saxophonists of the Swing Era.

*e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia* is a project of the West Virginia Humanities Council. For more information, contact the West Virginia Humanities Council, 1310 Kanawha Blvd. E., Charleston, WV 25301; (304) 346-8500; or visit *e-WV* at [www.wvencyclopedia.org](http://www.wvencyclopedia.org).



I feel blessed to have the friends I have made since I went to work here at the Advocate. I am not originally from Tucker County but it has become my second home. I spend a third of my life here at work and the people I have met are great.

I recently had to put that friendship to the test. My jeep broke down and within a matter of minutes I had three people volunteer to take me home. That is a 50 mile round trip and they did not hesitate. **Momma Said**, "A friend in need is a friend indeed."

I have made more friends since working here than I have made in my hometown is over 20 years. I tend to stick to myself and I am not a very outgoing person. I don't party or drink or smoke so I am quite boring in fact. I don't deny it I am a very singular type of person. But the friends I have made here are the greatest.

Thanks to all that made my disaster just a little easier to bear. I hope the jeep can be repaired and keep going for another 100,000 miles. I guess a girl can dream but the jeep sure has saved a lot of miles on my pickup. I am hoping to keep the pickup until at least I have it paid off but we shall see. It is a newer model and has the aluminum body so if I keep it clean it has no chance of rusting but it will corrode from the salt. **Momma Said**, "Friends are like potato chips, you can't have just one."

### Healthy Apple Pancakes

#### Ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups of all-purpose flour
- 1 Tablespoon of baking powder
- 2 Tablespoons of white granulated sugar
- pinch of salt
- 1 egg
- One cup of milk
- 1 medium-size Granny Smith apple, grated

#### Directions

1. Add the flour, baking powder, sugar, and salt to a mixing bowl. Mix until well combined.

2. Place in the egg, milk, and apple. Whisk once again until a batter forms.
3. Heat a pan to medium heat and add in the butter.
4. Scoop about 1 cup of the mixture in and fry until golden brown on one side.
5. Flip and cook on the other side until golden brown.
6. Plate up and top with syrup and butter. You can add cinnamon and nutmeg if desired.
7. Serve and enjoy your healthy apple pancakes.

## What's? Happening

### Tucker County Historic Landmark Commission Meeting

Tucker County Historic Landmark Commission will meet on Monday, September 12, 2022 at the Parsons Depot at 5 p.m. The public is welcome.

### Knotts Reunion

The family of the late Minnie and Albert Knotts will hold their reunion on Sunday, Sept. 11 at the Denver Knotts Pavilion beginning at noon. Bring a covered dish. All are welcome.

## Super Crossword

**ACROSS**

1 Picture  
6 Lo — (Chinese dish)  
10 Eyes, to bards  
14 Step heavily  
19 Like zebras' necks  
20 Author Sarah — Jewett  
21 Beet or yam  
22 Womanizer, perhaps  
23 Spotted steed  
25 Womanizer, perhaps  
26 Bacteriology gels  
27 Some sporty trucks, briefly  
28 Jai —  
29 Illegal boxing blow  
31 Superhero with a magic ring  
34 Fruit such as a peach or plum  
35 Chicks' hangouts  
36 Heavy horn  
37 Baldwin of "Drunk Parents"  
38 Rascally sort  
41 Moniker for Lincoln  
44 Royal Dansk treat

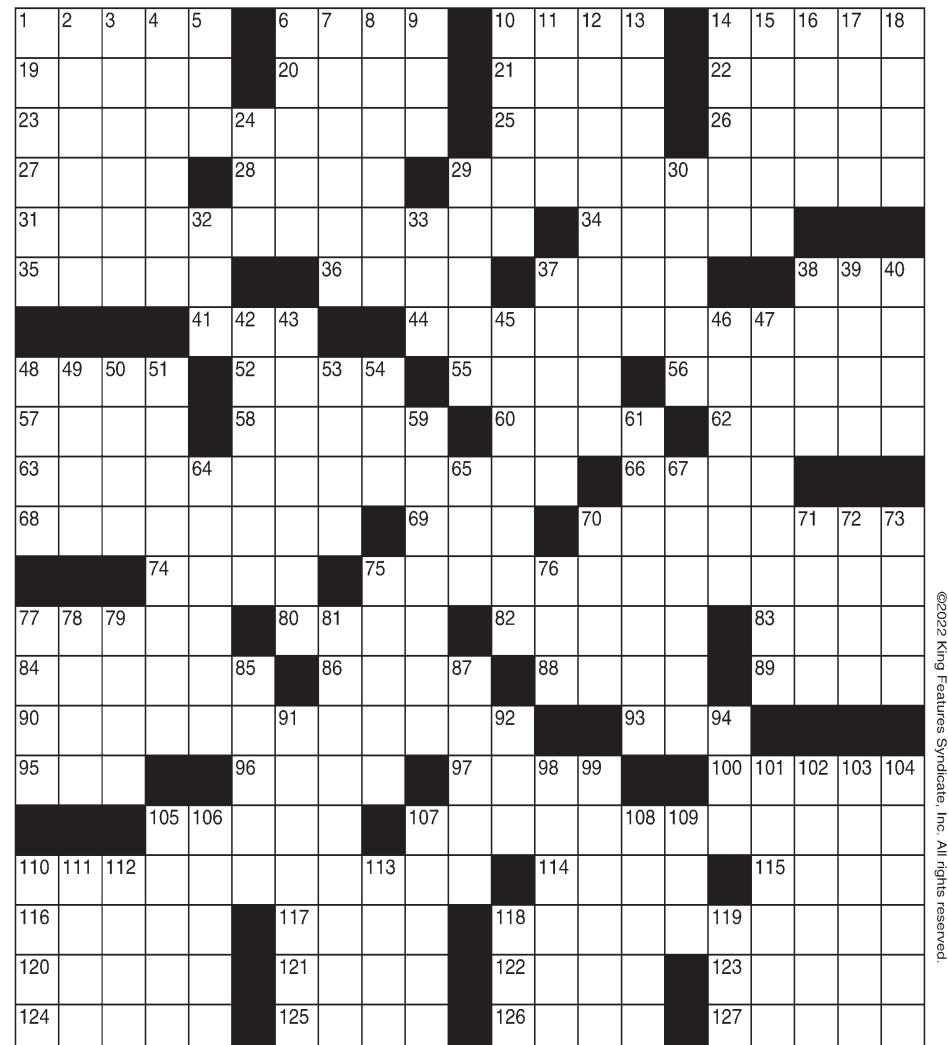
48 Speaker's stand  
52 Cash caches requiring PINs  
55 Wingtips' tips  
56 Impassioned  
57 Bee or Em  
58 Neighbor of Burkina Faso  
60 Off. helper  
62 Their young are kids  
63 The clear, open outdoors  
66 Epps of "Juice"  
68 City in southern California  
69 Stephen of "Angie"  
70 A tyrant rules with one  
74 Prefix with skeleton  
75 Common chamber group  
77 Conductor Solti  
80 Capital of Peru  
82 Painter Dufy  
83 TV's — May Clappett  
84 Annie player Quinn  
86 Ankle-length skirt

88 Caused to propagate  
89 Airline to Tel Aviv  
90 Spur-of-the-moment choice  
93 Federal benefits org.  
95 "Yoo-hoo!"  
96 — Hashana  
97 2006 Nintendo debuts  
100 Taj —  
105 Bursts in space  
107 Figure at Madame Tussauds  
110 Former Seabee, say  
114 Scottish island  
115 Agts. going after tax evaders  
116 Banishment  
117 Fix up text  
118 What someone who completes this puzzle does?  
120 "Daniel" singer John  
121 Solemn act  
122 The Beatles' "Let —"  
123 Arm bones

124 School VIPs  
125 Luminary  
126 Warty critter  
127 Actress Sharon

37 "This is only —"  
38 Swedish retail chain  
39 Floss flavor  
40 Furry adoptees  
42 "— Cafe" (old Whoopi Goldberg sitcom)  
43 Drinking alcohol  
45 Exactly  
46 Leia's last name  
47 Unscented found  
48 Smidgens  
49 Halo effect  
50 Hip to  
51 Florida or Ohio pol, e.g.  
53 Poet Angelou  
54 NBC fixture since '75  
59 Short-hop plane  
61 Rotational forces  
64 Doggoned  
65 Berlin loc.  
67 Gives shape to, to a Brit  
70 Humpbacked lab helper  
71 "— do you good"  
72 Actress Ward  
73 "Gotta go," to a texter  
75 Pulverize

76 Catch  
77 Deep cut  
78 Article in Augsburg  
79 Big name in skin cream  
81 "That went right by me"  
85 Chutzpah  
87 Cedar Rapids native  
91 Paint applicers, e.g.  
92 Veto  
94 Sound box at a concert  
98 Really digs  
99 Floor-washing robot  
101 "Insomniac" comic Dave  
102 Showing benevolence  
103 Sports spots  
104 Contacts, e.g.  
105 Floss fiber  
106 Cake bakers  
107 Sea filler  
108 Single  
109 — Vegas  
110 Necessity to, to a Brit  
111 Wheel turner  
112 "La Dolce —"  
113 Hayworth of old films  
118 Set of parts to be assembled  
119 Ant or beetle



Puzzle answers page 3B

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**Weekly SUDOKU**  
by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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**Weather Totals**  
Aug. 23 - Aug. 30

Nursery Bottom  
**Parsons**

**TEMPERATURE**  
Max 93° F  
Min 55° F

**PRECIPITATION**  
Week 0.54"  
August 8.06"  
2022 40.16"

**SNOWFALL**  
Snow on Ground 0"  
Winter Total 36"

U.S. Forest Service

**DEADLINE 8AM MONDAY**

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# SPORTS

## Mt. Lions cruise to 62-6 win at Tygarts Valley

By Dave Helmick  
TuckerCountySports.Com

MILL CREEK – The Tucker County Football team traveled to Tygarts Valley on Friday September 2nd for a game against the Bulldogs. The Mt. Lions were too much for Tygarts Valley as visiting Tucker County cruised to a 62-6 victory.

The Mt. Lions got on the scoreboard early in the first quarter on an 11 yard touchdown run by Jared Reall. The 2 point conversion failed to make the score 6-0 Tucker County. The Mt. Lions kept it rolling as the Bulldogs were forced to punt and Maddox Anderson returned the punt 37 yards for a touchdown to give Tucker County more points. The PAT was good this time on a Reall run to put the score to 14-0 Mt. Lions in the first quarter. Tucker County would then get the ball back again on offense and they would go to work once again. This time Ethan Rosenau connected with Will McCallister on a 17 yard touchdown pass. The PAT was good on an Anderson catch to give Tucker County a 22-0 advantage. The first quarter ended shortly after with the score the same 22-0 Mt. Lions.

The second quarter would also belong to Tucker County as Tygarts Valley mishandled a punt attempt to give the Mt. Lions the ball at the Bulldog 10. One play later Rosenau ran the ball in from 10 yards out and Rosenau hit Trenton Wilfong on a pass completion on the 2 point conversion

attempt to push the score to 30-0 Tucker County. On the ensuing kickoff Tygarts Valley got on the scoreboard with a 60 yard kickoff return for a touchdown. The extra point kick attempt was no good to make the score 30-6 Mt. Lions. Tucker County would add two more scores in the second quarter. Jared Reall had an 8 yard touchdown run and Wilfong would catch another conversion to put the score to 38-6. The Mt. Lions then scored on a 21 yard touchdown pass from Rosenau to Ashton Lycliter and Blaike Adams ran in the 2 point conversion to make the halftime score 46-6 Tucker County.

In the third quarter the Mt. Lions would collect a safety after the Bulldogs punt was

blocked out of the back of the endzone to give Tucker County 2 points 48-6. The visitors would then score once again on a 34 yard touchdown pass from Rosenau to Anderson and after a failed PAT the score was 54-6 Tucker County. The Mt. Lions would get one more score in the third on a fumble that was recovered in the Tygarts Valley endzone by Jayden Stanley. The 2 point conversion was good to make the score 62-6 after three quarters. A Reid Kisamore interception in the final quarter was a highlight for Tucker County as neither team got on the scoreboard in the fourth quarter as the game ended with the final score 62-6 Mt. Lions.

Ethan Rosenau led Tucker County with

5 of 5 passing for 103 yards passing. Jared Reall led the Mt. Lions in rushing with 7 carries for 41 yards and Will McCallister had 1 attempt for 32 yards rushing. Maddox Anderson collected 2 receptions for 39 yards receiving and McCallister added 2 catches for 34 yards receiving. Levi Bennett added 26 yards receiving and Ashton Lycliter chipped in with 21 yards receiving. Tucker County outgained Tygarts Valley in total yards 224 to -40.

Tucker County(2-0) will host East Hardy this Friday September 9th for a 7pm kickoff. The game will be broadcast Live on the Tucker County Football Field Youtube Page. For the link to the broadcast and more info go to TuckerCountySports.Com.



Photo by Brittany Channell  
Tucker County's Levi Bennett runs after a reception at Tygarts Valley on Sept. 2nd. Tucker County won the contest 62-6.



Photo by Brittany Channell  
Jared Reall of Tucker County takes the handoff on Sept. 2nd at Tygarts Valley. The Mt. Lions won the game by the final score of 62-6.

## Lady Mt. Lions Volleyball opens season with 2 wins

By Dave Helmick  
TuckerCountySports.Com

MOUNT STORM – The Tucker County Volleyball team traveled to Union for a Tri-Match with Union and Paw Paw on August 30th.

In the first match for Tucker County they faced off against Paw Paw. The Lady Mt. Lions got the victory 2-0 in straight sets 25-12 and 25-20. Tucker

County then played host Union in their second match of the night. The Lady Mt. Lions would defeat Union 2-0 by the scores of 27-25 and 25-20.

Tucker County(2-0) will host Union for their home opener on Thursday September 8th at 6pm. The Lady Mt. Lions will then travel to Preston on Tuesday September 13th at 6pm. For more info go to TuckerCountySports.Com.

## Tucker Valley gets win over Braxton County in opener 24-18

By Dave Helmick  
TuckerCountySports.Com

PARSONS – The Tucker Valley Middle School Football team under the direction of new Head Coach Adam Freeman hosted Braxton County Middle for the opening game of the season on Wednesday August 31st. The Wildcats scored a touchdown late in the contest to break an 18-18 tie to get the win over Braxton County 24-18.

The first quarter of the game ended with the score tied 0-0. Tucker Valley then got on the board in the second quarter as Luke Barb broke free for a 91 yard touchdown run to make it 6-0 Wildcats. Braxton County then answered back with a drive of their own to tie the score 6-6. The visiting Eagles then scored again as time expired in the first half to give Braxton County the 12-6 lead at the halftime break.

Braxton County got the ball to start the third quarter and marched down the field to score to make the score 18-6 Braxton early in the third. The homestanding Wildcats then struck back as Barb got loose again and

raced 65 yards for a touchdown to make the score 18-12 Braxton County. Tucker Valley then held the Eagles on their next drive at the beginning of the fourth quarter. The Wildcats then would score again on a 2 yard touchdown run by Barb to tie the game 18-18. The Tucker Valley defense would then step up again as Braxton County could not convert on a 4th down play and the Wildcats took over at the Eagles 30 with 1:58 left in the game. Tucker Valley then took the lead back as Barb scored from 10 yards out with 29 seconds left in the game to make the score 24-18 Tucker Valley. The Wildcats then sealed the victory as Ty Ricottilli intercepted a Braxton County pass to give the ball back to Tucker Valley. The Wildcats then ran out the clock to get the comeback win 24-18.

Luke Barb led Tucker Valley with 9 carries for 219 yards rushing while scoring 4 touchdowns on the night for the Wildcats.

Tucker Valley(1-0) will travel to Lincoln Middle in Shinnston tonight September 7th for a 6:30pm kickoff. For more info go to TuckerCountySports.Com.

## Tucker County Cross Country run at Buckhannon

By Dave Helmick  
TuckerCountySports.Com

BUCKHANNON – The Mt. Lions Boys' and Girls' Cross Country team traveled to Buckhannon-Upshur High School on Saturday September 3rd to compete in the Buckhannon-Upshur Invitational.

In the Girls' race Tucker County placed 3rd overall as a team. Erin Chambers led the Lady Mt. Lions with a 5th place finish and a time of 22:59.19. Katie Hicks was close behind in 7th place with a time of 23:22.41, while Addie Moats posted a time of 24:41.36 to take 17th place. Hannah Hardy placed 26th with a time of 26:05.73, while Brianna Gooden posted a time of 30:28.84 to finish 47th and Bailey Cale placed 63rd with a time of 37:39.40.

The Tucker County Boys' team would finish 5th overall as a team. Cameron Judy led the Mt. Lions with a 9th place finish with a time of 20:44.78. Nate Ricottilli placed 22nd with a time of 21:42.94 and Alex

Boyles finished with a time of 21:45.67 to place 23rd. Allen Boyles(23:11.59) placed 40th and Lynk Suesli(24:42.60) finished 54th.

The Tucker County Girls' and Boys' Cross Country teams will return to action on Saturday September 10th at Frankfort at 9am. For more info go to TuckerCountySports.Com.



Photo by Addie Hicks  
Katie Hicks of Tucker County competes at the Cross-Country Meet at Buckhannon-Upshur on Sept. 3rd.



Photo by Addie Hicks  
Tucker County's Nate Ricottilli runs at Buckhannon-Upshur on Sept. 3rd.

## AREA SCHEDULE:

### Wednesday September 7th

- Tucker Valley Football @ Lincoln Middle 6:30pm

### Thursday September 8th

- Tucker County Volleyball vs Union @ Home 6pm
- Tucker Valley Volleyball vs Davis-Thomas @ Home 6pm
- Davis-Thomas Volleyball @ Tucker Valley 6pm

- Tucker County Youth Football vs Masontown @ Home 6pm

### Friday September 9th

- Tucker County Football vs East Hardy 7pm

### Saturday September 10th

- Tucker County Cross Country @ Frankfort 9am

### Monday September 12th

- Tucker County JV Football vs Southern @ Home 6:30pm
- Tucker Valley Volleyball @ Kasson 6pm
- Davis-Thomas Volleyball @ Union 5pm

### Tuesday September 13th

- Tucker County Cross Country @ Southern 4:30pm
- Tucker County Volleyball @ Preston 6pm
- Davis-Thomas Golf @ Moorefield 4pm



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Good Luck!

Tucker County High Mt. Lions  
Tucker Valley Wildcats  
Davis Thomas Bears



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# September is National Voter Registration Month

Since 2002, the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) has recognized September as National Voter Registration Month to encourage eligible Americans to register to vote or to update their voter registration information. The WV Secretary of State's Office is proud to join NASS in this annual effort.

West Virginia has a long and proud history with voter registration. The Mountain State played a key role in the passage of the 19th Amendment in 1920 which guaranteed women the right to vote. In addition, after a 29-year effort led by our late United States Senator Jennings Randolph, in 1971 Congress passed and the states ratified the 26th Amendment that reduced the voting age from 21 to 18.

Since taking office in January 2017, West Virginia has gained national attention in our effort to refine our voter registration file to be more representative of the actual eligible voting population in the history of our state. Working with all 55 county clerks, we've been able to eliminate more than 345,000 deceased, duplicate, out-of-state, outdated, and currently under conviction felon voter files from our voter registration list of just over 1.1 million registered voters.

## Historic

to qualify for lower-cost plans. The recently passed Inflation Reduction Act ensures that those subsidies will be available through 2025.

Jeremy Smith, program director for WV Navigator, says getting help signing up is essential. Many people are overwhelmed by the options or may not realize how to shop for affordable health coverage. He also cautioned, "Around this time of year, we see many scams pop up. People start receiving unsolicited telephone calls or they click on ads for programs that claim to provide cheap insurance, but

many don't meet the high standards of the ACA, so when you're sick and need it most, you may not be covered. Some aren't insurance plans at all but are schemes to obtain personal information. It's crucial to talk to a reputable organization."

Although most enroll in plans during Marketplace Open Enrollment, which starts November 1, 2022, and ends January 15, 2023, several exceptions make people eligible for a Special Enrollment Period throughout the year. WV Navigator can help determine if you are eligible for this.

Our office will use the entire month of September to work with County Clerks and high schools to encourage eligible West Virginians to register to vote. Our Field Representatives will be working with county clerks to host numerous public events and school visits during the month. September is also a good time before the November 8 General Election to encourage those already registered to be sure that their voter registration is accurate.

Voting is a right guaranteed to every eligible citizen. But you must be properly registered. In West Virginia, we're making it easy, safe and secure to register online and in person.

Over the last six years with my administration working closely with the state's County Clerks, more than 297,000 eligible West Virginians have been registered to vote. That number includes more than 85,000 high school students.

Those are incredible numbers given the small size of our state. Our efforts to make it easy to register and easy to vote in West Virginia have been recognized throughout the nation.

Today, eligible voters can register online anytime by going to the WV Secretary of State's safe and secure web-

site at [www.GoVoteWV.com](http://www.GoVoteWV.com). Eligible voters can also register to vote in person by going to their local County Clerk's office.

Or, you can call your County Clerk to request that a paper Voter Registration Form be mailed to you. You can also find a County Clerk's Directory at [www.GoVoteWV.com](http://www.GoVoteWV.com).

National Voter Registration Day is Tuesday, September 20. My office is working with many of our County Clerks to host a voter registration drive outside of their courthouse that day to bring awareness to National Voter Registration Month.

We want every eligible West Virginian to be registered and ready for the upcoming November General Election.

Cont. From 3A

Anyone in West Virginia can call 1-844-WV-CARES or (304) 356-5834 to get free enrollment assistance. Consultations are available over the telephone, in person at their offices in

Charleston, Barboursville, Fairmont, or Martinsburg, or through a telehealth option, allowing callers to see their application completed in real-time. There is no charge for enrollment assistance. More information is available at [www.acanavigator.com](http://www.acanavigator.com).

# WV archery and crossbow seasons open Sept. 24

**SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.VA.** —The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources is reminding hunters to start preparing for the opening of the state's archery and crossbow seasons for white-tailed deer, black bear and wild boar.

The popular seasons will open on Sept. 24 and run through Dec. 31. Hunters are also reminded to purchase their license and stamps at [wvhunt.com](http://wvhunt.com) before the season starts.

**Deer**  
Hunters may take up to two deer in one day during the archery or crossbow seasons, but only one antlered deer may be taken on the same day during any season. The first deer does not have to be electronically checked before harvesting the second deer on the same day.

Hunters who wish to harvest additional deer during the archery or crossbow seasons must purchase a Class RB or RRB stamp before Sept. 24. One or two additional archery or crossbow deer, depending on the county, may be taken with a archery deer stamp, for a total of one deer per stamp. West Virginia residents and senior hunters must buy a Class RB stamp to take additional archery or crossbow deer, but West Virginia resident landowners hunting on their own property and Class DT license holders are not required to purchase additional archery stamps.

Hunters are reminded that Logan, McDowell, Mingo and Wyoming counties are under special regulations. In these

counties, only two archery deer may be taken, one of which must be antlerless. In 10 additional counties or portions thereof, hunters must take an antlerless deer in any regular deer season before harvesting a second antlered deer in that county.

**Bear**  
Two bears may be taken per year, provided at least one bear is taken in Boone, Fayette, Kanawha, Logan, McDowell, Mingo, Nicholas, Raleigh or Wyoming counties. The daily bag limit for bear is one per day.

Resident bear hunters are required to purchase a base license and a bear damage stamp (Class DS) to hunt bear unless other-

wise exempt from having a license. Nonresident bear hunters must purchase a bear hunting license (Class EE), a conservation/law enforcement stamp (CS/LE) and a Class DS stamp. Nonresidents hunting on national forest land must also purchase a National Forest stamp (Class I).

**Wild Boar**  
The wild boar archery and crossbow seasons are open in Boone, Logan, Raleigh and Wyoming counties to resident hunters only. The season bag limit is one wild boar and no application is required. A second split of the wild boar archery and crossbow seasons will open Feb. 3-5, 2023. To hunt in the February wild boar season, hunters will need a 2023

hunting license when they become available to purchase.

For more information about West Virginia's hunting seasons and hunting regulations, download a copy of the 2022-2023 West Virginia Hunting and Trapping Regulations Summary at [wv.dnr.gov](http://wv.dnr.gov).

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## LEGAL

I have before me the accounts of the Executor or Administrator of the estates of the following deceased persons:

Deceased Glenn Z. Miller 1st publication 8/31/22 2nd publication 9/7/22	Personal Representative(s) Esther Marlane Lucente 93 Candlewick Ln Davis, WV 26260
John J. Purnell 1st publication 8/31/22 2nd publication 9/7/22	Sally J. Purnell 203 Woodland Dr Hambleton, WV 26269

Claims against any estate must be filed within sixty days of the date of first publication. Any person seeking to impeach or establish a will must make a complaint to the Tucker County Commission, Tucker County Clerk, 211 First St., Suite 205, Parsons, WV. Any person objecting to the qualifications of the personal representative or the venue or jurisdiction of the court must be filed with County Commission within sixty days after the date of first publication or thirty days of service of the notice, whichever is later.

ATTEST: SHERRY SIMMONS, TUCKER COUNTY CLERK

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**4th Annual KINGSFORD BBQ PITMASTER CONTEST**  
**Saturday, October 1, 2022**  
**At the Fireman's Homecoming, Parsons WV Stevens Realty Parking lot**

Pre-Register by mailing the entry form to: Kingsford Manufacturing Company, PO Box 464, Parsons WV 26287 or bringing them to the front office at Kingsford M-F 8am-4pm by **September 21st**.

Entry forms and complete rules will be in the Parsons Advocate on **August 31 and September 7, 2022** and in the Inter-Mountain on **September 2 and 3, 2022**.

**Pre Registration is requested. This is a charcoal only event.**

All meat and charcoal will be provided courtesy of Kingsford Manufacturing Company. Participants will need to provide their own grill, equipment, and sauce.

**Division 1 – Pork Ribs**  
First Prize – Plaque and a gift basket  
Second Prize - Certificate  
Third Prize - Certificate

**Division 2 – Chicken**  
First Prize – Plaque and a gift basket  
Second Prize - Certificate  
Third Prize – Certificate

**Division 3 – One Bite Challenge**

One Bite Challenge is food of your choice prepared on the grill and served on a toothpick. Winner will be selected by popular vote of the public (a ticket a vote, tickets will be sold at the Kingsford booth, Tucker County Backpack Program).

**Grand Champion: Total scores of Ribs, Chicken and One Bite**

**3rd Annual Kingsford Pitmaster Contest**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Kingsford Manufacturing Company, PO Box 464, Parsons WV 26287 ATTN: PitMaster OR drop entries at the front office of Kingsford between 8am and 4 pm Monday thru Friday.

**DEADLINE 8AM MONDAY**

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# September Yard of the Month



Mountaineer garden club members selected Dottie and Roger Murphy's yard, which is full of begonias, marigolds, petunias, geraniums and well-trimmed shrubbery for September Yard of the month.



The First Methodist church was selected as September's business yard of the month. The well-designed placement of a variety of shrubbery against the canyon stone exterior provides a pleasing contrast.

## Mountaintop Library Garden Party



Katie Morvay (center), representing the library board of trustees, shares an update on plans for the new building. Librarian Debbie Williams is pictured on her left and Friends President Marilyn Shoenfeld is pictured to her immediate right.

Submitted by:  
Rachelle Davis

The Friends of the Mountaintop Public Library held their first garden party in three years at the Canaan Valley Fire Hall on Saturday, August 27th. This was the ninth such event hosted by the Friends to raise money for the Mountaintop Public Library's new building.

Attendees were treated to a variety of food and beverages donated by local businesses and a short pre-

sentation on the status of the new library slated for construction at the current location in Thomas.

Bidding was brisk during a silent auction, which featured a record number of donations, including works by local artisans, golf and ski passes, a Hilton vacation, and other items and gift certificates from generous local businesses.

All proceeds benefit the new library building fund. For more information about The Friends group and the build-

ing fund, please contact Friends President Marilyn Shoenfeld at 304-866-3484. Donations to the Mountaintop Library New Building Fund may be made to the Tucker Community Foundation at [www.tuckerfoundation.net/](http://www.tuckerfoundation.net/). The library is located at 384 Quail Ridge Road in Thomas.



Party attendees enjoyed examining a record number of auction items.

## This Week's Submitted Photos



This week's picture, of Canaan Heights, was taken by William Peterson.

Email photos, where it was taken and who took it to [mikie@parsonsadvocate.com](mailto:mikie@parsonsadvocate.com)

## West Virginia Division of Natural Resources announces updated regulations for coyote night hunting

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.VA. — The West Virginia Natural Resources Commission approved updates to the regulations for coyote night hunting. Using any color artificial light or night vision technology, including image intensification, thermal imaging or active illumination, for coyote hunting in West Virginia is permitted between Sept. 1 and Dec. 31 on private land.

Hunting coyotes at night requires written

permission from the landowner and prior notification to the local Natural Resources Police Officer or the DNR District Office during normal business hours. The hunter or landowner must provide the hunter's name, the landowner's name and the hunting location.

For more information, contact go to [wvdnr.gov](http://wvdnr.gov) to locate a DNR District Office near you.

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1:30 P.M.

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Galatians 6:9

For information, please call the City of Parsons at (304) 478-2211.