

The Parsons Advocate

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Blackwater Bistro Opens in Davis

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

A new eatery has opened its doors on top of the mountain. Blackwater Bistro opened its doors in Davis with a soft opening July 4 and officially opened for business July 22. Jennifer Dearborn manages the restaurant for her boyfriend Billy Spatafore, the owner.

We had thought about it but I saw that it was for lease," Dearborn said. "I had the diner in Parsons and it did really well. I just was there all the time. So, we talked about it. We know what's coming. This area is going to explode. It's so busy. So, we figured now or never. We need it up here, too."

See BISTRO page 6



Manager Jennifer Dearborn and owner Billy Spatafore opened the Blackwater Bistro in Davis July 22.



Blackwater Bistro will soon be operating retail vendor space in the right portion of their building, as seen in this picture, in Davis. The restaurant operates in the left portion as pictured.

Tucker County Hosts Mass Casualty Incident Training

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

"I was blown away at the level of performance of the volunteers and I made the comment to a couple of them that I would put our volunteer guys up against paid services," 911 Director Mike Simmons said. "They are phenomenal. It was really impressive."

The Tucker County Commission also heard about the recent Mass Casualty Incident Training from Emergency Management Director Kevin White at the Commission's August 9th meeting. "We were involved with...the MCI that was held this past Saturday," White said. "Commissioner Davis was there. We had 50-some participants from all the local Fire, Law,

EMS, everything. It was a very, very good training class."

According to OEM Director, Kevin White, the Mass Casualty scenario involved a school bus. "Everybody come together and of course it is a situation we hope we are never faced with," White said. "We did a school bus, a log truck and a passenger car all involved. We had 14 victims scattered out throughout the scene, inside the vehicles, outside the vehicles."

White said the event was held in real time. "And we did it in real time so even though we were all standing there on scene in all our own little corners, Mike (Simmons) had to dispatch them out, wait 20 minutes until they arrived because they were coming from Parsons to Route 90,"

See TRAINING page 6

Simmons Commended by Commission

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Tucker County Commissioner Mike Rosenau commended Simmons for training that he had attended as Director of the 911 Center. The commendation came during the Commission's August 9th meeting. "I want to commend you on all the training that you are doing," Rosenau said. "This is not something that you bring to our attention too much because you're doing it yourself, you think its part of your job."

Rosenau also requested an update on what Simmons has been doing in regards to training. "As a Dispatch Center, we're required to maintain certifications in a lot of different areas of discipline," Simmons said. "Some are Fire related, some are EMS related, some are Law related, some are just general dispatching, bare necessities and responsibilities and we have not been compliant with those certifications for longer than I've been there."

"Which is years," Rosenau said. Simmons said the county does not have a trainer and the costs for the courses were prohibitive. "We do not have an onsite trainer," Simmons

said. "The classes without a trainer are upwards of \$3,000 a piece. You take that for 10, 15 employees, its very costly and that's just for one class."

However, Simmons informed the Commission that he has been taking the courses on his own. "So, I've been taking the classes myself and I also took the instructor course," Simmons said. "So that when I finish with all the disciplines, I will be upgraded to be able to teach every class."

According to Simmons, he is nearing completion of the requirements. "So, I have five of the six required classes complete," Simmons said. "The last class I should finish next week and then we can start training employees."

Simmons outlined how the training will be handled. "We made an adjustment to our schedule which allows for overlapping staff on Thursdays for a while and that will become our training day," Simmons said. "So every Thursday, we can just go downstairs to the conference room there and I would anticipate probably about mid September, I can have all the employees certified in all the disciplines. Which, that's never happened."



Director of Tucker County 911 Mike Simmons, pictured, was commended by the Tucker County Commission for his initiative and training at the Commission's August 9th meeting.

"So, on behalf of the Commission, Michael," Rosenau said. "I want to thank you for taking that on yourself...to do that, to save the taxpayers in our county thousands of dollars. Thousands. So job well done."

The next meeting of the Tucker County Commission will be held on August 23rd at 6 p.m. at the Tucker County Courthouse Old Courtroom in Parsons.



JM Marshall from Region VII attended the meeting of the Blackwater Public Service District at Davis Town Hall July 28th. Marshall attended as an advisor on the PSD wastewater treatment project.

Blackwater PSD Discuss Plans for Sewage Treatment Plant

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

The Blackwater Public Service District met with JM Marshall of Region VII and Tucker County Commissioners Fred Davis and Mike Rosenau to discuss plans for construction of the newly established district's sewage treatment facility. Included on the board are Davis Mayor

Al Tomson and Thomas Mayor Jody Flanagan along with retired engineer Judy Cronauer.

Tomson informed the members that he has been working with Kathy Emery, Director of WV DEP. "There is a meeting," Tomson said. "I went ahead and worked with Kathy Emery of the DEP. She's in charge of sewer and water from

See PSD page 6

Emergency Management Busy with Events; Corridor H Construction, Active Shooter Training



By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Director of Tucker County Emergency Management Kevin White has been kept busy with events. He updated the Tucker County Commission on the status of his department at the August 9th meeting of the County Commission.

White informed the Commission of his coordination with events. He said his department were updating events on such matters as up to date weather information. "We have mainly been working with a lot of events," White said. "As far as that goes, weather reports for, we just recently did a week for Picking in Parsons. We're getting set up now with the County Fair. We'll get all the local information for the weather reports and lightning strikes and all that stuff. So that we can

send out those warnings to events as they are going on."

White said his department continues to work with the construction companies to release information to the public about the work on Corridor H in the county. "We are still working extensively with Kokosing and Triton and all construction of all the Corridor work. Trying to put out information to the public. Trying to tell them when they can expect road closures or extensive

See EMERGENCY page 4

911 Center Air Condition Issues Resolved

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

According to 911 Director Mike Simmons, the air conditioning has been restored at the State Siren Tower. "The air conditioning has been restored at the State Siren Tower," Simmons said. "The parts come in this past Friday and they were not due to be installed until the following week but they knew that it was such a need that they went ahead and come up Friday and took care of it."

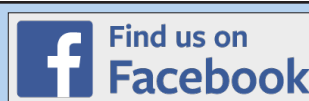
The tower's air conditioning unit needed replaced due to catastrophic failure of the old unit that resulted in the overheating of vital equipment in the building at the tower's base, according to Simmons at the previous Commission meeting.

Tucker County Commissioner Mike Rosenau questioned Simmons on the status of routine inspection at the site. "Let me ask you while we are on the at subject, did you talk to them about regular maintenance for that

See 911 page 4



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PSC calls EPA air rules “unconscionable”

CHARLESTON – The Public Service Commission of West Virginia filed objections Tuesday to new air quality emission standards proposed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. It called them “unconscionable.”

In its 12-page filing of objections, the Commission warned that implementation of the proposed rules certainly would result in future litigation. Those proposed changes are in EPA rules on “strengthening effluent limitations guidelines and standards for electric generating point sources.”

The new rules are an “end run” around deficiencies in earlier EPA air quality standards and “will result in the closure of fossil fuel generating stations,” the PSC said.

The Commission said the earlier rule that set emission standards was invalidated by a U.S. Supreme

Court decision in 2022 and the EPA withdrew the rule, saying it exceeded the EPA’s authority. This new proposal is the EPA’s response.

The Commission argued the new rules also exceed EPA’s authority. The new rules seek to require a narrower scope than the earlier one by providing restrictions for individual generation sources. However, they propose technology-based solutions using technology “not commercially available to implement.”

The proposed rules implementation would be “exorbitantly costly,” the Commission said. It also would endanger the reliable supply of electricity.

The Commission accused the EPA of an “unconscionable” attempt to change the rules by way of a “bait and switch tactic” that attempts to bypass the earlier U.S. Supreme Court ruling invalidating the previous rules.

We Get Letters

Letter to the Editor

I am very offended by the Pride Sign along the road in Canaan Valley. It is about time individuals keep their opinions and beliefs to themselves.

We have a lot of visitors and tourists who come to West Virginia for vacation to get away from the city to enjoy some peaceful time in the mountains and the last thing they need to see when they arrive in beautiful Canaan Valley is a Pride sign along the road. I’m not sure if the sign is on State property or Private property but it needs to come down. This will only prompt others to put up Biden, Trump and BLM signs along the road. Tucker County needs to have an ordinance that forbids all signs except business and restaurants to be placed along the road.

Let’s keep Canaan Valley and Canaan Valley State Park a place where we are proud to promote our beautiful area to our friends and want them to bring their families and enjoy nature and not advertise our personal agenda.

If we don’t put a stop to this now, we will turn into a haven for billboards like you see in some tourist areas.

Patricia Edgell

Morrisey Leads Letter Rebuking EPA’s Proposed New Rule on Power Plants

CHARLESTON — West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey is leading a coalition of 21 states opposing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s proposed new rule on existing coal-, natural gas- and oil-fired power plants.

The proposal attempts to regulate those plants under the Clean Air Act by imposing more stringent emissions standards. It ignores last year’s rebuke from the U.S. Supreme Court in West Virginia v. EPA, which warned that EPA should not use a narrow regulatory provision to force coal-fired power plants into retirement en masse.

“This proposal also strips states of important discretion while using technologies that don’t

work in the real world—so it sets up the plants for failing to meet the standards dictated in the rule, leaving the plants with no other option but to cease operations,” Attorney General Morrisey said. “This is designed to scare more coal-fired power plants into retirement—the goal of the Biden administration’s so-called green new deal.”

“That tactic is unacceptable, and this rule appears to utterly fly in the face of the rule of law. The U.S. Supreme Court has placed significant limits on what the EPA can do—we plan on ensuring that those limits are upheld, and we expect that we would once again prevail in court against this out-of-control agency.”

The letter explains how the proposal violates the Supreme Court’s decision on West Virginia v. EPA because Congress (still) hasn’t given EPA clear statutory authorization to remake the electricity grids. That means the agency cannot sidestep Congress to exercise broad regulatory power that would radically transform the nation’s energy grids—and force states to fundamentally shift their energy portfolios away from fossil fuel-fired generation.

The West Virginia v. EPA ruling in 2022 marked the most consequential development in environmental law since Attorney General Morrisey won a historic and unprecedented stay of the Obama-era Clean Power Plan at the Supreme Court in February 2016. West Virginia v. EPA has already become one of the central cases in administrative law.

Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah and Virginia joined Attorney General Morrisey in the letter.

Read a copy of the letter: <https://bit.ly/43WfZ65>.

News of Record

The following criminal complaints have been filed in the Tucker County Magistrate office:

- **Joshua Eugene Tasker, Oakland, Md.** was charged with one count of Disorderly Conduct. According to the complaint on Tuesday, Aug. 8 Deputy C.R. Summerfield of the Tucker County sheriff’s office received a call from Tucker County Communications 911 about a belligerent male subject at an apartment complex located in Thomas. 911 advised that the caller stated the male subject was screaming outside and allegedly slamming on the door, they believed him to be on drugs. The caller stated they were afraid that he was going to get into the apartment. 911 also stated that the caller advised the male subject was on the porch yelling, screaming and punching the air. The caller also advised 911 that the same male was outside allegedly exposing himself earlier that day.

Officers arrived on scene and could hear yelling from inside one of the apartments. They observed a lady and a child attempting to exit the apartment. They moved them to safety and entered the residence. They observed a shirtless male subject who appeared to be under the influence of an unknown substance. Officers gave the subject verbal commands to sit down on the couch where he was detained. They attempted to move him outside while he continued to yell and pull away after being told to stop.

Officers attempted to speak with him and he stated his name was Joshua Eugene Tasker. They located a knife in the back yard of the complex near where the caller observed Tasker. He was placed under arrest for disorderly conduct and placed in the back of Summerfield’s cruiser. He continued to yell and attempted to kick out the window of the patrol vehicle.

- **Enrique Gutierrez Bravo, of Oakland, Md.** was charged with one count of DUI - .15 or higher BAC. The complaint states that on Friday, Aug. 4 Deputy B.M. Gidley received a call for service for a motor vehicle collision in Thomas. Gidley and Trooper Musgrave of the West Virginia State Police responded. 911 advised the officers that the driver had left the scene. They arrived on scene and located the suspect vehicle in the roadway along with two other vehicles parked with damage to the rear area of both. Gidley spoke with a witness and obtained information on the vehicles. While conducting the investigation, the suspect appeared out of a building and was told to walk over to the officers. The suspect, later identified as Enrique Gutierrez Bravo, was unsteady on his feet, staggered and needed help standing at some

points of the investigation. While speaking with the suspect, Gidley did notice the smell of alcohol on his breath, had slurred speech and bloodshot eyes. The officer had difficulty speaking with the suspect due to him not understanding English very well. The suspect was asked what happened and he stated he was driving down the road. He was asked if he had been drinking and he said “Yes”. He was asked if he needed medical attention and he refused.

Field sobriety tests were attempted and all were failed at which time the suspect stated he was hurting and needed attention. The suspect was arguing with the officers, but Musgrave explained the preliminary Breath Test to the suspect and he understood at which time the BAC read .269. Gidley then arrested the suspect for DUI at which time he stated he was hurting and wanted medical attention. He was then transported to Davis Medical Center for treatment. Once there Gidley requested a blood sample, an interpreter was called and a West Virginia Implied Consent Statement was read to him. He understood and signed the consent form. A blood draw was conducted and sealed in the presence of hospital staff. The kit will be sent to the WVSP Toxicology Lab. Gidley waited for the suspect to be released and was then transported to TVRJ to be processed and released to jail staff. All individuals are presumed innocent until proven otherwise in a court of law. The above crimes were committed in Tucker County.

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

- Andrew Lamkin, Thomas Corporation, Upper part Lot #626 100x60 to Molly S. Deacon, \$235,000.
- Justin Zickmund Et Ux, St. George District, 2.91 acres, 8.27 acres more or less to Gary Ashford and Richard Helmick, \$300,000.
- Slayter Liller, Parsons Corporation, Lot 54 to Triton Construction Inc., \$155,000.
- Craig F. Bessinger, Parsons Corporation, Part of Lots 1 and 2 park Addition to Allen E. Moats, \$25,000.
- Rella B. Cvetican, Black Fork District, .344 acres to Slayter Liller, \$9,200.

The following marriage has been recorded in the Tucker County Clerk’s office:

- Jeffrey Wayne Linger to Olivia Marie Helmick on Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2023.

The Parsons Advocate

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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 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

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OBITUARIES

Thelma Flanagan

Thelma Flanagan, 81, passed away in her home in Dryfork, WV on Thursday, August 10, 2023. Born in Oil City, PA on December 22, 1941, she was the daughter of the late Lloyd (Al) Stover and Mildred Lohr Stover.

She is survived by her husband Steven Flanagan, two daughters Cynthia Vogus Mize (Bobby) and Nichole Vogus, one stepdaughter Connie Flanagan Vickers (Mike), one brother Harold Stover (Jo Ann), one sister Phyllis Stover Douglas, five grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. In addition to her parents, she is predeceased by three brothers Kenneth Stover, James Stover, and Wayne Stover and one sister Lois Stover Beumer.

She graduated from Cranberry High School. After marrying her first husband, Clair who was in the Army, they travelled throughout the United States, settling in Franklin, PA to raise their two daughters. Later, she met her husband, Steve. They made their home for many years in Hampton, VA before retiring to Dryfork, WV.

She was a devoted follower of Christ and a member of Harman Presbyterian until her health required her to be homebound. However, she continued to support many charities.

Throughout her life, "T" had many jobs, but her favored one was building circuit boards and working with electrical components. She loved gospel and country

music, of which she was very talented at singing. She enjoyed crocheting, plastic canvas, ceramics, playing musical instruments, gardening, and reading. She was an avid camper who appreciated summer nights relaxing around a campfire. She treasured all kinds of animals, two of which held a special place in her heart – her dog Dottie and her cat Snowy.

Mrs. Flanagan's request for cremation will be honored. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to a charity of choice in her memory. The Tomblyn Funeral Home of Elkins is in charge of the arrangements for Thelma Flanagan. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.tomblynfuneralhome.com.

Pasquale (Patsy) Santangelo, Cobbler and Musician



Anna and Patsy Santangelo in the late 1950s. Photo courtesy of Patricia Ann Santangelo Miller.



By Joseph W. Dumire
Tucker County Historical Society

Pasquale (Patsy) Santangelo was born 10/26/1894 in Roccasalce, Italy the son of Raffaello DiGiustino and Michelina Santangelo, and died 6/5/1972 at Thomas. He married Anna DePollo who was born 8/9/1904 in Introdacqua, Italy, the daughter of Giuseppe and Natalina DiStefana DePollo, and died 7/26/1981 at Thomas. To the union of Patsy and Anna were born three children: Ralph P. (8/8/1922-1/6/2002), born at Thomas; Virginia Lee Rockwell born 8/13/1927 at Thomas; and

Patricia Ann Miller born 11/27/1941 at Thomas. Patsy and Anna are both buried at Mt. Calvary Cemetery at Thomas, along with their son Ralph.

Patsy joined the Army in early 1918, was a member of the Army band, and was stationed at Camp Lee, Virginia. While in the Army he became a United States citizen. After being discharged from the Army, Patsy spent one year in Meyersdale, Pennsylvania working in the mines. After injuring his leg in the mines, Patsy moved to Thomas where he had friends, and in 1920 opened his first cobbler shop on Spruce Street. He liked Thomas because it was on a hill like towns in Italy.

In 1926 Patsy purchased a building on East Avenue and moved his cobbler shop there. He and his wife Anna lived above the shop in a two-story apartment that had a balcony on both floors facing the North Fork of the Blackwater River

Patsy was a gifted trumpet player, and taught music lessons to many young children and his son Ralph became a professional musician in Los Angeles, later moving to Palm Springs, CA. Patsy's two daughters were also musically inclined, and both played the piano.

During its heyday

Thomas residents enjoyed a variety of entertainment and social activities. The town had many musicians, including Patsy Santangelo. The Thomas community band was formed and managed by Patsy. The band and a number of Jazz ensembles played the Imperial Hotel, just up the street from the cobbler shop, as well as dances and other venues. In addition, Patsy played with the Italian Band of Pierce as did Donato DeFranco. Two former residents of Thomas recall Patsy entertaining the public by playing his trumpet from the balcony of his home, and from the old bandstand next to Miners and Merchants Bank.

During the later years Patsy joined a musical group in Thomas called the Polka Dots. In the group's photo below, left to right are Patsy Santangelo with trumpet, Carl Pase in back, Joe DePollo, Ernest Colabrese in back, John Depollo, and Louis Royce. The group played Polka music, and often played for dances at the Thomas High School gym. The dances were always a big hit being well attended.

Patsy's son Ralph Santangelo moved to Los Angeles, CA to become a professional musician during the big band era. He played bands in New York, Florida, Nevada and California since the early 1940's having played his trumpet with the likes of Tommy Dorsey, Jimmy Dorsey, Charlie Barnet, Nat Brandywine, Lester Lanin, Prez Prado and Horace Heidt. He also performed on Columbia and Victor recordings and in Republic motion pictures in such movies as The Eddie Duchin Story. Ralph belonged to the Sons of Italy, Dolly Sinatra Lodge, and Mizell Senior Center in Palm Springs where he later passed away.

This article appeared in the October 2019 edition of the Tucker County Historical Society quarterly newsletter. The TCHS is a tax-exempt non-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. It meets monthly in Parsons with membership open to anyone for annual dues of \$10 mailed to PO Box 13, Hambleton, WV 26269.

Sharon Lee Smallwood Wimer

Sharon Lee Smallwood Wimer, age 75 years, a resident of Parsons, WV, departed this life Sunday afternoon, August 13, 2023, at Mon Health Medical Center at Morgantown, WV. She had been in declining health.

She was born Monday, February 16, 1948, at Charles Town, WV, a daughter of the late Philip Franklin and Edith Virginia Deck Smallwood. On November 1, 1975, at Sumit Point, WV, she was married to Curtis Glenn Wimer, who survives. They had celebrated forty-seven years of marriage.

Also surviving are one



son, Paul Glenn Wimer of Mt. Zion; and one granddaughter, Regan Wimer and one grandson, Robby Shupp and partner Mackenzie Lyons.

Preceding her in death is one son, Philip Clinton Wimer.

She was a graduate of Charles Town High

School. She previously worked as a Secretary for the Jefferson County Extension Office. Most of her life she dedicated and enjoyed being involved with 4-H. Sharon's hobbies included needlework, painting pictures and her flowers. She loved to cook and loved her family dearly.

Mrs. Wimer's wishes for cremation will be honored. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements for Sharon Lee Smallwood Wimer. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com.

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10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Church Service

12:00 p.m. Picnic on the Grounds

1:00 p.m. Games for kids, corn hole, picture slide show and fellowship

4:00 p.m. Special singing, church history and bell dedication

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Meals ready at 4:00 preorders will be accepted on FB until Wednesday, Aug. 16 at 9:00 pm. After that all orders will need to be in person at PVFD. Call 304-642-3433 for info.

Emergency Management

Cont. From Front Page 1

delays such as the steel they are still hanging at 219.”

County Commissioner Mike Rosenau, commended White's work informing the public on the construction project. “I want to commend you on that,” Rosenau said. “That really effects a lot of people's lives because a lot of people work in Elkins. So that information you put out is really important for the public.”

White said the collaboration also helps to keep first responders informed. “We work with them to of course get information to the public, but also so first responders know,” White said. “So that Mike's dispatchers know that, hey, if dispatch something going on 219 south towards Elkins, you know, this is what we need to do to make sure they get through the line and get up to the front and we still have the ability to provide emergency services.”

Rosenau said that White went above and beyond in informing the public of the status of construction. “Well, that's expected from Emergency Management,” Rosenau said. “For the first responders and stuff, but it trickled on down to the public. So, that's what I want to thank you about. I would expect the first responders and stuff would have communication with Kokosing, but then to the average tax payer it went down to. So that's beyond what you are expected to do. I really want to thank you.”

White said he strives to provide as much information to the public as he can. “One of the things I learned many,

many years ago,” White said, “the lack of information is worse than giving the information. Some people will not like the information. They're going to be upset because the road's going to be closed or something like that. But if you give out the information, the percentage is going to be greater if you just don't give out the information. So, providing the information, whether they like it or not, works out better than not providing it. That's why I try to give everything I can to the public.”

White said his department is coordinating with the Tucker County Schools to hold an Active Shooter Training along with law enforcement. “Later this month, we do have one of our Active Shooter Classes coming up,” White said. “Which is going to be put on by the School and Randolph County and Tucker County Sheriff Department. We will be participating in that.”

There will be separate training at all three Tucker County Schools. White said that expressing the need for the training has been an obstacle that was only recently overcome. “I think they start at the High School on the 21st of August, I believe. So we've facilitated three events for that. We've worked extensively with the board office for the last four or five years to try to get this to happen. Finally, we got the importance of it through to everybody and everybody has come together and agreed to do this. We will do an Active Shooter at Tucker County High

School, at Tucker Valley and at Davis. Almost all on separate dates and it will involve our staff. Of course, there will be no students in the facility, or anything like that. It will be on off days.”

White said the object of the training will be to help School staff to recognize the sounds of an active shooter on the campus. “The teachers will be able to go through live scenarios and the officers will be using blank rounds so they can even hear what it sounds like if something was happening in their building. Cause there's chances that something that happens at the Career Center, they don't even know what's going on at the main building. This will test their capabilities of communication and their plans of action of how they work around that stuff.”

White said his department felt it was important that all the Tucker County Schools were involved. “We thought it was important to do it at all three schools,” White said, “because there's no plan that works perfect at all three schools. They each have to have their own individual schools.”

According to White the trainings will be held in August, October and January.

The next meeting of the Tucker County Commission will be held August 23rd at 6 p.m. at the Tucker County Courthouse Old Courtroom in Parsons.



911

Cont. From Front Page 1

equipment?” Rosenau said.

“The siren tech will check the compressor now,” Simmons said.

“So he will check the State's equipment to make sure it is in workable order and safety?” Rosenau said. “I just want to make sure that somebody is checking it.”

“It is maintained,” Simmons said. “He's actually the one that discovered it.”

Simmons said that maintenance of the site is a group effort. “It works a little funny up there,” Simmons said. “Everybody puts in a little bit to the well-being of the site and that's Sirens portion to the kitty that they check and maintain the site and that includes the equipment.”

According to Simmons, Tucker County is responsible for propane. “We put the propane in the tank that fuels the generator,” Simmons said.

Tucker County Emergency Management Director Kevin White informed the Commission of the history of the tower. “That come about, about five years ago,” White said. “The State stepped in and asked that since everybody – and they didn't do it just here, they did it in all counties – but since all counties utilize their towers in each county, for free, they wanted us to pay for propane as our kick in.”

“That's only fair,” Rosenau said. “Like you said earlier, team effort and that's fair.”

“That's Siren's chunk to maintain the site,” Simmons said. “They check the equipment. He weed eats. And he's up there regular.”

Simmons also informed the Commission that the air conditioning in the 911 Center has also been fixed. “The air conditioning the Com Center Server Room has been fixed or replaced,” Simmons said. “They were on site Friday. It took them a good part of the day. They were able to do it in one day. So it is staying a nice, crisp 66 degrees in there.”

Simmons said he was contacted by the center's contractor in charge of monitoring equipment. “I was even notified by our contractor...They contacted me and say, 'Hey, I take it you had the air system fixed in there because I'm showing all the fans on all the equipment has powered down to a lower level.' I said, 'Yeah, it should be good now.’”

Simmons also updated the Committee on the status of the 911 Center's fiber optic upgrade. “The fiber connection from the Com Center to the tower, the point to point connection, is, according to Frontier, ready for traffic.”

According to Simmons, the center will be transferring over to the fiber connection as a primary connection to the tower. “We have to still hook up the fail-safe and we cannot technically go in there and configure that with-

out BearCom on site because it's Motorola technology and they contract BearCom because they are within one hour of our facility tower. So they have to be there... when he configures that. And when I talked to BearCom on Friday, they said that they could be here guaranteed within the next two weeks...So after that we should be on the new connection. It should be a lot better.”

Simmons informed the Commission of the purpose of the fail-safe in the system, “That's the device that should one connection go out, it automatically switches to the other,” Simmons said.

Rosenau explained the upgrades. “Just so you know, we're talking out primary that we use now, we've increased the capabilities by going to Frontier and adding a new line,” Rosenau said. “So now our primary that we have now will become our secondary.”

According to Simmons, the new monitoring equipment is on site. “The monitoring equipment is on site at the 911 Center for the power and temperature,” Simmons said. According to Simmons the technician will stay over a couple of days when the fail-safe is installed to install the equipment. “So within two weeks, we should be done with all of our projects,” Simmons said.

The next meeting of the Tucker County Commission will be held on August 23 at 6 p.m. at the Tucker County Courthouse Old Courtroom in Parsons.

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Foot & Ankle Podiatric Surgeon



Dr. Michael Hurst, DPM
Foot & Ankle Podiatric Surgeon

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- Diabetic Foot Care
- Flatfoot Reconstruction
- Foot and Ankle Reconstruction
- Foot Infections
- Fracture Care of Foot/Ankle
- Hammertoes
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- ✓ Bunion/Hammer Toe Correction



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Bistro

Cont. From Front Page 1

The restaurant has several specialties. According to Dearborn, she makes everything from scratch. “The cheesecake apples sell really good,” Dearborn said. “They are apples filled with cheesecake. I do pies, donuts, Fruity Pebbles cheesecake tacos. We have a lot of little custom items like that.”

Among the restaurant's specialties are their signature milkshakes. “All the milkshakes are named after ski trails at Canaan and Timberline,” Dearborn said. “And our menu, all the items are based on hiking trails around here.”

Dearborn said she has plans for outdoor dining at the restaurant. According to Dearborn, tables had been ordered for the space overlooking the river, but supply chain issues became a problem. “We are also going to have outdoor dining. Probably not until next year. We have to get our tables. We had some ordered and then we

couldn't get them. So probably next year.”

The restaurant is also opening a retail vendor space in the room next door. According to Dearborn the vendor space should be open in the next few months. “And over there, we have the store too,” Dearborn said. “He's putting vendors in there so the items will constantly change. We haven't got that set up yet. We just started putting stuff over there. We wanted to get this up first.”

According to Dearborn, the restaurant is seeking to hire additional staff urgently. “We are still playing with the hours. The only reason we are closed one day a week is I don't have any kitchen help. As soon as I can get someone hired and get them trained in there, we will be open all seven days with set hours.” Dearborn said she is seeking both kitchen and wait staff.

Dearborn thanked the community for their support.

PSD

Cont. From Front Page 1

the state DEP and its a chance for us to go down there and meet, basically, the people that we're going to be working with from the DEP. They're going to give us some advice and guidance and things like that.”

Tomson suggested that the group carpool to the meeting and that it was an excellent opportunity for networking with Emery and her team. “I know I'm going to drive down and I'm willing to shuttle and chauffeur anyone else that wants to go or you can go by yourself...I just wanted to make you aware of the fact that, that meeting is probably going to be really helpful for us to build relationships.”

The District also discussed how they would evaluate Expressions of Interest from engineering firms for the project. Marshall supplied the district with examples of forms he has used in the past to evaluate the EOI. “That was the one we used for the interview part,” Marshall said. “So, this is what I found in my files that we used to score the proposals that they send in. Obviously, you can use that, you can modify it, you can do whatever you want with it. That's up to you guys. What the main thing is, what you're trying to do at this point, after those come in is to look over all the proposals and narrow it down to at least three to interview.”

Tomson said the firm's ability to raise funds will be key to the project going forward. “One of the things I look at also, besides the things that Jim has on his checklist, I look at their knowledge and their track record for acquiring funding. I think that is really going to be key in this project because of the estimated cost, which I think at last discussions were 50 to 60 million dollars and that is significant money so we need an engineering firm that's going to be really proficient with helping us secure funding, whether its from the federal government, the state, or other agencies.”

Future funding needs and concerns were also addressed at the meeting. “Something else,” Marshall said. “I know at this point, the PSD has a bank account

of zero money, right. So, and some of the firms are coming to you guys wanting to get, looking at their project and wanting to do a pre funding assistance or design loan. But the problem with doing that is you have to come up with half the money.

Rather than get a good grant or full grant money for it...You're going to have to get a loan at some point. You're going to end up with some kind of a loan, but you need to minimize it, especially right off.”

Tomson said the District board solicited packets of interest from engineering firms for the project and the members would be scoring and evaluating each submission. “We've solicited from engineering firms their qualifications and their interest in this particular project. And when they send in their qualifications, we will be evaluating them and scoring them so its more of an objective, quantifiable review of those packets and from that, we'll develop a priority list and we'll select the top 'X' number of companies to come in for interviews.”

The board also discussed what specific qualifications and experience would be necessary for this project. Among those discussed were the need to handle leachate from the landfill and metals such as copper and iron that are unique problems for the area. “I think that things we know are going to be issues, we see if they have any relevant experience,” Tomson said. “We know, for example, with the landfill leachate, therefore high ammonia, is problematic and we have to have a plant that is able to deal with that.”

“And the copper?” Cronauer said, “is that just some-



County Commissioners Fred Davis, left, and Mike Rosenau, right, represented the Tucker County Commission at the Blackwater Public Service District meeting.

thing that Thomas has? There's an issue with copper.” “We have an issue with it. With the summertime we have an issue with iron, too,” Flanagan said. “Iron and ammonia.”

Cronauer said she felt that a firm's ability to interact positively with the public will also be needed. “Another thing would just be interaction with the public,” Cronauer said. “For siting, I know Thomas is a possibility, but also down further in Douglas is another. Just that sensitivity to the public. Doing presentations to the public and things like that.”

“People need to know what's happening and get answers to their questions and their concerns need to be addressed,” Tomson said.

Members of the Blackwater Public Service District were appointed by the Tucker County Commission earlier this year. The PSD will service the boundaries of Fairfax and Davis Tax Districts and Blackwater Falls State Park, according to legal notices posted at the time of the district's founding.

The next meeting of the Blackwater Public Service District will be held Tuesday, August 29th at 2 p.m. at the Davis Town Hall in Davis.

Training

Cont. From Front Page 1

White said. “It wasn't like we all just converged. We did it realistically. We used approximate times for how long it would take Thomas to get from their station to Route 90. They had a five-minute response time. We knew Parsons come up the mountain. They were going to be like a 20-minute response time for them. So, they couldn't play until they had waited that amount of time out.”

According to White, the training was designed to test as well as instruct. “It tested your resources. It made you make due with what you had until the rest of it got there,” White said.

Tucker County Commissioner Fred Davis commented on how difficult it was for crews to cut into the top of a school bus during the training. “One thing that we talked about up there that a lot of people don't understand,” Davis said, “even the firemen didn't, how tough a school bus really is just to cut a roof off. That metal is tough.”

“The standard First Responder is used to cutting up a vehicle,” White said. “When you cut up a passenger car or truck, you're used to going through one layer of a thin metal to be quite honest with you. And most of our equip-

ment is based on that.”

White said that many fire fighters at the training were surprised by the construction of the bus. “A school bus is about four inches thick because you got a layer, you got a frame, you got another layer. And we didn't tell anybody what to expect so when the newer guys that hadn't done anything like that before grabbed this particular saw, they ran up, they started cutting and they found out that 'My blade didn't go all the way through. Now I have to go to Plan B.’”

White said incidents such as those were the reason for the training. “Now, that's why we did stuff like that,” White said. “So that they will be ready, prepared when it, if the situation would ever provide itself. Hopefully it never does.”

“That's what's so vital about these trainings,” Tucker County Commissioner Mike Rosenau said. “Its wonderful and I commend the volunteers that took their Saturday to try to help them make their jobs better and easier for the public. They're volunteering and the Commission wants to put out there how grateful we are as a Commission that

they work so hard for our community as a volunteer.”

“I feel we're very fortunate in Tucker County with the volunteers we have,” White said. “Honestly, nationwide, not just in the State of West Virginia, volunteerism is dying extensively, including fire departments. It used to be a staple.”

White said that while local fire departments struggled, they have remained constant. “Other volunteer organizations may go down, but fire departments always stayed level. But across the nation, volunteerism is dying extensively. In Tucker County with the Fire Departments, not so much. We are struggling a little bit with membership, but our organizations are at the same membership they have been for years.”

White said he feels fortunate that Tucker County volunteers are dedicated. “So we are very fortunate that our guys are dedicated and it still fosters those younger kids to come up because they still see that commitment.”

The next meeting of the Tucker County Commission will be held on August 23rd at 6 p.m. at the Tucker County Courthouse Old Courtroom in Parsons.

Gas Prices Continue to Rise in West Virginia

The average price for gasoline across Northern West Virginia is six cents higher this week at \$3.593 per gallon, according to AAA East Central's Gas Price Report.

This week's average prices: Northern WV Average \$3.593

Average price during the week of July 31, 2023 \$3.532

Average price during the week of August 8, 2022 \$4.034

The following is a list of the average prices in several West Virginia locations:

\$3.618	Bridgeport
\$3.611	Clarksburg
\$3.516	Huntington
\$3.654	Martinsburg
\$3.634	Morgantown
\$3.632	Parkersburg
\$3.535	Weirton
\$3.544	Wheeling

Trend Analysis:

The national average for a gallon of gas is continuing to trend higher, rising seven cents over the last week to \$3.82. Pump price increases are primarily due to the price of oil, which has been staying close to \$80 per barrel. Last month's extreme heat also played a role in the recent gas price spike as some refineries pulled back on production, but operations are now returning to normal. Today's national average is 29 cents more than a month ago but 24 cents less than a year ago.

According to new data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA), gas demand decreased slightly from 8.94 to 8.84 million barrels per day last week. Meanwhile, total domestic gasoline stocks increased by 1.5 million barrels to 219.1 million barrels.

At the close of Wednesday's formal trading session, West Texas Intermediate decreased by \$1.88 to settle at \$79.49. Oil prices temporarily dropped after the U.S. credit rating declined, increasing market fears that oil demand could decline if the economy eases. Additionally, the EIA reported that total domestic, commercial crude inventories decreased by 17 million barrels to 439.8 million barrels.

Motorists can find current gas prices nationwide, statewide, and countywide at gasprices.aaa.com.

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TURNER'S TIDBITS



Mr.Sine Mr Whitehair Mr Parsons
OTTER CREEK BOOM & LUMBER CO. About 1909

A railroad picture of Engine number 4. This operated for the Otter Creek Boom & Lumber Co. taken about 1909. Of the four men, three are identified as Mr. Sine, Mr. Whitehair, Mr. Parsons. Ideas, comments, suggestions or items to share contact Tim Turner (304) 478-3389.

Red Cross: Donation shortfall may impact blood supply

\$10 e-gift card for donors in August

MORGANTOWN, WV Aug. 8, 2023 — The American Red Cross has seen a shortfall of about 25,000 blood donations in the first two months of the summer, which makes it hard to keep hospital shelves stocked with lifesaving blood products. By making an appointment to give blood in August, donors can keep the national blood supply from falling to shortage levels.

Right now, the Red Cross especially needs type O negative, type O positive, type B negative, and type A negative blood donors. For those who don't know their blood type, donating is an easy way to find this important personal health information. The Red Cross will notify new donors of their blood type soon after they give.

The Red Cross needs donors now. Schedule an appointment to give by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

All who come to give throughout the month of August will get a \$10 e-gift card to a movie merchant of their choice. Details are available at RedCrossBlood.org/Movie.

How to donate blood

To make an appointment, simply download the American Red Cross

Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information. A blood donor card, driver's license, or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds, and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Amplify your impact – volunteer!

A stable blood and platelet supply is critical to national preparedness. Additionally, as we approach the beginning of what is expected to be another active hurricane season, the Red Cross urges everyone to get ready now and consider becoming a volunteer to help people affected by the growing number of climate-driven disasters.

Support impacted communities by assisting at Red Cross shelters, using your professional skills as a licensed health care provider, or becoming a Red Cross Disaster Action Team member. To learn more, visit redcross.org/volunteertoday.

Capito, 38 Other Senators Call on EPA to Withdraw Harmful Power Plants Regulations

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.), Ranking Member of the Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee, led 38 other Republican senators, including Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), in calling on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to withdraw its latest set of proposed power plant regulations that will force the closure of coal and gas-fired power plants.

"In direct conflict with West Virginia v. EPA, this proposal requires generation shifting from fossil-fuel power to other types of energy. While the Agency falsely claims this does not run afoul of the Supreme Court's decision, it is undeniable the proposal would require generation shifting that the Court has definitively found Congress has never granted EPA the authority to require under the Clean Air Act," the senators wrote in a letter.

Cosigners of Ranking Member Capito's letter include U.S. Senators Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), John Thune (R-S.D.), John Barrasso (R-Wyo.), Joni Ernst (R-Iowa), Steve Daines

(R-Mont.), John Boozman (R-Ark.), Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.), Mike Braun (R-Ind.), Katie Britt (R-Ala.), Ted Budd (R-N.C.), Bill Cassidy (R-La.), Tom Cotton (R-Ark.), Kevin Cramer (R-N.D.), Mike Crapo (R-Idaho), Ted Cruz (R-Texas), Deb Fischer (R-Neb.), Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.), Bill Hagerty (R-Tenn.), John Hoeven (R-N.D.), Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-Miss.), James Lankford (R-Okla.), Mike Lee (R-Utah), Cynthia Lummis (R-Wyo.), Roger Marshall (R-Kan.), Jerry Moran (R-Kan.), Markwayne Mullin (R-Okla.), Pete Ricketts (R-Neb.), Jim Risch (R-Idaho), Mitt Romney (R-Utah), Marco Rubio (R-Fla.), Rick Scott (R-Fla.), Tim Scott (R-S.C.), Dan Sullivan (R-Alaska), Thom Tillis (R-N.C.), Tommy Tuberville (R-Ala.), J.D. Vance (R-Ohio), Roger Wicker (R-Miss.), and Todd Young (R-Ind.).

In May, Capito announced plans to lead efforts through the Congressional Review Act (CRA) to overturn the proposed regulations, which is a clear attempt by the Biden administration to revive the illegal Clean Power Plan.

LET US KNOW "WHAT'S HAPPENING"
304-478-3533

AUGUST

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	14 Liver & Onions Mashed Potato w/ Gravy Peas Mandarin Oranges	15 Swedish Meatballs over Noodles Beets Lima Beans Pears	16 Chicken Pot Pie w/ Mixed Veg. Green Beans Peach Cobbler	17 Spag. w/ Meat Sauce Carrots Bread Mixed Fruit	18 Grilled Chicken Salad w/ Cheese Tomato Juice Apple	
	21 Mac. & Cheese w/ Hot Dogs Stewed Tomato Broccoli Peaches	22 Fish Stick Tator Tots Carrots Pears	23 Northern Beans Oven Potato Cornbread Cottage Cheese w/ Fruit	24 Country Fried Steak Mashed Potato Green Beans Jello w/ Fruit	25 Nacho Chips w/ Cheese Corn Dogs Tomato Juice Banana	
	28 Cheeseburger French Fries Baked Beans Mixed Fruit	29 Saurkraut w/ Pork Mashed Potato Carrots Pears	30 Creamed Chicken over Biscuit Mashed Potato Beets Peaches	31 Meatloaf Scalloped Potato Green Beans Fruit		

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Hydrants deadline extended to Aug. 25 in stern order

CHARLESTON – The deadline for municipalities and water districts to file reports on the maintenance and testing of their fire hydrants was extended to Aug. 25 in a sternly worded order issued Monday by the Public Service Commission of West Virginia.

Only half the 301 utilities subject to the PSC responded to the original June 30 order. Their deadline was July 28. The PSC warned Monday that the consequences could be serious.

“We take this matter extremely seriously and must see these final and complete reports,” PSC Chairman Charlotte Lane said.

The Commission said keeping accurate, up-to-date records such as these should be “‘business as usual’ for a public utility.” This material is part of annual reports that water utilities are required to file, so it should be readily available. Brushing aside whether utilities “were making a good faith effort to comply,” the Commission warned: “We consider this to be a front and center

public safety issue for which timing is of the essence and further delay is unacceptable.”

“Despite the considerable number of entities that failed to respond, only a handful of entities contacted the Commission to request additional time to provide the requested information,” the order said.

The Commission in June told public utility owners of fire hydrants or that service private fire hydrants to provide information on the number of hydrants owned or serviced. They were told to detail the ages of their devices, provide description of infrastructure supporting them, tell of any problem or complaints encountered, and to provide maintenance schedules and practices.

Lane and other members of the PSC staff testified on Monday to the Legislature’s Joint Standing Committee on Technology and Infrastructure concerning the hydrants’ investigation.

More information on this case can be found on the PSC website: www.psc.state.wv.us. Click on “Case Information” and access Case No. 23-0555-W-GI.

LEGAL

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA CHARLESTON

CASE NO. 23-0434-G-PC

HOPE GAS, INC. and SOUTHERN PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY

Joint petition for consent and approval for Hope Gas, Inc. to acquire Southern Public Service Company

NOTICE OF FILING

On May 19, 2023, Hope Gas, Inc. (Hope) and Southern Public Service Company (Southern) (jointly, petitioners) filed with the Public Service Commission of West Virginia (Commission) a joint petition (Joint Petition) for Commission consent and approval of an acquisition transaction pursuant to which Hope would acquire all of the capital stock in Southern and merge Southern into Hope. Southern currently provides natural gas sales to approximately 6,400 customers in six counties in West Virginia.

In the Joint Petition, Southern and Hope assert that the acquisition transaction will have no adverse effect on Southern’s or Hope’s customers, other public utilities, or the public in general. Following the transaction, the former utility assets of Southern will be owned and operated by Hope, subject to the Commission’s continuing jurisdiction and regulation. From and after the closing of the acquisition, the former customers of Southern will become customers of Hope.

Upon the closing of the Transaction, Southern’s customers will continue to pay Southern’s existing base rates and purchased gas adjustment (PGA) rate as it changes from time to time, and a Legacy Surcharge rate increment, which surcharge equates to Hope’s pipeline replacement and expansion (PREP) rate increment, as it changes from time to time. Consequently, at close, based on the current base, PGA and surcharge rates proposed, the average monthly bill impact for Southern’s customers as a result of the Transaction will be as follows:

Type of Customer	Increase/(Decrease)	Percentage Increase/(Decrease)
Residential	\$ 5.88	9.74 %
Commercial	\$ 17.39	7.20 %
Transportation	\$ 24.77	2.73 %

Hope proposes that the Southern customers will eventually pay the Hope base rates plus PGA rates and Legacy Surcharge as those rates change from time to time. If the Southern customers were immediately charged the Hope base rates, the current Hope PGA rate, and the current Legacy Surcharge rate, the average monthly bill impact for Southern’s customers as a result of the transaction would be as follows:

Type of Customer	Increase/(Decrease)	Percentage Increase/(Decrease)
Residential	\$ 25.92	42.97 %
Commercial	\$ 56.20	23.28 %
Transportation	(\$ 1,701.96)**	(20.68 %)

**Does not reflect the cost of retainage. Hope will retain between 5.5% and 8.0% of a transportation customer’s self-supply gas delivered to Hope.

The Joint Petition is on file with and available for public inspection at the Commission, 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia, and is available online at the Commission website (www.psc.state.wv.us). Anyone desiring to intervene or protest should file a written request to intervene or protest no later than thirty (30) days following the date of this notice, unless such period is otherwise modified by Commission Order. Failure to timely intervene or protest can affect your right to participate in or protest aspects of this proceeding. All requests to intervene or protest should briefly state the reason for the request to intervene or protest and comply with the rules set forth in the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure. All requests to intervene and protests should state the reason for the request to intervene or protest and comply with the rules set forth in the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure. All requests to intervene and protests should contain the case name and number and be addressed to Karen Buckley, Executive Secretary, Public Service Commission of West Virginia, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323.

In the absence of substantial protest received within thirty (30) days of the issuance of this notice, the Commission may waive formal hearing and grant the Joint Petition based on the Commission’s review of the evidence submitted with the Joint Petition.

HOPE GAS, INC.
SOUTHERN PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CONVEYANCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PROPERTY (Hambleton United Methodist Church)

NOTICE is hereby given that the Board of Trustees of the West Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church will, on or after August 23, 2023 QUITCLAIM, GRANT and CONVEY to the Trustees of Hambleton Community Church all of their right, title and interest in and to that certain lot or parcel of real estate situate, lying and being in Hambleton Corp. District, Tucker County, West Virginia, described as follows:

PARCEL ONE

BEGINNING at the corner of the land of Harry H. Sayre on Fifth Street thence by and with his line in a westerly direction on hundred and fifty feet (150) to an alley thence by and with said alley in a northerly direction one hundred (100) feet to a stake on the public road thence in an easterly direction one hundred and fifty (150) feet to a stone in a line with Fifth Street thence by and with said Street one hundred (100) feet to the place of beginning and is now known as Lots 113 and 114 of the Town of Hambleton.

And being the same property conveyed to Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Hambleton from Michael Webb by Deed dated April 4, 1902 and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Tucker County, West Virginia in Deed Book 21, at Page 15, reference to which is hereby made.

PARCEL TWO

BEGINNING at Michael Webbs corner thence with the line of Fifth Street about N. 53 1/2 632 feet to a stake by the County road thence with said road N. 63 1/2 W. 77 feet to a stake in Michael Webbs line thence with said line S. 38 1/2 E. 96 feet to the place of beginning containing four square rods more or less.

And Being the same property conveyed to Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Hambleton from P. B. and Charlotte Goff by Deed dated April 5, 1902 and recorded in the aforesaid Clerk’s Office in Deed Book 21, at Page 14, reference to which is hereby made.

And being the same property conveyed to Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Hambleton from P. B. and Charlotte Goff by Deed dated April 5, 1902 and recorded in the aforesaid Clerk’s Office in Deed Book 21, at Page 14, reference to which is hereby made.

Said Hambleton United Methodist Church was declared closed effective on July 1, 2023 by a majority of the District Superintendents of the West Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. Dated the 9th day of August, 2023.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE WEST VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
By: Robert N. File, Chancellor
130 Main Street
Beckley, West Virginia 25801
(304) 253-3358

St. George Holds Senior Outpost

St. George Senior Outpost met July 20, 2023 at the St. George Community Church. Sharon Daniels welcomed everyone, led the pledge of allegiance, and blessed the food. After a great meal, Betty Sturm played piano for group singing of songs in keeping with the theme of Christmas in July. Becky Poling gave hand bells to the group and directed the playing of more Christmas carols. Sharon shared several Christmas stories.

Attending in addition to the above was Alice Phillips, Lee Ann Barton, Brad Barton, Buddy Arnold, Pete Kuhn, Carman White, Claudette

Judy, Jack W. Miller, Sylvia Rosenau, Arlene Ramsey, Virgil Knotts, Jane Pifer, Virginia Popio, Dale Varner, Don Nestor, Dorothy Simpson, Anna Fitzwater, Sue Carroll, April Fitzwater, Brenda Jones, Raymond Collins, Carol Weinstein, Janice F. Poling, James C. Poling, Shirley Cassidy, P. Ann Flanagan, and Eleanor Nestor.

The Parsons Senior Center provides a van and seniors are always welcome to come, bring a covered dish, and bring a friend. The next gathering is August 17, 2023 at 6:00 pm at the St. George Community Church for food, fun, fellowship, and a few games of bingo.

LEGAL

Tariff Form No. 8-C APPLICATION WITHOUT PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATES (Tariff Rule No. 30-C)

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CHANGE IN RATES UPON APPLICATION WITHOUT PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATES

NOTICE is hereby given that Canaan Valley Gas Company, a public utility, has filed with the PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA an application containing decreased rates, tolls and charges for furnishing natural gas service to 693 customers at Canaan Valley, Tucker County, West Virginia. The proposed decreased rates and charges will become effective November 1, 2023, unless otherwise ordered by the Public Service Commission, and will produce approximately \$106,913 annually in decreased revenue, a decrease of 7.928%. The average monthly bill for a residential customer using 8 Mcf and a commercial customer using 43 Mcf will be changed as follows:

	(\$) DECREASE	(%) DECREASE
Residential	\$ 9,184	7.817%
Commercial	\$ 49,364	8.069%

The decreases shown are based on averages of all customers in the indicated classes. Individual customers may receive decreases that are greater or less than average. Furthermore, the requested decreased 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. Any decrease in rates and charges will not become effective until authorized and approved by the Public Service Commission. (If a hearing is scheduled, notice will be given of the time and place of hearing.)

A complete copy of the tariff, 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 offices of Canaan Valley Gas Company, Cortland Road, Canaan Valley, West Virginia. A copy of the tariff is also available for public inspection at the offices of the Secretary of the Public Service Commission at 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, WV 25301.

The Rule 30C procedure is designed to provide a procedure for changing rates charged to customers by natural gas distribution utilities based exclusively on the costs 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 this publication, unless otherwise modified by Commission order. Failure to timely intervene can affect your rights to protest any rate increases and to participate in future proceedings. Request to intervene must comply with the Commission’s rules on intervention. All protests and intervention should be addressed to The Secretary, Public Service Commission of West Virginia, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, WV 25323.

LEGAL

Tariff Form No. 8-C (Tariff Rule 14.2 et seq. (Historical Rule 30-C))

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CHANGE IN RATES UPON APPLICATION

NOTICE is hereby given that Hope Gas, Inc. (the “Company”), a public utility, has filed with the PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA, an application containing decreased rates, tolls and charges for furnishing natural gas service to all of its customers at various locations in the Counties of Barbour, Boone, Braxton, Calhoun, Clay, Doddridge, Gilmer, Harrison, Jackson, Kanawha, Lewis, Lincoln, Logan, Marion, Marshall, Mason, McDowell, Mingo, Monongalia, Nicholas, Pleasants, Preston, Putnam, Raleigh, Randolph, Ritchie, Roane, Taylor, Tucker, Tyler, Upshur, Wetzel, Wirt, Wood and Wyoming.

The proposed decreased rates and charges will become effective November 1, 2023, unless otherwise ordered by the Public Service Commission and will decrease revenues approximately \$38.0 million annually, a decrease of 27.50%. The average monthly bill for the various classes of customers will be changed as follows:

TYPE OF CUSTOMER	(\$) DECREASE	(%) DECREASE
Residential	\$19.60	16.93%
Small Commercial Sales	\$82.58	20.22%
Small Commercial Transport 1/	\$10.06	0.95%
Large Commercial Sales	\$4,401.82	26.10%
Large Commercial Transport 1/	\$147.70	1.69%
Industrial Sales	\$7,699.35	27.49%
Resale Sales	\$10,509.21	25.57%
Daily Balancing for Transport	\$0.00	0.00%
1/ To account for decrease in standby rate.		

Resale customers of the Company include Standard Gas Co., Consumers Gas Utility Co., Cardinal Natural Gas Company - Northern Division (Lumberport), Mountaineer Gas Co., Southern Public Service Co., Cardinal Natural Gas Company - Northern Division (Blacksville), and Peoples Gas WV LLC.

The decreases shown are based on averages of all customers in the indicated classes. Each class may receive a decrease greater or less than stated here. Individual customers may receive decreases that are greater or less than average. Furthermore, the requested decreased rates and charges are only a proposal and are subject to change (increase or decrease) by the Public Service Commission in its review of this filing. Any increase or decrease 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 Morgantown office of the Company, 781 Chestnut Ridge Road, Suite 100, Morgantown, West Virginia.

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 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 this publication unless otherwise modified by Commission order. Failure to timely intervene can affect your rights to protest any rate increases or 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 the Executive Secretary, Public Service Commission of West Virginia, Post Office Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323, with copies to Daniel M. Taylor, Jr., Hope Gas, Inc., 781 Chestnut Ridge Road, Suite 100, Morgantown, WV 26505 and Kurt L. Krieger, Post Office Box 1588, Charleston, WV 25326-1588. 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, Post Office Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323.

NOTICE TO MON POWER CUSTOMERS WITH RIGHTS-OF-WAY ACROSS THEIR PROPERTY

Mon Power has contracted to maintain portions of its rights-of-way with an aerial saw consisting of approximately ten 24-inch rotary blades powered by a motor and suspended on a vertical boom beneath a helicopter. This maintenance method allows for the quick, safe, and efficient trimming of trees along our transmission lines. The aerial saw will be operating March through October 2023 in the following counties in West Virginia:

Randolph and Tucker Counties (TMU-156 Loughs Lane-William 138 kv)
Beginning at the William Substation off of US Rt 219 north of Thomas, WV in Tucker County and proceeding in a southwesterly direction crossing US Rt 219, CR 1/8 Pierce Benbush Rd, US Rt 219, Luke Mullenax Rd, Mackeyville Rd, SR 72 Dry Fork Rd and the Black Fork River near Hambleton, WV. From there the line taps and runs north to the Parsons Substation at Parsons, WV. From the tap structure the main line continues in a westerly direction crossing CR 41 Government Rd, Shavers Fork, US Rt 219, and the Randolph-Tucker County line. Continuing in Randolph County in a southerly direction crossing CR 2 Thornhill Ln, CR 42 A St, CR 1/2 Wilmoth Run, CR 3 Springstone Rd, Gilman Rd, CR 7 Triplet Run Rd, CR 1 Leading Creek Rd, US Rt 219, CR 11 Laurel Mountain Rd, Hedrick Hollow, CR 14 Gum Rd, US Rt 250, SR 33, SR 92, the Tygart Valley River, and terminating at the Loughs Lane Substation west of Elkins, WV.

For more information about Mon Power’s Transmission Aerial Saw Program, call 1-800-686-0022. When contacting, please alert our Representatives that your call is pertaining to our Transmission Aerial Saw Program.



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Mon Power has contracted to maintain portions of its rights-of-way with an aerial saw consisting of approximately ten 24-inch rotary blades powered by a motor and suspended on a vertical boom beneath a helicopter. This maintenance method allows for the quick, safe, and efficient trimming of trees along our transmission lines. The aerial saw will be operating March through October 2023 in the following county in West Virginia:

Tucker County (TMU-130 Blackwater-William 69 kV)

Beginning at the William Substation off of US Rt 219 north of Thomas, WV and proceeding in a southerly direction crossing SR 90, Davis Rd, Landfill Rd, SR 32 Appalachian Hwy, CR 29 Pendleton Run Rd, and Blackwater Falls Rd, terminating at the Blackwater Substation in Davis, WV.

For more information about Mon Power's Transmission Aerial Saw Program, call 1-800-686-0022. When contacting, please alert our Representatives that your call is pertaining to our Transmission Aerial Saw Program.



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LEGAL

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CONVEYANCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PROPERTY (Hendricks United Methodist Church)

NOTICE is hereby given that the Board of Trustees of the West Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church will, on or after August 23, 2023 QUITCLAIM, GRANT and CONVEY to the Trustees of Hendricks United Methodist Church all of their right, title and interest in and to that certain lot or parcel of real estate situate, lying and being in Hendricks Corp. District, Tucker County, West Virginia, described as follows:

PARCEL ONE

BEGINNING at a stake along Main Street a corner of A. L. Minears lot, thence N. 20 E. 112 feet to a stake, thence S. 70 E. 43 feet to a stake corner of T. L. Thomas lot thence with the line of said lot S. 20 W. 112 feet to a stake along Main Street; thence with said street S. 70 W. 43 feet to the place of beginning.

AND BEING the same property conveyed to Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church from Nealie Sheridan by Deed dated April 21, 1892 and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Tucker County, West Virginia in Deed Book 12, at Page 102, reference to which is hereby made.

PARCEL TWO

BEGINNING at the northwesterly corner of the lot of the party of the first part upon which the house occupied by its agent stands sixty-seven feet from the Westerly line of an alley of said Town of Hendricks and running thence in a Westerly direction by a continuation of the Northerly line of said lot, being a continuation of the Southerly line of a street in said Town, forty feet; thence 4 at right angles to said line in a Southerly direction, parallel to and forty feet distant from, the Westerly line on the line upon which the agent's line stands, sixty feet; thence at right angles to last line in an Easterly direction, forty feet to the Westerly line of said agent's house lot, thence with said Westerly line in a Northerly direction sixty feet to the beginning containing 2400 square feet.

AND BEING the same property conveyed to Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Hendricks from West Virginia Central and Pittsburg Railway Company by Deed dated May 26, 1900 and recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Deed Book 19, at Page 159. By Deed dated August 1, 1955 and recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office indeed Book 67, at Page 92, Western Maryland Railway Company and West Virginia Central and Pittsburg Railway Company modified the restrictive provision for reversion as contained in the aforesaid Deed dated May 26, 1900, by reconveying said parcel to Trustees for the Local Congregation of the Methodist Church of Hendricks, without said restrictive reversion provision.

PARCEL THREE

ONE LOT, tract or parcel of land, lying and being in the town of Hendricks, District of Black Fork, County of Tucker and State of West Virginia, known and numbered as lot No. 5 of the C. D. Gillespie addition to the town of Hendricks's.

And being the same property conveyed to Trustees of the M. E. Parsonage of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Hendricks, West Virginia, by Deed dated May 21, 1911 and recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Deed Book 33, at Page 47.

PARCEL FOUR

BEGINNING for the same at beginning of the land described in the deed from the West Virginia Central and Pittsburg Railway Company to W. S. Michael et al, trustees, dated the 26th day of May, 1900 and recorded among the land records of Tucker County in Deed Book No: 19 and at Page No: 159, and running thence binding on the southeastern outline of said land described in said deed and continuing the same direction southwesterly in all 156 feet, thence southeasterly at right angles to said last described line 67 feet to the southeastmost outline of the land belonging to western Maryland Railway Company, 67 feet to the place of beginning, containing 2400 of an acre, more or less.

And being the same property conveyed to Hendricks United Methodist Church by Deed dated March 17, 1986 and recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Deed Book 127, at Page 520.

Said Hendricks United Methodist Church was declared closed effective on July 1, 2023 by a majority of the District Superintendents of the West Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. Dated the 9th day of August, 2023.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE WEST VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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DEADLINE 3PM FRIDAY

Mac Warner Delivers letter from Secretaries of State for Congressional Help to Prevent Potential Election Interference

Washington, D.C. – WV Secretary of State Mac Warner continues to be a national leader in election security while ensuring that the federal government does not improperly impact the results of the upcoming 2024 presidential election.

During the recent National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) conference held in Washington, D.C., Secretary Warner met with House Judiciary Chairman Jim Jordan to discuss growing concerns that former federal agency officials lent their name and titles to collude with the Joe Biden campaign in 2020 in an effort against then-President Donald Trump. Jordan's committee investigation has revealed the FBI withheld important information from the public that had a major impact on public opinion while other federal officials colluded with social media organizations to weaken the impact of breaking news regarding candidates in the race. In addition to the House Judiciary Committee investigation, there is a Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government.

Warner and Arkansas Secretary of State John Thurston presented Jordan with a letter from several Sec-

retaries of State who are deeply concerned over the report's findings released by Chairman Jordan's Judiciary Committee. A copy of the letter can be found HERE.

The letter from states' chief election officials calls for Congress to continue their investigation and hold leaders of the federal agencies involved accountable for any improper activity. "The full weight of the U.S. government should be used to ensure free and fair elections in the future," the letter said. "To cast informed ballots, Americans need transparency into actions by former and perhaps current federal government officials to weaponize false information for political purposes. Congress should hold perpetrators accountable," the letter continued.

Congressman Jordan led his Committee and Subcommittee through a series of recent public hearings uncovering a number of misleading activities by former federal officials, the FBI, and current U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken during the 2020 election cycle. Those hearings included testimony from a number of high-profile witnesses who are federal government employees.

Last week, Jordan released a report from the Committee on the Judiciary that concluded that federal agencies did, in fact, improperly warn social media companies that a pending release of information was a "hack and leak" operation when they knew that the information was legitimately in the possession of the FBI.

The report also stated that the federal agencies suppressed information sharing with the American public to intentionally influence the outcome of the election favoring Biden. The report cites evidence from a recent court action, "[a]s the federal court in Missouri v. Biden explained in damning language, the FBI's actions prevented millions of Americans from having a clear understanding about a salient issue in the 2020 presidential election."

"We expect and prepare for election interference and disinformation from foreign governments but federal agencies meddling in our elections will never be tolerated," Secretary Warner told Congressman Jordan. "Americans expect impartiality from our own government. We expect nothing less than secure, fair, and transparent elections," Warner said.

2023 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree Selected from Greenbrier Ranger District of Monongahela National Forest

The staff of Monongahela National Forest is excited to announce that a 63-foot Norway spruce from the Greenbrier Ranger District has been selected to serve as the 2023 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree this holiday season.

The tree was selected by Jim Kaufmann, director of the Capitol Grounds for the Architect of the Capitol, and is one of eight candidate trees that he personally visited on the forest recently.

"Selecting a tree to adorn the west lawn of the U.S. Capitol comes with very specific requirements," said Kaufmann. "Thanks to the pre-planning of Monongahela National Forest staff, we were able to select a very traditional and graceful Norway spruce to represent Monongahela National Forest and wild and wonderful West Virginia at the U.S. Capitol during the holidays this winter."

The People's Tree will be harvested from the Greenbrier Ranger District, which was home to the very first Christmas tree provided from the Forest Service to the U.S. Capitol in 1970, also a Norway spruce. A red spruce was provided from the Gauley Ranger District in 1976.

"It's a great honor for our district to once again provide the People's Tree,"

said Jack Tribble, district ranger for the Greenbrier Ranger District. "Our staff is excited to be a part of the project, including the harvest and packaging of the tree, to ensure it has a safe trip to Washington, DC, this fall."

The tree will be harvested in early November before making its journey through communities in West Virginia before heading to Washington, DC, arriving at the U.S. Capitol in late November. The precise location of the tree is confidential until the harvest in early November.

The Architect of the Capitol's team will decorate the tree with thousands of handcrafted ornaments from the people of West Virginia. The tree will be lit sometime after Thanksgiving during a ceremony with the speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, part of a long-held tradition.

Non-profit project partner Choose Outdoors, along with presenting sponsor 84 Lumber and a host of partners, sponsors, and volunteers, are contributing funding and in-kind support of this project and its theme, Endlessly Wild and Wonderful.

"We are grateful for our shared partnerships and engaged community partners and look forward to representing them on

a national stage in D.C. with this locally grown Norway spruce, which will make the perfect U.S. Capitol Christmas tree," said Shawn Cochran, forest supervisor for Monongahela National Forest.

Norway spruce are an introduced species in West Virginia and have become naturalized across the state. These trees are often raised and sold on Christmas tree farms.

The Forest Service first undertook large scale reforestation projects in Monongahela National Forest starting in 1925, just five years after the forest was established. Norway spruce were often planted, along with other non-native and native species, as they were known for



their rapid growth rate. More recently, the forest service has worked closely with partners such as The Nature Conservancy, Green Forests Work, and the Central Appalachian Spruce Restoration Initiative to restore native red spruce ecosystems across the national forest.

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In Tucker County, local children will go cold this winter without your help.

Just what is The Parsons Advocate's WARM THE CHILDREN FUND?

The Parsons Advocate's **WARM THE CHILDREN FUND** is neighbors helping neighbors in Tucker County. The Parsons Advocate is asking readers to donate to the fund and the proceeds will be used to buy new warm winter clothing for local children. There are no administrative fees. All the money donated is used to buy new clothing.

How will the children's clothing be purchased?

The Advocate's **WARM THE CHILDREN** coordinator has made arrangements with a local store and assigns volunteer shoppers to take the children and their parents shopping. Shoppers will be people like you, anyone in the community willing to help by donating a little of their time to this worthwhile cause.

CLIP & MAIL

Enclosed is my donation to the **WARM THE CHILDREN FUND**. Make checks payable to **WARM THE CHILDREN FUND**.

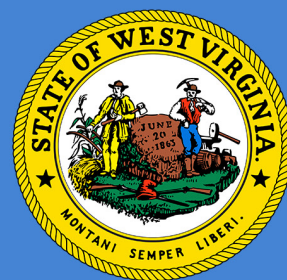
Please check if you do not want your name published on the donor list.

Name: _____

Address: _____

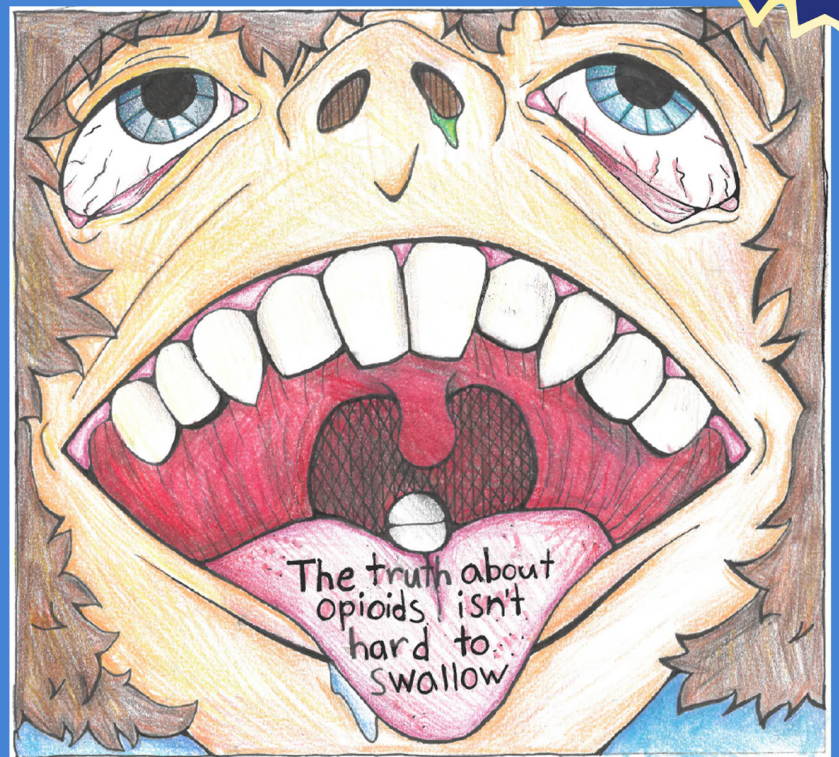
MAIL TO: **WARM THE CHILDREN FUND**
c/o The Parsons Advocate
P.O. Box 345, Parsons, WV 26287

or drop off at the Advocate's office at 219 Central Ave., Parsons, WV



Office of the West Virginia Attorney General

Youth Opioid Awareness PSA Contest



Statewide Winner

Kiley Ford
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