

The Parsons Advocate

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF TUCKER COUNTY SINCE 1896

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Sponaugle Accepts Plea Agreement

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

A Plea Agreement has been accepted by Kandice Sponaugle. Sponaugle appeared before Judge Courrier in District Court accompanied by her attorney Morris Davis. Tucker County Prosecuting Attorney Savannah Hull Wilkins represented the State in the matter.

Wilkins had sent the defense a plea agreement. In the agreement, Sponaugle would plead guilty to the following misdemeanor charges: three counts of possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) and one charge of fraudulent schemes (check written on a closed account). The agreement did not outline a recommended sentence which meant it would be up to Judge Courrier's discretion. "It was silent as to what her sentence was," Wilkins said.

Sponaugle was sworn in to enter her guilty plea. Judge Courrier advised her of her rights and outlined the differences between pleading guilty to the agreement and her rights should she go to trial. When asked if she wished to enter a guilty plea to the agreement, Sponaugle nodded as well as gave verbal confirmation to the agreement. Sponaugle also indicated to the court that she fully understood the evi-

dence of the case and the charges, as well as indicating that she wished to proceed with her plea.

Attorney Davis addressed the court that his client has made great strides in turning her life around, as well as outlined his client's cooperation with court requests. Wilkins acknowledged Sponaugle's cooperation with the court. "She's completed what's asked of her," Wilkins said.

Davis said that the court has a history with his client, but asserted that Sponaugle has turned her life around. "I know the court has a long history with Ms. Sponaugle," Davis said. "But she has turned it around 180 degrees."

Judge Courrier said he was pleased to hear that Sponaugle was doing well. "I'm certainly glad things are going well for Miss Sponaugle," Judge Courrier said.

Both the defense and prosecution agreed and recommended that Sponaugle be sentenced to time served in the case. Judge Courrier sentenced Sponaugle to credit for time served, assessment of court cost, as well as no further suspension or punishment. "I will go with the recommendation," Judge Courrier said.

The plea agreement effectively ended the case that day. Sponaugle's case has been in the courts since 2020.



Courney Barb addressed the City of Parsons during the public comment session of the City's regular City Council meeting. Barb had addressed the Council the previous meeting in regards to the suspension of her son from the City's gym.

Barb Addresses City of Parsons

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Courtney Barb appeared before the City of Parsons City Council for the second meeting in row following the suspension of her son from the Fitness 24 Center ran by the City. Barb's follow-up address to the City was a response to her view that she had been lied to and deceived by representatives of the City. "I was obviously in here at the last meeting and I don't like being lied to and I don't feel this is a place we come to and get lied to," Barb said. "I don't like being told that I am wrong when I bring up a certain order of events. If you don't know, you probably shouldn't say you're wrong because I wasn't wrong."

Barb maintained that she was correct in her timeline of events. "When I brought up the timeline of how these member things happened with the parks and rec, it happened exactly the way that I said," Barb said. "I double checked that. You shouldn't tell people they are wrong if you don't know."

Barb also said that the meeting minutes from the Parks and Rec Committee showed that specific people were being discussed in executive session and read from the minutes during the meeting. "Specific people are, they were talked about in these meetings," Barb said. "I was told by the President that that's not true. That they

don't discuss specific people, however, the minutes read that an executive session happened and a member's behavior was discussed and the solution was that Mistee would keep an eye on it. So, unless you are discussing specific people, how would you know who to keep an eye on?"

Barb said she had requested information on other City Committees, as well. According to Barb, she only received what she termed "generic" agendas from her request regarding the Committee for the Benefit of the Citizens of Parsons account. "After that, I thought we have the Benefit of the Citizens of Parsons. It's a whole committee," Barb said. "That should follow the same guidelines as council does. They should have meetings, they should have agendas, they should have minutes."

Barb told the Council that she is looking into matters on behalf of the children of Parsons. "I'm just looking into that sort of thing," Barb said. "Like how and who because kids are citizens, too and not just the little kids, the older kids are, as well."

Barb accused the Council of not spending money on the older children of Parsons as well as "frivolous spending." "I think maybe aside from the drainage at the ball field, there was maybe \$2500 given to kids who are older than the age of five, I mean for kids over the age of five," Barb said. "And not really much else for older chil-

See BARB page 2



Mike Rosenau addressed the City of Parsons in response to the City's consideration of redesign of the City seal. Rosenau spoke to the City Council as a concerned citizen of the City.

Rosenau Addresses Parsons City Council

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

During the public comment portion of the meeting of the Parsons City Council, Mike Rosenau addressed the council. Rosenau said he was speaking not in his capacity of President of the Tucker County Commission, but as a private citizen of the City of Parsons to address the matter of the redesign of the seal that arose at the council's previous meeting.

"I'm here as a resident of the City of Parsons," Rosenau said. "I've lived in Parsons for 65 years. I'm not here as a County Commissioner. I want to make that clear to everybody."

"Since my Dad's name was brought up at the last City Council meeting, I wanted to clarify a couple of things."

"I've done hours of research in the last week concerning this seal" Rosenau said. "And the reason I'm doing it is because Dad's name was mentioned."

Rosenau informed the Council that the seal in debate was accepted as a new design in 2014 and supplied the Council members with a copy of a newspaper article from October 29, 2014 that addressed the new City seal designed by city employee Jason Myers. "This was 2014," Rosenau said. "My Dad died in 2009. So, Dad did not sit under this seal. I just want to make that clear."

Mayor Bruce Kolsun acknowledged that he made an incorrect statement regarding former Mayor Bill Rosenau, Mike Rosenau father, and the seal at the previous meeting. "I misspoke," Kolsun said. "I told you that when I spoke to you on the phone. I misspoke and I apologize to you for that."

Rosenau asked the Council if Jason Myers was still employed by the City. Auvil said that Myers was. Rosenau sug-

gested that if the City decides to redesign the seal in the future, that they consider utilizing Myers again. "So, Jason is the one that designed this seal," Rosenau said. "So, if you decide to change your seal, I would go to the man that designed your last one. He's still an employee here."

Rosenau also suggested that if the seal were to be redesigned in the future that stationary could be instantly updated digitally since most letterhead isn't mass printed like it was before digital technology and that any motions concerning the seal could include language that would update the seal on equipment as that equipment is replaced in years to come.

"That is the only thing that I wanted to make sure that you knew," Rosenau said, "that Dad didn't sit under the current seal, the seal of the City of Parsons is you all's decision. It's not mine."

Rosenau also addressed an issue he had with a question he said was brought to him concerning the look of the municipal building that bears his father's name as being "not very pretty." "Here's the thing, I don't think it's very funny," Rosenau said. "My Dad signed off on every architectural plan, as well as the council did at that time. So, if I took offense at anything, I took offense at that because he was proud of this building."

Rosenau went on to say that he remembered his father sitting up at night at the kitchen table working on grants to fund the building and furniture within. "He worked for grant after grant after grant at our kitchen table up Smoke Hollow," Rosenau said. "I saw him pour over documents and documents."

Rosenau said he considers the building to be a "great addition to our town." "So as far as I'm concerned, I think it's is a great addition to our town," Rosenau said.

Agenda Debate Causes Second Motion to Approve at Parsons City Council

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

The City of Parsons required a second motion to approve the agenda at the December 5th City Council meeting. Concerns regarding the contents of the agenda were raised that resulted in a failed first vote to approve the agenda and the subsequent split vote to augment the agenda to include everything but three disputed items. The second vote approved an amended agenda with a four to two vote.

Council Member Tim Turner raised objection to three items on the agenda citing his belief that they were incorrectly written and therefore could not be included on the agenda. "There's a problem with our agenda," Turner said. "Under five, 'Unfinished Business,' we talked about it at the last meeting, the third, fourth and fifth agenda items are not presented correctly. When we do the agenda, it has to say specifically what you are doing. It cannot have a whole list of things to choose from."

Turner objected to the language in agenda items involving ongoing civic improvement projects spearheaded by Thrasher. The agenda items that were stricken were as follows:

*Consider and act upon any and all issues pertaining to the Parsons Emergency Water Preparedness and Resiliency Project including pay requisitions, change orders, adjustments to and/or recom-

mendations from all professional services affiliated with said Project, including any and all professional services affiliated with said Project, including any and all changes and/or actions, signing of documents, necessary to continue said Project

*Consider and act upon any and all issues pertaining to the Sewer System Improvements Project including pay requisitions, change orders, adjustments to and/or recommendations from all professional services affiliated with said Project, including any and all changes and/or actions, signing of documents, necessary to continue said Project

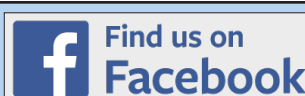
*Consider and act upon any and all issues pertaining to the Water System Improvements Project including pay requisitions, change orders, adjustments to and/or recommendations from all professional services affiliated with said Project, including any and all changes and/or actions, signing of documents, necessary to continue said Project

Mayor Bruce Kolsun and Council Member Tim Auvil disputed the claim that the items were incorrectly written. "I had that written that way," Auvil said. "I asked Aggie to put that on the agenda for these particular items because these are major projects and this I believe covers all the bases of what needs covered because there are times when it might just be a day or so prior to a meeting that something happens with one of these projects."

See CITY COUNCIL page 2



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News of Record

The following criminal complaint has been filed in the Tucker County Magistrate Office:

- **Stephen James Plum**, of Hambleton, has been charged with one count of Domestic Battery. According to the complaint, Trooper G.P. Hahn was dispatched to a call of a domestic at 24 7th St in Hendricks. He arrived on scene and made contact with the victim. She stated that the accused had entered the residence and they had gotten into an argument over a dog in the residence. She stated that the accused threatened the dog with a firearm which he had on his person. She stated that she attempted to take the firearm so the accused wouldn't hurt the animal. She stated that the accused allegedly struck her in the face area and grabbed her by the neck before leaving the residence. The officer also spoke with her child who stated the accused had grabbed his mother's neck. Hahn observed her face and neck area and located a red mark on the right side of her neck.
- She was advised of the DVPO process.
- All individuals are presumed innocent until proven otherwise in a court of law.
- **Ronald William Carr**, of Parsons, has been charged with Grand Larceny. The complaint

states that on Wednesday, Oct. 25, Sheriff J.E. Kopec obtained a four page handwritten statement from the victim, Greg Cantrell, summarizing that the suspect, Ronald William Carr, stole multiple items and firearms from him. Carr's mode of operation was stealing the items from the victim's home then pawning some of the more valuable items and guns at two different pawn shops in Elkins.

- Carr was able to steal firearms and tools from the victim's home because he was allowed to live at the house due to him falling upon hard times and the victim feeling sympathy for him. The suspect is married to the victim's daughter. The first transaction where the suspect stole and pawned an item was Nov. 22, 2022 and the last occurred on Sept. 13, 2023 according to pawn transaction records.
- On Oct. 24 Carr was arrested for an unrelated crime in the Brooklyn Heights area. He is living at a public National Forest campsite in a tent and homemade Teepee due to being kicked out of the victim's home after it was suspected he had allegedly stolen numerous items from the home. Coincidental to the arrest at the campsite, Carr left behind a dog in his wife's vehicle which is registered only in her name.

Cantrell was notified about some items left at the campsite that were possibly his along with the car. Cantrell took possession of the car and the dog due to it being his grandchild's dog.

- The next day, Oct. 25, Cantrell called Kopec and informed he had found four pawn tickets folded up in the glove box of the vehicle, two of which were for his firearms that had been stolen. The other two tickets were from stealing firearms from a separate victim. That case is currently under investigation by the Parsons Detachment of the West Virginia State Police. Cantrell handed the tickets over to Kopec and a handwritten statement was obtained officially filing a formal complaint.
- Kopec contacted all the local pawn shops and it was discovered that Carr had used two pawn shops, B&J Pawn and Phillips and Sons Pawn both of Elkins, to unload stolen firearms and tools belonging to the victim. It should be noted that Cantrell's daughter was not present nor did she sign for any of the stolen items.
- Some of the items that were stolen and pawned include a brand new Makita jig saw (recovered), an Irwin Hanson tap and die set (not recovered), a Taurus semi auto pistol (not recovered), Savage bolt Action Rifle .223 model Axis

(recovered), a Savage semi-auto rifle 17HMR model A17 (not recovered), a Stihl FSA model 56 battery powered weed eater with charger and a leaf blower (not recovered), a Milwaukee M18 right angle 1/2 drill (recovered), a Milwaukee M12 oscillating tool (not recovered). The total value of the stolen property is \$2,720.

- In the victim's statement he clearly states that he never let Carr have any of the stolen property nor did he give him permission to use any of the items mentioned in this complaint. An attempt was made to interview Carr but he did not return or answer the phone call.

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

- Mary Kay Harrison, Dry Fork District, Unit 116 Deerfield Village Condo to Herald F. Bennett and Deborah H. Bennett, \$350,000.
- David Allen Poling, Parsons Corporation, Lot 130 and 1/2 Lot 131 Yellow Spruce Street to Tracy L. Mullenex, \$148,000.
- Jaclyn L. Nichols, Jeffrey D. Hebb, Perry D. Hebb and Louise Y. Hebb, Fairfax District, .65 acres more or less to Perry D. Hebb and Louise Y. Hebb, \$57,000.

Barb

Cont. From Front Page 1

dren. There's a lot of frivolous spending."

Barb also questioned the Council's use of executive sessions and alleged that the Council was using the privilege to exclude public scrutiny. "You can't use executive sessions to keep things a secret," Barb said. "The point of an executive session is NOT to thwart public criticism. People should know. At the last meeting I was at, there was a possible litigation. For what? What is it? When there's a land acquisition, what land and for what reason? We don't really hear about it until after the executive session and then it's voted on immediately. There's no time for public to speak about anything. We don't know what's going on until after its set-in stone and that's not really how it's supposed to work."

Council Member James Humphrey, Jr. clarified a question that Barb asked regarding who sits on the City boards. The question was raised by Barb in regards to the

recently vacated seat on the Parks and Rec board. Barb had requested clarification of how her residence is outside the City limits was designated since her mail is delivered within the City of Parsons and she owns a business inside the city. "Do we have any boards where there's people outside the City limits on?" Humphrey said.

Council Member Melissa Jones responded that the Fire Fee Committee has members who are business owners within the City among its members. "But there is a board that has business owners on it," Jones said. "And that's to deal with the Fire Department. The Fire Fee Committee."

Acting Recorder Tim Auvil addressed some of the issues Barb raised in her comments to the Council. Among the clarifications was the issue of the executive session from the last meeting that regarded the possible litigation and whether her son's issue had been discussed. "I do want to clarify a couple of things that really do need clarified,"

Auvil said. "We did not discuss your issues in executive session. That was stated that that was what happened and it did not. This was on a client-attorney issue and it had nothing to do with that issue whatsoever."

Barb also questioned how the public is informed of Council and Committee meetings. The Council responded that all meetings are posted on the door of City Hall and are open to the public. Barb said she felt that the information would be better distributed to the public if posted online as well. "We can post it on the doors, guys, but we can post it online," Barb said.

City Council

Cont. From Front Page 1

Turner also said that the matter had been addressed by City Attorney Tim Stranko at the previous meeting. Council Members Melissa Jones and James Humphrey, Jr. also agreed that the matter had been addressed by the attorney previously. Stranko was unable to attend the meeting due to a prior engagement, according to City Administrator Agnes Arnold. "And the attorney addressed that at the last meeting," Turner said. "And it is exactly what you are going to address in the meetings. So that when the public picks it up, they'll know exactly what is going to be acted upon."

Auvil said he felt that the items needed placed on the agenda due to the fact that time sensitive matters often arise when a project is under the construction phase. Turner stated that there were other ways to approach the matter should something arise needing immediate attention. There was a debate over a perception by Auvil that it would involve an emergency session of the Council. Turner said that the matter could be taken up by consensus vote with Arnold contacting each member individually for tentative approval with the matter being formally addressed at the following meeting. Jones said that should Auvil feel the items need a permanent placement on the agenda, the attorney said it could be addressed under Committee Reports.

The objection raised by Turner resulted in a debate among the council that resulted in a two to four vote to approve the agenda with Jones stating that after the discussion, she could not vote for the matter, a sentiment that was echoed by Humphrey and Council Member Kathy DiBacco. Council Members Tim Auvil and David Greenleaf, Sr. were the only members to vote for approval of the agenda as presented. Turner made a further motion to only approve the agenda if the three disputed items were stricken from the agenda. The subsequent vote was passed four to two with Auvil and Greenleaf voting against the motion.

The following statement on the Open Governmental Proceedings Act requirements was submitted to The Par-

sons Advocate by Parsons Mayor Bruce Kolsun and City Attorney Tim Stranko and are attributable to them exclusively.

OGPA Agenda Requirements

The Open Governmental Proceedings Act (W.Va. Code 6-9A-1, et seq.) requires that a meeting agenda be made available prior to meetings of a quorum of the governing body. While the Act does not establish how items must be listed on a meeting agenda, the Ethics Commission's Committee on Open Governmental Proceedings has provided guidance on the required contents of an agenda.

To comply with the Act, language in the agenda must be sufficient to make the public aware of specific matters to be dealt with by the governing body. While generic terms such as "Old Business" or "New Business" or "Personnel Matters" may be used to categorize matters listed in the agenda, these are insufficient to provide notice of specific matters to be addressed by the body. Planned acts by the body must be listed on the agenda with specificity and detail adequate to provide the public and media useful notice of the Council deliberations and its prospective/contemplated action.

Invoices subject to payment approval by Council (over administrative approval threshold) may be listed under a general heading of "Approval of Invoices" if a list of the invoices to be considered by Council is available for public review prior to the meeting and attached to the meeting minutes.

The December 5 Council agenda complies with these guidelines, in that each of the five "Unfinished Business" entries and nine "New Business" entries are adequate to provide sufficient notice to the public of the contemplated acts by Council. While more detail may be included regarding project pay applications and committee appointments, the listed entries provide useful notice of Council action to be contemplated during the meeting.

Reference: Ethics Commission AO 2001-26, AO 2006-14, AO 2012-04

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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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Blackwater Chapter NSDAR donates children's books



Members of Blackwater Chapter NSDAR recently donated children's books, infant supplies, and over 300 articles of Birth to 3- aged clothing to the Tucker County Family Support Center Pantry. L to R: Lindsay Hebb, Pantry Coordinator, Daryla Rapp, Chapter Vice Regent, Cathy Hebb, Chapter Regent.

Parsons Lions Club holds Christmas dinner



Parsons Lions Club held their Christmas dinner at B & J's Family Diner. The Club hosted the District Governor (DG), Kermit Hawley and his wife Judy. DG Kermit talked to the members and their guests about the importance of getting involved

and supporting the community and the county. Some fun with Christmas word games and lots of laughs, was enjoyed by all. DG Kermit, presented two awards. The Melvin Jones Fellow, the highest award in the Lions Organization was

presented to Keith Lipscomb for his dedicated Humanitarian Services Lions Club International Foundation.

The Leonard Jarrett award was presented to Paul Nestor, by the club, in sincere appreciation of his distinguished service for Sight and Hearing, WV Sight Conservation Foundation Inc. 2023.

Parsons Lions club welcomes new members. Contact any member for more information.

When you become a Lion, you become part of a global network of volunteers working together to make a difference. Here are just a few of the great benefits you can expect.

OBITUARIES

Beardean Jane Moats Evans



Beardean Jane Moats Evans, 88, of the Porterwood Community, passed from this life Monday, December 11, 2023, at Cortland Acres Nursing Home. She had been in declining health and was under the care of WV Caring.

Beardean was born Monday, March 18, 1935, in Rowlesburg, the daughter of the late Lloyd Moats and Mary Jane Loughry Moats. On January 23, 1957, at Red House, MD, she married Ernest Wilmer "Sonny" Evans, Sr., who preceded her in death on September 2, 2022. They had celebrated sixty-seven years of marriage.

Left to cherish Beardean's memory 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, eight grandchildren, sixteen great-grandchildren, a brother, Carl Todd Moats and wife, Wanda, several nieces and nephews, special friends and caregiver, Paul and Marlene Bright.

Preceding Beardean in death besides her parents and husband, were four children, Wilda, Elizabeth, Robert and Ernestine, six brothers, Jack, Ray, Paul, Franklin (Bink), Jim and Harold Moats, four sis-

ters, Margie Moats, Gladys Moats, Wilma Stafford, and Lavada (Turk) Moats.

Beardean graduated Rowlesburg High School. She had worked for White Gables Nursing Home, Carl's Motel, Family Health, Tucker County Senior Center, and had retired as a janitor from the Tucker County Board of Education. Beardean loved gardening, watching birds and growing flowers.

Visitation was held at Hostetler Funeral Home on Thursday, December 14, 2023, from 4 until 6 p.m., the funeral hour. Beardean's request for cremation was then honored. The Hostetler Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements for Beardean Jane Moats Evans. Send online condolences to the family at www.hostetlerfuneral-home.com.

David Michael Wilfong



David Michael Wilfong, age 74 years, a resident of Parsons, WV, departed this life Sunday, December 10, 2023, at Davis Medical Center at Elkins, WV. Death was unexpected.

He was born Tuesday, January 18, 1949, at Elkins, WV, a son of the late Blenice Blair "Fluke" Wilfong and Lula Jane Strawderman Wilfong. On October 16, 1999, at Virginia, he was married to the former Lisa Mauzy, who survives.

Also surviving are one stepson, W. Brad Stevens of Parsons; one brother, Stephen "Craig" Wilfong and wife Sheila of Parsons; one sister, Kathie Dellinger of Mt. Jackson, VA; and several nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death are three brothers, Forrest Blair "Sonny" Wilfong, Scotty L. Wilfong and Keith "Fluke" Wilfong;

and one sister, Mary Lou O'Dell.

He was a graduate of Parsons High School with the class of 1968. He was a Veteran of the United States Army, serving during the Vietnam War. He had worked at the Lohr & Barb Funeral Home for several years and retired from the Labors Union Local #984 of Clarksburg, WV, during 2019. He enjoyed hunting and was an avid sports fan, especially watching

WVU Football and Basketball. David loved his dogs, Maddy and Lucy, and he had a kind heart and a wonderful sense of humor.

The family received friends at the Lohr & Barb Funeral Home on Saturday from 5 to 7 p.m. Final rites were conducted at the funeral home on Sunday, December 17, 2023, at 2 p.m. The Rev. Gregory Smith officiated and interment followed at the Parsons City Cemetery at Parsons, WV, where the WV Army Honor Guard, the Tygart Valley Post #3647 Veterans of Foreign War and the Tucker County Veterans Association conducted full military honors. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements for David Michael Wilfong. Condolences may be expressed to the family at; www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com.

Joseph Daniel Henry, Jr.

Joseph Daniel Henry Jr. passed away on Dec. 7, 2023. He was born on March 29, 1941 in Harrisonburg, Va. to Joseph and Dorothy Henry. Joseph Jr. grew up in Berkeley Springs, WV, and attended West Virginia University where he majored in chemical engineering. Upon graduation, he took a job with the Exxon Corporation in New Jersey. Following the advice of mentors at Exxon, he decided to

pursue a PhD in chemical engineering at the University of Michigan. He completed his PhD in shortest time of any of the graduates in the history of the program. He went on to become an expert in the area of chemical separation processes. Following the completion of his PhD, Dr. Henry went to work for Continental Oil in Ponca City, Oklahoma.

After deciding to seek a career in academia, Joseph obtained a faculty position at West Virginia University where he went on to become chairman of chemical engineering. He subsequently left WVU to take a position as chair of the Department of Chemical Engineering and Material Sciences at Arizona State University. The department experienced significant growth during his tenure as chairman. Dr. Henry followed his work at ASU by pursuing public

policy research at Carnegie Mellon University. His career in chemical engineering culminated when he was appointed as one of the chairs of the Gordon Research Conference.

Dr. Henry retired from chemical engineering in 2003 and moved to Canaan Valley, where he embarked on a second career in landscape photography. He won a regional photography competition sponsored by the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh, and the museum put on an exhibition of his photography in 2005. Since then, Joseph won third place in a national photography competition of National Natural Landmarks, and had one of his prints featured in a European photography journal. He is survived by his wife Dana Nugent, his son, Andrew Henry, and his niece Marge Wachorn.

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JOY AND PEACE

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As we celebrate the birth of the Child King, let us pray for wisdom, understanding and love among all nations. A blessed, Merry Christmas to all

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Parsons, WV • 304-478-2400

Stevens' Florist
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Thank You

Thank you for your support and kindness. Thank you for all the flowers and cards sent to us and for attending Mother's funeral, it meant so much for us to see you there. We appreciate your support during this difficult time in our lives.

Thanks to Julie Davis for the beautiful sermon and to all the pall bearers. A special thank you to the First United Methodist Ladies for the wonderful dinner made for us.

*Thank You,
Virginia Nestor Family*

SENIOR NEWS

Many of you have heard rumors about the Tucker County Senior Center. We are currently undergoing a reorganization. We'd like to remind the community of some of the services we offer.

The Medicare Waiver program allows eligible individuals to receive care in their homes verses nursing home placement.

Our Lighthouse service is for people who are not Medicaid eligible age 60 and over. These services are for those who require personal care such as grooming, bathing, dressing, toileting, ambulation assistance, nutrition, and light housekeeping. This is an income-based program.

The Personal Care program services clients 18 and over that are Medicaid eligible. These clients must be referred by a physician and need personal care. They may also be provided light housekeeping, and essential errands. Their plan of care is developed by our RN based on the doctor's order.

Our FAIR (Family Alzheimer's In-Home Respite) provides respite for caregivers of persons with a dementia diagnosis. The program can provide up to 15 hours of respite care per week. This is also income-based.

The Veterans In-Home Care (VA) is provided to those whom the doctor has determined are eligible. An RN does

assessment and sets up a Personal Care Program.

We also offer Private Pay for those who do not qualify for any other programs.

Housekeeping can be provided for 2 hours per week to those over 60.

Home-delivered meals are available for those eligible under the Older Americans Act Program guidelines. There is currently a Wait List.

We also have Ensure and Ensure Plus available for sale at reduced prices.

Please note: we DO NOT provide 24-hour In-Home Care coverage nor are we the primary caregivers. The family must provide back-up care when we can't be there.

We also provide meals at the Center for a suggested donation.

Other services that we provide are transportation to and from the Senior Center or for local needs such as stops at the Post Office or for shopping in Parsons.

We still provide transportation for medical appointments. We ask for as much advance notice as possible for scheduling purposes.

We are here to serve our community. If we can be of assistance, please feel free to call us at 304-478-2423 or stop by the Center to visit with us. We'd love to see you.

Five Rivers Library Newsletter

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

December Happenings
19 – Book Club @ 1:30
22 - 26 - Closed Christmas Holiday
29 - Jan. 1 - Closed New Year's Holiday
Book & Other Donors:
Debbie Gutshall; Sherry Burns; Becky Arbogast; & Sarah Bowley, Ruby Kisamore, and Joanne Carr
Book Club Discussion Group Meets the third Tuesday monthly at 1:30 p.m. in the library meeting room.
Book for December 19th "One Day

in December" by Josie Silver
MOVIE EVENT – JANUARY 8th
"A Man Called Otto" Run Time 1 hr. 43 minutes Rated PG. Free Community Event.

Mobile Hotspots 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 available for your convenience during library hours. Signer Photo ID required. Donations accepted

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

Hope Scholarship Board Approves Year-Round Applications Proported Funding Proposals to Expand Program Access

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – State Treasurer Riley Moore, who serves as Chairman of the Hope Scholarship Board, today announced Board members have approved his proposal to accept Hope Scholarship Program applications from eligible students year-round.

"I'm thrilled the Board has approved my proposal to ensure all eligible West Virginia students and their families have access to the Hope Scholarship Program regardless of when they make the decision to exercise their school choice options," Treasurer Moore said. "Now that the Hope Scholarship Program has been up and running for more than a full year, combined with the significant amount of interest we have seen from across the state, it was time to extend the window for families to apply for the program to the maximum extent possible."

The Hope Scholarship Board on Tuesday, Dec. 12, approved a number of changes to the program's legislative rules to improve the program, including a mandate for year-round application acceptance. The program's prior legislative rule set the application period for new students to run from March 1 through May 15 each year unless extenuating circumstances existed to justify accepting a late application or the student was newly eligible for the program.

More than 6,000 students have been awarded the Hope Scholarship for the current 2023-2024 academic year – nearly triple the 2,333 students who received it the previous academic year.

While the program

received more than 6,300 applications during this year's new enrollment period, the Board learned some West Virginia families either weren't aware of the program during the application period or made a school-choice decision after the application window had already closed.

"Although we've been working to raise awareness of program application deadlines, we understand that a student's needs may change during the school year," Treasurer Moore said. "Our Board action this week will ensure that eligible students will have a pathway to enter the program throughout the school year."

To accommodate the year-round application window, the Board also adopted a policy to standardize proration amounts for students receiving less than a full-year funding amount, based on when the original application is submitted to the Board.

Under this new timetable which is effective beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, a student application submitted within the following dates will receive the associated level of Hope Scholarship funding:

- March 1-June 15: 100% of Hope Scholarship annual award amount.
- June 16-Sept. 15: 75% of Hope Scholarship annual award amount.
- Sept. 16-Nov. 30: 50% of Hope Scholarship annual award amount.
- Dec. 1-Feb. 28: 25% of Hope Scholarship annual award amount.

Any applications submitted after Feb. 28 would be processed on current student eligibility but par-

ticipation and funding will not begin until the next school year. (These dates apply to new Hope Scholarship applications; existing Hope Scholarship recipients are required to submit renewal applications annually and will be able to do so beginning Jan. 3 each year to apply for the following academic year.)

This quarterly funding timetable is designed to allow for the year-round application process while also complying with state code that governs when funding transfers must take place.

The Hope Scholarship Act, passed by the Legislature in 2021, requires the Board to provide funds to Hope Scholarship students twice a year, with the first half of funds for an academic year provided by Aug. 15 and the remaining half provided by Jan. 15. Funds must be prorated for students participating for less than a full year.

The Hope Scholarship award amount varies each school year depending on the amount of state aid funding per pupil provided to county boards of education for public school students. The award amount for the 2023-24 year was \$4,488.82.

The Hope Scholarship Program is an education savings account program available for kindergarten through 12th grade students. It is designed to allow parents and families to receive an amount equal to the state portion of their child's education funding to tailor an individualized learning experience that works best for their child.

More information on the program is available at www.hopescholarshipwv.com.

ALLEGHENY HIGHLANDS PARENTS AS TEACHERS RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION AS A BLUE RIBBON AFFILIATE

Endorsed Sites Demonstrate High-Quality Implementation of Evidence-Based Home Visiting [TUCKER/RANDOLPH/BARBOUR COUNTIES, WV], [December 15, 2023] – Allegheny Highlands PAT has earned a prestigious endorsement from Parents as Teachers National Center, Inc., (PATNC) as a Blue Ribbon Affiliate, making it one of the top-performing home visiting affiliates within Parents as Teachers' international network. The official designation was made in October 2023.

Being named a Blue Ribbon Affiliate affirms that Allegheny Highlands PAT is a high-quality member of the home visiting field, implementing the evidence-based Parents as Teachers model with fidelity. Families in the Tucker/Randolph/Barbour County area are positively impacted by the services delivered by this program.

The program includes home visits, group connections, child screening, and connections to community resources. It equips parents with knowledge and resources to prepare their children for a stronger start in life and greater success in school.

"To earn the Blue Ribbon Endorsement, we underwent a rigorous self-study and review process from the National Center. The process confirms that we are meeting Parents as Teachers' standards of fidelity and quality," said Angie Davis, program director of Allegheny Highlands PAT. "Blue Ribbon Affiliates are exemplary programs, delivering the highest quality services to children and families."

Implementation with quality and fidelity is vital in home-visiting programs as it determines a program's effectiveness in accomplishing its original goals and intended outcomes. It also verifies that a program is being implemented as designed. Parents as Teachers' rigorous endorsement process demonstrates an affiliate's account-

ability and credibility to the community, its funders, elected officials, and the partner organizations with which they work. "Our program takes pride in obtaining blue ribbon status and it gives our collaborative partners confidence in the quality of services and support that we provide to local families."

Tucker County PAT was first established in 2009 under the umbrella of Tucker County Family Resource Network with funding from Bureau of Families and Children (BCF). In 2015, the program expanded into Randolph County and into Barbour County with funding from federal grants called Maternal, Infant, Early Childhood Home Visitation (MIECHV) the following year changing the name to Allegheny Highlands PAT to reflect the region. The program serves families with pregnant mothers and children birth through kindergarten. There are no income guidelines. You may contact Tucker County Family Resource Network at (304)478-3827 to inquire about enrolling in any of the three counties or find us on Facebook under each county (Tucker County Parents as Teachers, Randolph County Parents as Teachers, or Barbour County Parents as Teachers)

Parents as Teachers (PAT) builds strong communities, thriving families, and children that are healthy, safe, and ready to learn. The internationally-recognized evidence-based home visiting model is backed by more than 35 years of research-proven outcomes for children and families. Parents As Teachers National Center, Inc., is headquartered in St. Louis, Missouri. Parents as Teachers affiliates operate in various settings, including health departments, hospitals, and schools, faith-based and non-profit organizations. For more information, visit parentsasteachers.org or Twitter @NatIPAT.

Early Christmas Present at the Pump in West Virginia

The average price for gasoline across Northern West Virginia is nine cents lower this week at \$3.129 per gallon, according to AAA East Central's Gas Price Report.

This week's average prices: Northern WV Average \$3.129

Average price during the week of December 4, 2023 \$3.219

Average price during the week of December 12, 2022 \$3.249

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

\$3.220	Bridgeport
\$3.204	Clarksburg
\$2.970	Huntington
\$3.236	Martinsburg
\$3.208	Morgantown
\$3.093	Parkersburg
\$3.011	Weirton
\$3.091	Wheeling

Trend Analysis:

As the holiday season continues, the national average for a gallon of gas has fallen nine cents since last week to \$3.15. The main reason is a weaker cost for oil, which is struggling to stay above \$70 per barrel. The falling price comes

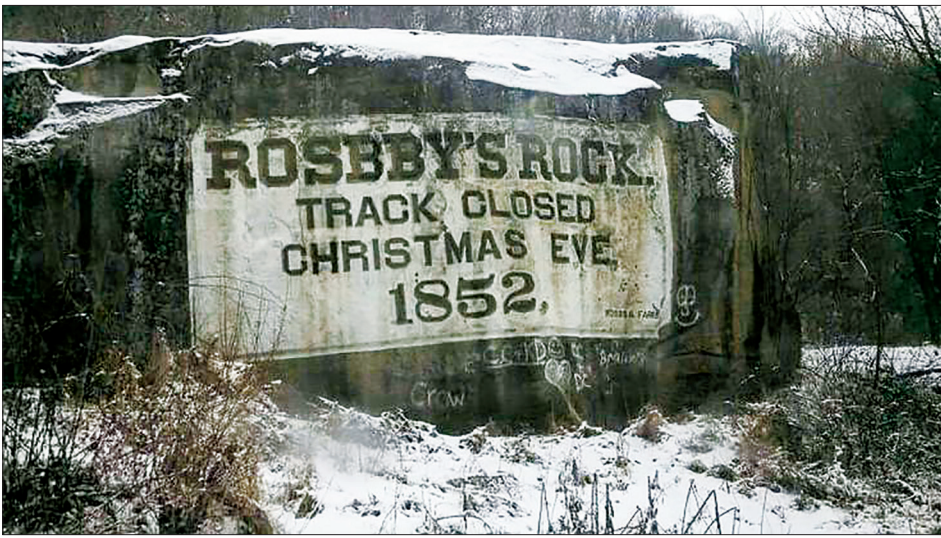
just a week after OPEC+ announced voluntary production cuts of about 2 million barrels daily. More than half of all US fuel locations have gasoline below \$3 per gallon. Today's national average is 22 cents lower than a month ago and 12 cents lower than a year ago.

According to new data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA), gas demand increased slightly from 8.21 to 8.47 million barrels per day last week. Meanwhile, total domestic gasoline stocks increased significantly by 5.4 million barrels to 223.6 million barrels. Lower gas demand and supply growth have helped push pump prices lower.

At the close of Wednesday's formal trading session, West Texas Intermediate decreased by \$2.94 to settle at \$69.38. Oil prices dropped due to market concerns that lackluster demand could continue to push supply up while prices slide through the remainder of 2023. Additionally, the EIA reported that total domestic commercial crude inventories decreased by 4.7 million barrels to 445 million barrels last week.

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

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Dec. 24, 1852: The last spike was driven on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad between Baltimore and the Ohio River. The event occurred at Rosbys Rock near Moundsville. To mark the spot where the final spike was driven the following words were carved upon the rock: Rosbbys [sic] Rock Track Closed Christmas Eve 1852.

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.

Dec. 20, 2002: Grote Reber died. In 1937, Reber built the world's first parabolic radio telescope in his backyard. The Reber Telescope was moved to the National Radio Observatory at Green Bank in the 1960s and was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1989.

Dec. 21, 1798: Wood County was established by the Virginia General Assembly. It was named for James Wood, governor of Virginia from 1796 to 1800.

Dec. 22, 1928: Radio station WMMN of Fairmont began operations as one of West Virginia's pioneer stations. For nearly two decades beginning in 1935, WMMN was an important outlet for country and western music performers. The highlight of this era was the "Sagebrush Roundup," a Saturday-night live-audience show which began in December 1938 and was broadcast weekly for nearly ten years.

Dec. 23, 1987: Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme escaped from the Federal Prison Camp in Alderson. Fromme, who was serving a life sentence for trying to kill President Gerald Ford, was captured two days later near the prison.

Dec. 24, 1942: The Committee on Fair Employment Practices ordered that Jehovah's Witnesses be reinstated to their jobs at Pittsburgh Plate Glass in Clarksburg. The workers had been fired for refusing to participate in union-sponsored flag-



Dec. 20, 1943: During World War II, German fighter pilot Franz Stigler protected the heavily damaged B-17 bomber flown by Charlie Brown, originally from Weston, as it made its way from enemy territory back to England. The two war veterans met in 1990 and remained friends until their deaths.

salute ceremonies at the plant.
Dec. 25, 1887: Folk artist James Tyree Rexrode was born in Pendleton County. He created a visual record of rural West Virginia life in the early 20th century. He died in 1976.

Dec. 26, 1917: Instrument maker Harold M. Hayslett was born in Putnam County. Hayslett's violins, violas and cellos have received awards for tone and workmanship, and are cherished by collectors and players alike.

By Teri Cayton

The Parsons Advocate

This will be my last chance to wish you a very Merry Christmas and safe travels for you and yours. I hope the season is a good one for everyone and Santa treats you right. My Christmas is a hopeful one this year and I hope Christ reaches out and puts His hand on my family. Momma Said, "I need His Grace this year."

This is a season for giving so if you have any gently used items that you can donate to your local shelter it would be greatly appreciated. Remember the young and the old inside and out of your family, take an extra minute and check on the elderly and make sure they have what they need.

I am going to leave you with a cou-

Momma Said
This column is about tips, helpful hints, recipes and words of wisdom. I dedicate this column to my mother.
By Teri Cayton
The Parsons Advocate

ple more recipes that you can make for quick give-away gifts to the people in your life that are hard to buy for. Everyone loves a snack and these are easy and cost effective for you and yummy for those who receive them. Again I hope everyone has a happy and safe holiday and just remember, Momma Said, "It is better to give than receive."

Spiced Nuts

Ingredients

- 1 egg white lightly beaten
- ¼ CUP sugar
- 1 TEASPOON salt
- ½ TEASPOON ground cinnamon
- ¼ TEASPOON ground cloves
- ¼ TEASPOON ground allspice
- PINCH ground cayenne pepper
- 1 CUP pecan halves
- 1 CUP cashews
- 1 CUP almonds

Instructions

1. Combine the egg white with the sugar and spices in a bowl.
2. Pre-heat the air fryer to 300°F.
3. Spray or brush the air fryer basket with vegetable oil. Toss the nuts together in the spiced egg white and transfer half of the nuts to the air fryer basket.

Cajun Spiced Snack Mix

Ingredients

- ½ CUP butter melted
- 2 TABLESPOONS Cajun or Creole seasoning
- 2 CUPS mini wheat thin crackers
- 2 CUPS peanuts
- 2 CUPS mini pretzels
- 4 CUPS plain popcorn

Cajun Seasoning:

- 2 TEASPOONS salt
- 1 TEASPOON cayenne pepper
- 1 TEASPOON garlic
- 1 TEASPOON paprika
- ½ TEASPOON oregano
- ½ TEASPOON thyme
- ½ TEASPOON onion powder
- 1 TEASPOON black pepper

Instructions

1. Pre-heat air fryer to 370°F.
2. Combine the melted butter and Cajun spice in a small bowl.
3. In a large bowl, combine the crackers, peanuts, pretzels, and popcorn. Pour the butter over the mixed snacks and toss evenly to coat the mixture.
4. Air-fry the snack mix two batches. Place half of the snack mix in the air fryer basket and air-fry for 8 to 10 minutes until lightly toasted. Toss the basket several times throughout the process for even cooking.
5. Transfer the snack mix to a cookie sheet and cool completely. Store in an airtight container for up to one week, or place in gift bags with tags and ribbons for gift giving.

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Super Crossword

MAKING 20 OUT OF 9

ACROSS	1 Pueblo dweller	5 Sound of an "air kiss"	9 Forensic facility in Quantico, for short	15 Gig hookups	19 Refined finds	20 Civil rights leader Parks	21 In an uncivil way	22 Lawn mower brand	23 Parts of wholes	25 Key related to G major	26 "Jurassic Park" dino	27 "Billions" channel, in brief	28 Some boxing blows	30 Horn blowers	32 Person whose name consists entirely of the letters in 23-Across	37 Los Angeles neighborhood	38 "I knew — along!"	39 Old Nissan brand	40 Stephen of "Angie"	41 Humongous	44 Foot, in verse	47 Tattered	48 Novel whose name consists entirely of the letters in 62-Across	54 Others, in Ovidio	55 Last letter, in Leeds	56 Trig function	57 Arab nation	60 Titanic sinker	62 Didn't type or text, perhaps	67 Relating to an eye layer	71 Corn, to a Brit	73 Neighbor of Latvia	74 Relatives of terraces	76 Silent performer	78 Consumer	79 Coup d'—	80 Attain	81 Exit	85 Film whose name consists entirely of the letters in 74-Across	93 Verve	94 Words of woe	95 Desert haven	96 Sch. founded by Thomas Jefferson	97 December mall temps	100 Consumer	103 Very talented	105 Setups whose name consists entirely of the letters in 117-Across	110 Some legumes	111 Lindsay of "Liz & Dick"	112 Be in debt to	113 Imp Simpson	114 Throat tissue	117 Lawbreaker	121 — fixe	122 Menu offering	123 In — (stuck)	124 Lasting mark	125 Betting info	126 "Mad" Carroll character	127 Some votes in Congress	128 Those folks	DOWN	1 Great athletes are enshrined in it: Abbr.	2 Bobby in the Hockey 1-Down	3 Leguminous side dish	4 Low pelvic bones	5 Hosp. test in a big tube	6 "Mrs. Dalloway" novelist	7 Ed of "Lou Grant"	8 Is trustful	9 Citrusy diet soft drink	10 Idling type	11 Cruel Amin	12 Slower than andante	13 Socially distant	14 Side street	15 Give proof of	16 Novelist Toni	17 Strong-arm	18 Boston Red —	24 This evening	29 Building-blasting	31 Bag-screening org.	32 Gotten sight of	33 Attempter	34 Fibber's admission	35 Cabbage side dish	36 Little hotel	37 Playtex item	42 "Ugly Betty" actress Ortiz	43 Crash-probing agcy.	45 Little plateau	46 Bubbly mixer	50 Blogging pundit Klein	51 Prescribed diet, say	52 Finishes up	53 Swamp wriggler	57 Round body	58 "Call — taxi"	59 Ocean east of Mass.	61 Inits. on an ambulance	62 Tailor's edge	63 City on the Seine	64 Put — (jokey pranks)	65 Knot up	66 Part of a jug	68 Yuletide song	69 Opposer	70 Climbing vine	72 Rigatoni's kin	75 Ingrain	77 Film's Kazan	80 Shimmer	82 Golfer Ernie	83 Even up	84 Out-of-towner	85 "Shane" star	86 Teased one another playfully	87 International alliances	88 Harbinger	89 Medieval Scandinavian	90 Group's activity in the community	91 Crooner Burl	92 Frowny-faced	93 Suffix with Vietnam	98 Aesthetic interest	99 Sewing unit	101 Bank job	102 "Neroli" musician	104 Least	106 Maui greeting	107 Contrarian's retort	108 Nile capital	109 Come next	113 Short history	115 Park oneself	116 Cooler cubes	118 Divs. of dollars	119 Scot's turndown	120 Give it a whirl
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LET US KNOW "WHAT'S HAPPENING"
304-478-3533

DEADLINE 3PM FRIDAY

Weather Totals
December 5 - December 12

Nursery Bottom	
Parsons	
Temperature	
Max	60° F
Min	19° F
Precipitation	
Week	1.34"
December	1.66"
2023	45.64"
Snowfall	
New Snow	1.5"
Snow on ground	0.5"
Winter Total	2.5"
U.S. Forest Service	

Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆
◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Puzzle answers page 7

TUCKER COUNTY SHERIFF REPORT

Month of November 2023

- Felony Arrests (charges or indictments) 0
- Persons Arrested on Felony charges 0
- Misdemeanor arrest (charges or indictments) 6
- Persons arrested on misdemeanor charges 3
- Misdemeanor citations issued 3
- Hazardous moving violations tickets issued 2
- Other traffic violations tickets issued 7
- Hazardous moving violations warnings issued 22
- Other traffic violations warnings issued 76

- DUI arrest (driving under the influence) 0
- Motorist assists ie. broke down vehicle 11
- Vehicle crashes where a crash report was generated 5
- Felony cases fielded resulting in a police report 1
- Misdemeanor cases fielded resulting in a police report 7
- Drugs confiscated in dollar street value amount \$75
- Other contraband confiscated \$45
- Domestic violence petitions served 1
- Job tasks completed 174
- Calls for service either through 911 or walk ins

resulting in Police action 112

- Mileage report (total miles traveled by department patrolling) 9,505 miles

Additional Notes: The Sheriff's Office is currently working on a second grant funded full time school resource position for the purpose of providing security to our children and staff in our school system.

This monthly report has been prepared by Sheriff "Jake" Kopec for educating the public as to how their tax dollars are being put to use at the Tucker County Sheriff Office.

TCHS CTE Program Provide Update to School Board

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Tucker County High School CTE Director Billy Shahan updated the Tucker County School Board December 4th on the projects the students have been working on, as well as what certifications the program offers students at the High School.

Shahan outlined the certifications offered to students in various disciplines. In the healthcare fields, Shahan said that the program was working with such partners as Tucker County EMS Training Officer Joe Strait and Cortland Acres. The students were able to achieve certifications in EMT, medical assistant, pharmacy tech, CNA, OSHA 10, HIPPA, first aid, blood borne pathogens, cybersafety awareness and personal financial management, according to Shahan. "Our Allied Health and Therapeutics Service, we're working with Joe Strait for the students to get their EMT," Shahan said. "So, then we go to our Administrative Support, which is with Ms. Evans, she's got the Microsoft Office Specialist, Microsoft and PowerPoint 2019 certification, Excel and Word Expert 2019 certification, and she is working on the Adobe Certified Associate which is for the Photo Shop Pro."

The food service program offers students the ServeSafe Food Handlers certification, Shahan said. The program has also completed a number of projects including providing the cookies and cocoa at the US Capitol Christmas Tree tour in Davis. The students have also canned such items as homemade salsa, tomato sauce and corn. The students have also provided a Thanksgiving dinner for the Pro Start program, students and staff, according to Shahan, as well as providing a Christmas Dinner for the Tucker County Courthouse employees. "They catered Christmas Dinner for the Courthouse employees," Shahan said.

The auto repair department has been working on several projects, according to Shahan. The projects included several vehicles, I-CAR standards and methods, welding of panels and painting. "Collision Repair is in the process of repairing a 1983 El Camino, a 2013 Ford Fiesta and completed the Camero project," Shahan said.



CTE Director Billy Shahan updated the Tucker County School Board on the projects and progress of the CTE Program at Tucker County High School.

According to Shahan, the classes have been separating duties depending on task to supply each other with the necessary parts as they are required. This designation of duties, according to Shahan, mirrors how real world repair shops are designed and work together. "The surface students have been mainly in the repair shop wrapping and painting panels needed for the other two classes as they are needed. By combining these duties, they get the feel of how a real collision shop works together," Shahan said.

Other certifications the Auto students have been working on include three students who are working towards their ASE certification and in the spring the State Inspector will be testing students for the State Inspection License, Shahan said. Shahan also said that the shop has conducted a total of 10 State Inspections this year, as well as five oil changes.

Shahan also outlined to the Board what last year's students are doing after completing the program. "Last year, we had 46 students that completed in a program," Shahan said. "Of the 46 students that completed, 22 have gone to post secondary, three are in military, 18 are employed, one is unemployed and two are unavailable."

Paul Pennington updated the Board on the progress of the Ag and Carpentry programs. Pennington said the department has broken ground on the new Meat Lab. According to Pennington, he hopes to have the building under roof by the end of the school year with a focus on interior work next year. Pennington also said he intends to apply for Modernization grants after the building is complete to update outdated, useless and broken equipment the department currently has. Pennington estimates the project to be around \$40,000 of which \$25,000 came from grant money and the remainder is funded through Carpentry, FFA and Ag accounts. According to Pennington, the only way the department could afford the Meat Lab was if they constructed it themselves utilizing it as a student project. "The only way we can afford to do this is if we build it," Pennington said.

One of the more popular items in the shop, according to Pennington is the department's new Laser CNC machine. "Right now, I have a lot of kids that are really interested in that," Pennington said.

Pennington also informed the Board of one of his classes' biggest projects. The students designed and built wood projects as presents for their parents, Pennington said. "They had three weeks to do a project that had to do with construction that they had to present to their parent," Pennington said. "This year they have to give it to their parent and I want a picture of it and the parent gets to grade 50% of the grade on the project. They turned out real nice. They are really interested in the CNC machine."

Both Pennington and Shahan said that the shops are available for public projects and repairs. However, due to school regulations, anyone wanting to utilize the departments for projects will need to contact the office in advance. Shahan and Pennington also both discussed that the school has been looking at ways to make access to services easier for the public.

NRCS in West Virginia Announces Assistance to Producers Transitioning to Organic as Part of USDA's Organic Transition Initiative

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. Dec. 11, 2023 – The USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in West Virginia has announced today the dates for a signup under the Organic Transition Initiative (OTI).

Under this initiative, NRCS will dedicate financial and technical assistance to a new organic management standard and partner with new organic technical experts to increase staff capacity and expertise. West Virginia producers must submit their applications by February 16, 2024, to be considered under this initiative.

While applications are accepted year-round, applications submitted by February 16 will be considered for

the next available funding. Applications received after February 16 will be considered during the next funding cycle.

NRCS will help producers adopt the new organic management standard, which allows flexibility for producers to get the assistance and education they need such as attending workshops or requesting help from experts or mentors. It supports conservation practices required for organic certification and may provide foregone income reimbursement for dips in production during the transition period.

Higher payment rates and other options are available

for underserved producers including socially disadvantaged, beginning, veteran, and limited resource farmers and ranchers.

How to Apply

Eligible producers include farmers, ranchers, forest landowners, and other producers beginning or in the process of transitioning to organic certification. For more information or to sign up for this opportunity, producers should contact NRCS through their local USDA Service Center. Interested producers are encouraged to apply by February 16, 2024.

For more information, visit farmers.gov/organic.

Hunters in West Virginia harvested 45,155 bucks during the traditional buck firearms season

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. — Preliminary data collected from the electronic game checking system indicated that deer hunters in West Virginia harvested 45,155 antlered deer during the two-week firearm season from Nov. 20 through Dec. 3, the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) announced today.

The 2023 harvest was 7.5 percent below the 2022 harvest, which totaled 48,810 bucks.

"The harvest during the 2023 traditional buck firearm season was expected to be lower than that of 2022," said Paul Johansen, chief of the Wildlife Resources Section. "Average hard mast indices paired with bad weather

during the opening few days of the buck firearms season probably hindered the success of many hunters this season. All areas of the state registered an average decrease of 11 percent; with the exception of the southeastern areas that had an increase of 19 percent from the 2022 harvest."

The top 10 counties for the 2023 buck harvest were Greenbrier (1,892), Randolph (1,604), Preston (1,413), Pendleton (1,413), Monroe (1,396), Braxton (1,394), Hardy (1,329), Kanawha (1,242), Pocahontas (1,236) and Fayette (1,226).

WVDNR reminds hunters that several days of deer hunting opportunity remain for 2023, including the

remainder of the archery and crossbow season, which runs through Dec. 31. Muzzleloader deer season is open from Dec. 11-17.

The Youth, Class Q/QQ and Class XS deer season for antlerless deer will be open Dec. 26-27 in any county with a firearms deer season. This will be followed by the reopening of Class N/NN antlerless deer season Dec. 28-31 in specified counties or portions of counties. See the 2023-24 Hunting and Trapping Regulations Summary or visit wvdnr.gov for county and area listings.

Hunting, trapping and fishing licenses and stamps for the 2024 seasons are now on sale. Learn more at wvdnr.gov.

Warner and County Clerks Begin Routine Voter List Maintenance by Sending Postcards to Potentially Abandoned Registrations

Charleston, W. Va. – Voter list maintenance has been a priority for the WV Secretary of State's Office since Warner first took office in 2017. By working closely with all 55 county clerks to provide the tools necessary to operate a uniform, non-partisan voter registration list maintenance process, Warner reports that over 400,000 deceased, duplicate, out-of-state, convicted-felon voter, or otherwise ineligible registration files have been removed from the Statewide Voter Registration System since the 2016 election, as indicated by the most recent Election Administration and Voting Survey (EAVS). At the same time, more than 333,000 new voters have been registered to vote, which includes more than 100,000 high school students.

Over 109,000 instances of possible abandoned voter registrations in West Virginia have been identified by an updated address comparison with the United States Postal Service (USPS), the WV Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), or by official election mail that was returned as undeliverable. Of those, 88,000 addresses will soon receive an important confirmation postcard from their county clerk's office.

"West Virginia and federal laws require election officials to send a postcard to each address of a voter

who is identified as possibly abandoning their registration. These voters were identified when they provided a newer address to the USPS, DMV, or when official election mail was returned which indicated a voter may have moved," said Secretary Warner. "If the voter moved to another West Virginia county, we can help them update their registration," Warner continued. "If they moved out of state, they are no longer eligible to vote and we encourage them to cancel their voter registration."

These postcards are expected to arrive in voters' mailboxes in the coming weeks. The postcard asks the voter to confirm that they are still a resident of the state and county at the address on their voter registration record.

Secretary Warner encourages every voter who receives the confirmation postcard to confirm that they reside at the address on file or update the address by scanning the QR code on the postcard with a mobile device and follow the easy steps to keep their registration in "active" status. Voters can also check and update their registration information online at ovr.sos.wv.gov, or by returning the pre-paid postage postcard to their county clerk.

Regular maintenance on voter registration lists is mandated by the National Voter Registration Act and West Virginia law. Voters who confirm their address by returning a postcard will remain "active."

Voters whose postcards are not returned, or are returned by the USPS as "undeliverable," will be categorized as "inactive." Voters who are "inactive" still remain eligible to vote in the next two federal election cycles. However, if a voter's registration address remains unconfirmed for the next two federal general elections after receipt of the confirmation notice, and the voter fails to vote in any state or local election during that time period, state law mandates that the registration be canceled.

"The law is in place to make sure voters on West Virginia's voter registration rolls are still residents of West Virginia at the address on file with their county clerk. Many times, we find that these voters moved and simply forgot to cancel their registration," Warner said.

For more information, please contact your county clerk or the WV Secretary of State's Office at (304) 558-6000.

WV Homeowners Hazard Mitigation Grant Opportunity

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – The West Virginia Emergency Management Division, in partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is proud to announce the launch of a Public Service Announcement (PSA) aimed at encouraging West Virginians to apply for Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants.

Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants are designed to reduce the risk and impact of natural disasters in our state by providing funding for eligible projects that enhance resilience and mitigate potential hazards. These projects can include home elevation or rebuilding a more resilient home. By actively participating in hazard mitigation, residents, local governments, and organizations in West Virginia can take proactive steps to protect their communities and help build a safer, more resilient state.

Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants play a

vital role in strengthening our state's ability to prepare for and respond to natural disasters, ultimately saving lives and reducing property damage.

West Virginians who wish to apply for Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants must do so by contacting their County Commission, local emergency management agency, or county Floodplain Manager before December 31, 2023.

WVEMD Director GE McCabe highlights the crucial role played by Gov. Justice's administration as well as West Virginia's FEMA partners. "Preparedness and mitigation are essential in safeguarding our communities from the impact of disasters. We're pleased to collaborate with Gov. Justice and FEMA in encouraging West Virginians to take advantage of the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants. By doing so, we are investing in a safer and more resilient future for

our state."

FEMA Region 3 Administrator MaryAnn Tierney echoed McCabe's sentiments. "Flooding is the No. 1 disaster that hits West Virginia nearly every year. Participating in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program can enable residents to make their homes less vulnerable to flood damage or help whole communities reduce the path of destruction caused by high water. We're pleased and proud to support West Virginia Emergency Management in their efforts to help West Virginians write their own mitigation success stories."

To learn more about the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants and how to apply, please visit fema.gov/grants/mitigation.

For further information, please contact the West Virginia Emergency Management Division: 304-558-5380 WVHMGP@wv.gov, or the Federal Emergency Management Agency: 215-931-5597

Christmas stocking decorating tips and tricks

Hanging Christmas stockings is just one of the many traditions that fill the days leading up to Christmas. One theory regarding the origins of stockings says the tradition began when a poor widower who had three daughters worried over having enough money for their wedding dowries to help secure the daughters' futures. The women, who had hung their stockings by the fireplace to dry, woke up to find solid gold spheres inside. This legend suggests kindly St. Nicholas visited the home in the night and left the presents, helping ensure the daughters could marry well, after all.

Christmas stockings were the first places where gifts were stowed, before under the boughs of Christmas trees became the primary spot for placing gifts. Then stockings were secondary vessels reserved for small trinkets. Today stockings are largely Christmas decorations rather than places to place gifts. Still, they're a key component of holiday magic.

1. When including stockings in holiday festivities, follow these tips for whimsy and more.
2. Utilize stocking holders. Stocking holders are either metal or wooden devices that are placed on mantels. Hooks on the holders suspend the stockings. Just be sure the holders are sturdy enough to handle the weight of a stuffed stocking if you plan on filling it with goodies.
3. Determine your style. There are Christmas stockings that coordinate to just about any interior design style. From farmhouse to modern to traditional, choose one that fits with your aesthetic. That isn't to say you can't mix and match stockings if you prefer a more eclectic, homespun feel.



When including stockings in holiday festivities, follow these tips for whimsy and more.

4. Enhance your stocking look. If stockings are strictly decorative, enhance their look with a few tricks. First, use tissue paper or balled up shopping bags to stuff the stockings and give them shape. Fill a small baggie with sand or florist glass and place in the heel of the stocking to balance it out and prevent the stocking from blowing around in the breeze.
5. No fireplace; no problem. Stockings are traditionally hung from the fireplace man-

tel, but if you don't have a fireplace there is no need to fret. Simply use ribbons to hang them from the bannister of a staircase, or hang stockings right on walls with removable hooks, or from sturdy shelves. You also can think creatively and hang larger stockings on a door like you might a wreath.

Whether they're decorative or functional, stockings can be an integral component of holiday decor in a home.

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Thank You

We would like to express our deepest thanks to our friends and family for all their support, donations, flowers, cards, food and prayers in the loss of our husband, father and grandfather, Fred Jones. Thank you to Adrianna Adkins FNP-C, Lohr & Barb Funeral Home, pallbearers, Pastor Justin Jones and Deborah Strawser for the lovely service, Joy Showalter for the beautiful music and St. Paul's United Methodist Church and Roxanne Tuesing for the wonderful meal. We would like to express thanks to the Patriot Guard Riders, WV Army Honor Guard, H.W. Daniels Post 29 American Legion, Tygart Valley Post 3647 Veterans of Foreign War and the Tucker County Veterans. We send special thanks to Rocky Clark, Tim Knotts and Greg Knotts.

WEST VIRGINIA Press FOUNDATION

Paid internships and college scholarships of up to \$4,000 available for 2024

Interested in being a journalist or working in the media industry?

The West Virginia Press Association Foundation is accepting student applications for 2024 Summer Internships and 2024 Scholarships

If awarded, the WVP AF provides paid and unpaid internships at West Virginia newspapers and college scholarships up to \$4,000. Programs are open to journalism majors and students in related fields such as business management, human resources, advertising, social media and marketing, with preference given to students in at least their sophomore year of college.

Application deadline is Dec. 31, 2023.

Applications available on wvpress.org

For information or to have the applications mailed, contact Executive Director **Betsy Miles** at bmiles@wvpress.org, at 304-342-1011 or write to: WV Press Association Foundation, 3422 Pennsylvania Ave., Charleston, WV, 25302.

Newspapers with a candidate for an internship or interested in having an intern should contact Betsy Miles.

SPORTS

MT. LIONS FALL TO EAST HARDY, WIN AT MOUNTAIN RIDGE, MD

By Dave Helmick
TuckerCountySports.Com

HAMBLETON – The Tucker County Boys' Basketball team hosted Sectional and PVC Rival East Hardy for a game on Tuesday December 12th. The Mt. Lions build a double-digit lead in the fourth quarter, but the Cougars mounted a big comeback to take the road victory over Tucker County 59-55.

The first quarter was back and forth and highly competitive as both teams scored 16 points in the first quarter to make the score 16-16 after one quarter. The Mt. Lions pulled away slightly as they outshot the Cougars 15-11 in the second to put the halftime score at 31-27 Tucker County.

The third quarter would belong to the Mt. Lions as they outscored East Hardy 16-7 to build the Tucker County lead to 47-34 at the end of the third. Tucker County continued to control the game at the start of the fourth quarter. The Cougars, however, never gave up as they started to chip away at the Mt. Lions lead. East Hardy would make 4 three-point baskets in the fourth to cut the lead down to 1 point with under a minute left to play. Then a steal by the Cougars and a layup with a foul on Tucker County gave East Hardy a 2 point lead with under 30 seconds left in the game. The Mt. Lions could not get a basket at the end and the visiting Cougars made their foul shots down the stretch to give East Hardy the 59-55 comeback victory.

Owen Knotts led the Mt. Lions with 18 points, 13 rebounds and Ethan Rosenau had 16 points, 8 rebounds

for Tucker County in the loss. Trevan Bonner added 11 points and Ashton Lycliter chipped in with 8 points, 10 rebounds for the Mt. Lions. The Tucker County JV team got the win over East Hardy 63-46.

FROSTBURG, MD – The Mt. Lions traveled to Mountain Ridge, MD on Friday December 15th for a JV and varsity contest. Tucker County jumped out to a big lead in the first half and the Mt. Lions held off a comeback by the Miners to give the visiting Mt. Lions the 60-50 road win.

Tucker County exploded to start the game to lead the homestanding Miners 19-8 after one quarter. The second quarter would belong to the Mt. Lions as well as Tucker County outscored Mountain Ridge 15-9 in the second to give the Mt. Lions the lead at the half 34-17.

In the third quarter the Miners fought back to take the quarter slightly 19-17 to make the score 51-36 Tucker County after three quarters of play. Mountain Ridge continued to fight back in the fourth quarter as they outpaced the Mt. Lions 14-9, but that was not enough as Tucker County held on for the win by the final score of 60-50.

Trevan Bonner led Tucker County with 21 points and Ethan Rosenau added 20 points for the Mt. Lions in the win. The Tucker County JV team picked up the win over Mountain Ridge also by the score of 49-27.

Tucker County(2-2) will host Elkins tonight Wednesday December 20th and then they will host Tygarts Valley Friday December 22nd. For more info go to TuckerCountySports.Com.



Tucker County's Ethan Rosenau takes a shot in a recent game. The Mt. Lions got the win at Mountain Ridge on Dec. 15th by the final score of 60-50. Photo by Brittany Channell.

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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.

How can I help?

Simply complete the coupon below and send it with your donation to the address on the coupon. Thanks for your generosity. All donations are tax deductible.

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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

TUCKER COUNTY GIRLS' CRUISE TO ROAD WIN AT UNION 78-32

By Chris George
TuckerCountySports.Com

MT. STORM – The Lady Mt. Lions traveled to Union on Wednesday December 13th for a varsity only contest with the Lady Tigers. Tucker County got an early lead to start the game and never looked back as they picked up the win 78-32.

Tucker County scored 19 points in the first quarter and held Union to 9 points to lead 19-9 after one quarter. The Lady Mt. Lions controlled the second quarter as well as they outscored the homestanding Lady Tigers 17-7. This would give Tucker County the halftime lead of 36-16.

The Lady Mt. Lions defense then took over the third quarter as they held Union to just 2 points in the period as Tucker County scored 21 points to give the visiting Lady Mt. Lions the 57-18 lead after three quarters. The fourth quarter would also belong to Tucker County as they outscored the Lady Tigers 21-14 in the final quarter to make the final score 78-32 Tucker County.

Macy Helmick led the Lady Mt. Lions in scoring with 14 points, 6 rebounds, 7 assists and Addie Hicks added 12 points, 5 steals in the win. Ericka Zirk and Brylee Wetzel had 11 points each, while Raven Matthews ended the game with 11 points, 7 rebounds. 4 blocks for Tucker County.



Tucker County's Ericka Zirk takes a shot in a game last season. The Lady Mt. Lions picked up the win over Union on Dec. 13th by the score of 78-32. Photo by Becky Moore.

Tucker County(4-0) will return to action Thursday at home against Lincoln on December 21st. For more info go to TuckerCountySports.Com.

AREA SCHEDULE:

Wednesday December 20th

Tucker County Boys' Basketball vs Elkins @ Home 5:45pm
Tucker Valley Girls' & Boys' Basketball @ Union 6pm
Davis-Thomas Girls' & Boys' Basketball vs Belington @ Home 5pm

Thursday December 21st

Tucker County Girls' Basketball vs Lincoln @ Home 5:45pm

Friday December 22nd

Tucker County Boys' Basketball vs Tygarts Valley @ Home 5:45pm

Saturday December 23rd

Tucker Valley Boys' Basketball vs South Middle @ Mylan Park 1pm

Thursday December 28th

Mt. Storm Power Station Holiday Classic @ TCHS
Tucker County JV Girls' Basketball vs Grafton @ Home 4:45pm
Tucker County Girls' Basketball vs Frankfort @ Home 6pm
Grafton vs Hurricane @ TCHS 7:30pm

Friday December 29th

Mt. Storm Power Station Holiday Classic @ TCHS
Consolation Game @ 6pm
Championship Game @ 7:30pm



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Tucker Valley Wildcats
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APPLICANTS SOUGHT FOR CITY COUNCIL VACANCY

The Parsons City Council is seeking letters of application to fill a vacancy on City Council for the position of Council Member in Ward Two with a term expiring June 30, 2026.

Applicants shall at the time of appointment and throughout the term of office reside in Ward Two, Parsons, West Virginia. This territory is located in the area of said City lying between the Shavers Fork and Black Fork Rivers. The applicant must also be a qualified voter of the State of West Virginia.

All members of City Council are expected to attend City Council meetings; regularly scheduled on the first and third Tuesdays of every month, starting at 6:00 P.M. (EDT). Attendance to special meetings and committee meetings are also necessary. Meetings are held in the Council Chambers at the Charles W. "Bill" Rosenau Municipal Building, located at 341 Second Street, Parsons, West Virginia. Council Members receive a salary of \$100 per month for their services.

Interested persons are asked to submit a letter of application addressed to:

Mr. Bruce A. Kolsun, Mayor
City of Parsons
341 Second Street
Parsons, WV 26287

All letters must be received by 4:00 P.M. (EDT) on Friday, December 22, 2023.

For more information, contact Mrs. Agnes A. Arnold, City Administrator by phone at (304) 478-2311 or e-mail at cityofparsons@frontiernet.net.

*This is an Equal Opportunity Program. Discrimination is prohibited by Federal Law. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (Voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).

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Place YOUR statewide ad today
Call the WV Press at (304) 342-1011



VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM

LEGAL

AIR QUALITY PERMIT NOTICE Notice of Application

Notice is given that **Fairfax Materials Inc.** has applied to the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Air Quality, for a G40 **General Permit Registration** for a **Nonmetallic Mineral Processing Facility** located on **Seneca Trail, near Thomas WV**, in **Tucker County, West Virginia**. The latitude and longitude coordinates are: **39.19139° N - 79.52816° W**

The applicant estimates the potential to discharge the following Regulated Air Pollutants will be: **43.21 TPY PM, 14.18 TPY PM10, 1.95 TPY NOx, 2.66 TPY CO, 0.55 TPY VOC, 0.66 TPY SOx, 371 TPY CO2e, 0.002 TPY Formaldehyde, 0.007 TPY HAPs.**

Startup of operation is planned to begin on or about the **1st** day of **January 2024**. Written comments will be received by the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Air Quality, 601 57th Street, SE, Charleston, WV 25304, for at least 30 calendar days from the date of publication of this notice.

Any questions regarding this permit application should be directed to the DAQ at (304) 926-0499, extension 1250, during normal business hours. Dated this the **20th** day of **December, 2023**.

By: **Fairfax Materials Inc.**
Collin Sumpter
Resource Manager
P.O. Box 850
Laurel MD 20725

LEGAL

ORDER OF PUBLICATION IN THE FAMILY COURT OF TUCKER COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

PETITIONER:
DANIELLE C. CARR
RESPONDENT:
ROANLD W. CARR

Civil Action No. 23-D-36

You have been named as the Respondent in the above-styled matter involving a Petition for Divorce. It appearing, after due diligence, the Petitioner, Danielle Carr, has been unable to locate your current whereabouts. A Final Divorce Hearing is scheduled in this matter for January 23, 2024, to begin at 10:30 a.m. in the Family Court of Tucker County, West Virginia, located at 211 First Street, 3rd Floor Courtroom, Parsons, WV 26287. A copy of said Petition can be obtained from the undersigned Clerk at her office located at 211 First Street, Suite 403, Parsons, WV 26287. You may appear to protect your interests.

Sharon Moats
Sharon Moats, Circuit Clerk of Tucker Co.
By: *M. Williams*, deputy clerk

LEGAL

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

Deceased	Personal Representative(s)
Jerry B. Flanagan	Anita L. Flanagan
1st publication 12/13/23	PO Box 367
2nd publication 12/20/23	Thomas, WV 26292
Virginia M. Nestor	Stephanie J. Moats
1st publication 12/13/23	226 Tupelo Ln
2nd publication 12/20/23	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

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM

LEGAL

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION Division of Highways NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service (www.bidx.com) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia, until January 17, 2024 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the constructions of the following project(s):

Call Contract	State Project	Federal Project	Description
004 2021000711	S388-STR/IP-24 00	STP-2024(051)D	PAVEMENT MARKINGS ROADWAY STRIPING DISTRICT WIDE

DBE GOAL: 10% OF CONTRACT BID AMOUNT. BIDDER MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCE OF MEETING GOAL ON FORM IN PROPOSAL.

REMARKS:

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

The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways reserves the right to defer, delay or postpone the date for receiving and publicly opening proposals for any project designated in this advertisement, without the necessity of renewing such advertisement. The deferment, delay, postponement, and the date that proposals will be received and publicly opened will be available on www.bidx.com.

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

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE ORDINANCE TO AMEND CITY CHARTER

The City Council of the City of Parsons is considering an amendment to the City Charter. The proposed amendment is intended to establish two voting wards in the City.

The proposed amendment is available for review at the Parsons Business Office, located at 341 Second Street, Parsons, West Virginia, or by calling the City Administrator at (304) 478-2311.

The Parsons City Council will conduct a public hearing regarding the proposed amendment at the Parsons Municipal Building at 6:00 P.M. (EDT) on Tuesday, January 9, 2024. During this hearing, City Council will welcome and receive written comments, objections, and suggestions regarding the proposed amendment. Citizens unable to attend the hearing may submit written comments regarding the amendment, which will be accepted prior to and ten (10) days following the public hearing is convened. Written comments will be included in the record to be considered by City Council.

Any qualified voter or freeholder may make written suggestions or objections to the proposed amendment. If no objections are filed, or if objections filed are withdrawn at the time of the hearing, City Council may take final action on the proposed amendments at the conclusion of the public hearing by enacting by Ordinance the amendments, to be effective no sooner than ten (10) days following the public hearing.

City of Parsons, a municipal corporation
by Bruce Kolsun, Mayor

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

DEADLINE 3PM FRIDAY

LEGAL

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION Division of Highways NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

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Call Contract	State Project	Federal Project	Description
010 2022880004	S388-REC/AL-24 00	STBG-2024(009)D	PAVEMENT MARKINGS D-8 RECALL STRIPING 2024 DISTRICT WIDE

DBE GOAL: 10% OF CONTRACT BID AMOUNT. BIDDER MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCE OF MEETING GOAL ON FORM IN PROPOSAL.

REMARKS:

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

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TUCKER COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

304-478-6232 304-704-4405



Sponsored by Mountain Valley Bank

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
HAPPY HOLIDAYS
FROM
PARSONS VFD &
LADIES AUXILIARY**

Wishing you and your family the best during this holiday season. We would like to take this time to thank each and every one for all their support during the past year. The services we provide would be greatly compromised without the support we receive from our community. Know that PVFD stands ready to help our community 24/7.

PATRIOT
CHRYSLER DODGE // RAM Jeep
KING OF THE 4WD

UP TO 28 MPG

TRUCK MONTH
2023 RAM 1500 ECO DIESEL
\$5,500 OFF MSRP

www.PATRIOTCHRYSLERDODGEJEEP.com • 2499 Maryland Highway, Oakland • 301-334-2137

Merry Christmas

Tips to pick the perfect Christmas tree

Christmas trees are among the most recognizable symbols of the holiday season, and the popularity of trees is undeniable. According to the National Christmas Tree Association, approximately 25 to 30 million real Christmas trees are sold in the United States each year. Christmas trees also are big business in Canada, where Statistics Canada notes cash receipts from Canadian Christmas tree producers totaled nearly \$163.5 million in 2022.

Annual spending on Christmas trees underscores how important they are to holiday decor. Christmas trees serve as the centerpiece in millions of holiday home decor schemes, so it's important to pick a tree that can shine in that role. This holiday season, celebrants can consider these tips as they look for the perfect Christmas tree.

- Measure the area where the tree will be placed. A large tree can be awe-inspiring, but also can stick out like a sore thumb if it takes up too much space. There should be enough room around the tree for families and their guests to sit around it. The home interior experts at Better Homes & Gardens recommend leaving a minimum of six inches between the top



of the tree and the ceiling. If a tree topper will be added, make sure the top of the tree is at least 12 inches from the ceiling. Measure the area before leaving to buy a tree so it can fit nicely into the room and the surrounding decor.

- Try the shake test. Anyone who has purchased a fresh-cut Christmas tree is undoubtedly familiar with the shake test, which remains an effective way to measure the dryness of the tree. A slight shake will produce

some fallen needles. If the needles are brown and few and far between, then the tree likely is not overly dry. However, a lot of falling green needles indicates the tree is already drying out, which means it could shed quite a bit and lose its looks before Christmas Day.

- Pick a tree with a symmetrical look. Trees are living things, so it's unlikely that buyers will find a per-

fectly symmetrical tree. However, a tree that's misshapen or already has some sagging branches won't make for an awe-inspiring addition to a home decor scheme.

- Find the trunk (if you can). A trunk that's visible through the branches indicates the tree does not have dense branches, which will be necessary if homeowners want to dress the tree with ornaments. If it's hard to find the trunk because of all the thick branches and green needles, then the tree is likely pretty healthy.
- Test the needles. The home improvement experts at Lowes note that needles should be flexible but still snap when bent sharply. Avoid trees with needles that are already losing their color and can easily be pulled off.

A Christmas tree garners a lot of attention come the holiday season, which only underscores the significance of finding a tree worthy of being the centerpiece of holiday decor.

Sending lots of peace and joy to you and your family this Christmas season.

SOAPY JOE'S CAR WASH

Pennsylvania Ave., Parsons

Hickory Orchard FARMS

Now Offering USDA Certified Farm Fresh Beef, Pork, Chicken, Duck, and Rabbit

Prices and information available on Facebook or call (304) 478-4142

Located near Parsons
God Bless: Daniel, Heather, Paityn & Wyatt Clower



MERRY CHRISTMAS

From our family to your family
We wish you a Merry Christmas
And a Happy New Year.

Swack Monument

8884 Seneca Trail, Parsons, WV
(304) 478-3688

May the Joy and Peace of Christmas be with you now and throughout the new year.

Hostetler Funeral Home
Parsons & Valley Bend

I want to thank each of my customers for their dedication and patience throughout the past year. It has been very trying times for all.

Wishing you every happiness this Holiday Season and throughout the coming year!

STEVENS'
Realty & Management
A Place for Everyone

201 1st Street, Parsons, WV 26287
304.478.2141
Debbie Stevens, Broker

At the close of another year, we gratefully pause to wish you a warm and Happy Holiday Season and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

Tucker County 4-Wheelers
Parsons

Sharing with you the Glory, the Wonder, the Miracle of this Holy Season.

Have a blessed Christmas and New Year.

Tim Knotts
Tucker County Commissioner

Paid by candidate.

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

Attorney General Morrisey: Know Return Policies Before Buying That Gift

CHARLESTON — West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey is encouraging consumers to know store return policies when buying holiday gifts.

The advice comes as part of the Attorney General’s Holiday Consumer Protection Week.

“It’s always important to ask the sales associate about the store’s return process when buying Christmas gifts,” Attorney General Morrisey said. “Knowing a store’s return policy can save a lot of time and potential

headaches. You don’t want to miss the return window or be caught off guard by any surprising return conditions.”

A purchase or gift receipt will accelerate the process and ensure the person you are giving the gift to receives the full purchase value should the present need to be returned. Some stores may only offer in-store credit or a gift card for returns without a receipt.

Additionally, many retailers offer both an online outlet and a physical store. This means consumers, at times,

may only be able to return an online purchase to the online store, which could leave the recipient responsible for shipping fees with any return.

Shoppers should also beware of “all sales final” policies. Merchants must exchange or refund money for defective items. Nonetheless, returns of size and preference still may be refused.

Tips to help include:

Know the store’s return/exchange deadline. Many are extended for holiday purchases.

Do not open the original packaging or remove tags. Some stores will not accept returns that have been opened or appear to have been used.

If the store’s return policy is out of sight, ask for it. A reputable merchant will post return and refund policies in a clearly visible place near the point of sale.

Consumers with questions regarding holiday returns can contact the Attorney General’s Consumer Protection Division at 800-368-8808 or visit the office online at www.ago.wv.gov.



Attorney General Morrisey Urges Consumers to Use Caution with Holiday Credit Card Offers

CHARLESTON — West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey is urging consumers to exercise caution when evaluating credit card offers this holiday season.

The advice comes as part of the Attorney General’s Holiday Consumer Protection Week.

Consumers may see an uptick in credit card offers with the Christmas shopping season now in full swing. While it may be tempting to take advantage of the “buy now, pay later” option, the Attorney General urges consumers to verify the credit card offer is legitimate.

“It’s always a good idea to verify any sort of offer you may receive,” Attorney General Morrisey said. “Credit cards can be attractive as they offer consumers the option to pay off purchases over time, but credit card fraud can wreak havoc

on finances, so it’s important to be vigilant.”

Holiday credit card offers require a close reading of the contract. Deferred interest promotions may promise zero-percent interest through December 2024, but failure to pay off the entire balance by the promotion period’s end could stick the consumer with an interest charge dating back to the item’s original purchase date.

Before responding to a credit card offer, keep these things in mind:

Do an online search if the offering company looks unfamiliar. Include the word “scam” after the company’s name to see if it triggers additional results.

Call the offering company directly if an offer to increase a line of credit looks suspicious. The phone number is often printed on the back of the card.

Do not provide personal information or click on any link in an email warning of a problem with the card.

Anyone who believes they have been the victim of a fraudulent credit card offer should contact the Attorney General’s Consumer Protection Division at 800-368-8808 or visit the office online at www.ago.wv.gov.



May the miracle of Christmas bring you joy and happiness. I wish you contentment and peace among you and your family.

SHARON MOATS
TUCKER COUNTY CIRCUIT CLERK
Paid by Sharon Moats

May you have the gift of faith, the blessing of hope and the peace of His love at Christmas and always

Mountain State Honey
Parsons

All of us at

Stevens’ Florist
wish you a joyous holiday season and a happy and prosperous New Year!

120 Poplar St., Parsons, WV
304.478.2161

Happy Holiday Wishes to you and yours with glowing warmth.

McClain Printing Company
Parsons • 304-478-2881

LET US KNOW “WHAT’S HAPPENING”

304-478-3533

May the good times and treasures of the present become the golden memories of tomorrow. Wish you lots of love, joy and happiness.

May the sweet magic of Christmas conspire to gladden your heart and fill every desire.

Adkins Home Center
Parsons Southern States
304-478-2488 • 304-478-2552

Wishing you a tangle-free holiday.

May all your days be merry and bright.
A safe and joyous season to everyone. Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®

Bob Gutshall, Agent
118 Davis Street
Parsons, WV 26287
Bus: 304-478-3464
bob.gutshall.bv81@statefarm.com

State Farm™

0901020.1 State Farm, Home Office, Bloomington, IL

Color me!



7 ways to organize and store holiday decorations

Decorating a home for holidays is quite popular. A survey from the National Retail Federation found that 53 percent of respondents said they were planning to decorate their home or yard for Halloween in 2023. Lombardo Homes polled 1,000 Americans in 2021 and 94 percent said they celebrate Christmas in at least some way, and 84 percent said they decorate. According to Time2Play, which surveyed 1,000 Canadians about their holiday decorating habits, Manitoba puts up Christmas decor earlier than any other province, with these residents taking out decorations 4.3 weeks ahead of Christmas Day on average.

With so many avid holiday decorators, individuals will need to find ways to organize and store their seasonal items. Holiday decor comes in many different sizes from the smallest tree ornaments to illuminated statues for the yard or inflatable items. Figuring out a storage plan can take a little effort. These seven tips can help.

1. Purchase clear, similarly sized storage bins and shelving racks, hanging them where you plan to keep the decorations. Most people prefer an out-of-



the-way spot, such as in the garage, attic or basement. Label each bin by holiday and put the bins in chronological order to make finding items more convenient. Uniform bin sizes make it easier to stack and store.

2. Store smaller items inside larger decor items. Decorative baskets or wrapped boxes brought out for Christmas or Chanukah are ideal places to

keep smaller tchotchkes like ceramics, dreidels, candlestick holders, or mantel hooks. Delicate items can be tucked into Christmas stockings or wrapped and stored in a fluffy tree skirt. Egg cartons can be used to keep small items safe as well.

3. Label everything so you will not need to dig through boxes or bins to know what is inside. This might be a good year

to ask for a label maker for the holidays!

4. Use overhead or wall storage for holiday decor. Overhead spaces in the garage or basement walls can be good spaces to keep holiday decorations. Always keep bins and boxes off the floor so they are not vulnerable to damage related to leaks or floods.

5. Garment bags can protect larger decorations, such as wreaths, artificial trees or signs. If you have a large number of mechanical, illuminated or inflatable lawn ornaments, consider investing in a small shed where these items can be safely kept. Wrap the extension cords and any bracing stakes or strings used with the decorations so it's easy to find.

6. Utilize pieces of cardboard as well as toilet paper or paper towel tubes to keep lights and wires tidy. Tuck cords into the toilet paper tubes, and wrap lights around the cardboard to avoid tangles.

7. Each year, take inventory of your decoration collection and toss out anything that is damaged or has seen better days.

Storing holiday decorations will take some time, but once you establish a system, things will be simple year after year.

Pile on the Christmas Spirit!

To all our loyal customers, friends & neighbors, we'd like to extend our heartfelt wishes for a happy and healthy holiday. May it be heavy with blessings and joy. Many thanks for your loyal support and friendship.

SHOP 'n SAVE EXPRESS
NO CARD NEEDED

Parsons • Davis

THE DAY ENDS WITH A NIGHT FULL OF STARS THAT NEVER APPEARED SO PRETTIER THAN BEFORE. EACH TWINKLING STAR IS PASSED ALONG TO YOU WITH A SPECIAL WISH, THAT ALL OF THE DAYS YOU LIVE COULD BE LIKE CHRISTMAS.

Dave's Service Center & Towing
Dryfork
304-227-4517

www.parsonsadvocate.com

SAVOR THE SEASON

To our customers and friends we extend our best wishes for a joyous holiday season and prosperous new year.

MR PIZZA
Parsons
304-478-3663



Day trips to entertain holiday guests

Travel tends to heat up as the weather begins to chill around the holiday season. With friends and family to see and holiday cheer to spread, it's no wonder why millions of people take to the roads, railways and friendly skies to travel during the holiday season.

It's not uncommon for holiday hosts to open their homes to loved ones for days at a time. Holiday hosts who want to ensure that visitors enjoy their stay can plan certain excursions to make the most of their time together.

1. Go see the lights. Holiday lighting displays are popular across the country. Treat guests to a visit to a nearby attraction. That could be an amusement park that drapes the center of the park in lights, Main Street storefronts and town centers that put on tree lighting ceremonies, urban centers where department stores showcase impressive windows, or other attractions where lights take center stage.
2. See a show. From productions of 'A Christmas Carol' to other holiday favorites, it's not difficult to find entertainment that showcases some

holiday spirit. Dance troupes may be showcasing 'The Nutcracker' or a choral ensemble may be putting on a concert of Christmas carols. Enjoy a night or day out at one of these events.

3. Visit a cathedral or temple. The holiday season brings many individuals closer to their faiths. Travelers may want to visit a house of worship during their stay. Many churches are dressed up for Christmas and some may even have live animals in their living nativity scenes.
4. Cut down a Christmas tree. Save the tree cutting and trimming for when guests arrive. This way everyone can enjoy a day out at the tree farm as families select the perfect evergreen. Partake in refreshments such as hot chocolate or warm cider, then return home to decorate the tree together.

Day trips with overnight guests staying for the holidays can make for an entertaining way to get out of the house and enjoy time together.

Fun books to read to children this holiday season

The holiday season is a special time of year for people of all ages, but children might be the most enthusiastic celebrants come December. Children spend much of the holiday season anticipating the arrival of the man in the red suit, and that enthusiasm can be contagious.

Families have their own unique traditions during the holiday season, but one popular way to harness kids' enthusiasm between Thanksgiving and Christmas Day is to read them holiday stories. There's no shortage of great holiday books for kids, but here are a handful that kids may remember well into adulthood.

1. 'The Polar Express,' by Chris Van Allsburg: The beloved tale is the story of a young boy who boards a mysterious train bound for the North Pole.
2. 'The Littlest Elf,' by Brandi Dougherty: Part of a series, this story focuses on a tiny elf named Oliver and a series of misadventures as he navigates his way through Santa's workshop.
3. 'Olive, the Other Reindeer,' by Vivian Walsh: Olive is no ordinary reindeer. In fact, Olive is a dog who heads to the North Pole believing she is a reindeer. Her decision to join Santa's team ultimately benefits the big man and his trusty reindeer.
4. 'The Miracle of the First Poinsettia: A Mexican Christmas Story,' by Joanne Oppenheim: A little girl named Juanita is the star of this retelling of a traditional Mexican tale with a valuable lesson.
5. 'Gingerbread Mouse: A Christmas Holiday Book for Kids,' by Katy Bratun: A fallen tree branch almost ruins Christmas for Mouse, whose determination and resourcefulness mixed in with a little Christmas magic ensures she finds a place to call home in time

for the holidays.

6. 'A Night in Santa's Great Big Bag,' by Kristin Kladstrup: Santa saves the day in this tale starring a young boy's favorite stuffed animal, whose excitement for Christmas compels him to climb into Santa's big bag of presents on Christmas Eve.
7. 'Santa Claus and the Three Bears,' by Maria Modugno: This twist on the popular tale 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' finds three unsuspecting bears encountering a familiar fellow in a red suit upon returning home after a nighttime walk.
8. 'Twas the Night Before Christmas: Edited by Santa Claus for the Benefit of Children of the 21st Century,' by Clement C. Moore: Parents will appreciate this updated version of the popular tale that, among other things, has removed the reference to Santa smoking.
9. 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas!' by Dr. Seuss: Children can join generations of fans that came before them as they hear the redemption story of the Grinch who was once determined to ruin Christmas for the happy people of Whoville.
10. 'The Nutcracker,' by the New York City Ballet: The classic story is retold based on famed choreographer George Balanchine's production.

The holiday season is steeped in tradition. Reading new and classic holiday stories to children is one tradition any family can embrace.

It's not how much we give but how much love we put in giving
-Mother Teresa

Ricottilli Lumber Company
Moore, WV • 304-478-4074

In this loveliest of seasons may you find many reasons for happiness. Merry Christmas from our family to yours!

East West PRINTING
DAVIS, WV

Warmest thoughts and best wishes for a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. May peace, love, and prosperity follow you always.

Jordan Fenner,
Licensee in Charge

Davis, WV • 304-259-5261

Hinkle Fenner FUNERAL HOME

All of us at Louie's Bargain Warehouse joins in sending holiday greetings with every good wish for the new year.

DAVIS, WEST VIRGINIA

Warm Winter Wishes and Happy Holidays from your friends at

Best of Canaan

Real Estate Sales
Vacation Rentals
www.bestofcanaan.com
304-866-8680

Amy Barb, Broker

Whatever is beautiful. Whatever is meaningful. Whatever brings you happiness. May it be yours this holiday season and throughout the coming year.

City of Parsons
The Little City with a Big Heart

May your holidays be bright and happy and may all your Christmas wishes come true. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

elsewhere salon

• Courtney Marie •
Owner/Stylist

304-621-1090
428 2nd St., Parsons, WV 26287

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for doing business with us and to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Merry CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

CORK'S TURKEY KNOB WINES, LLC

513 Blackman Flats Road • 304-704-2144

Sending lots of peace and joy to you and your family this Christmas season.

Riley Barb
Tucker County Magistrate

Paid by Riley Barb

May your holidays sparkle & shine. Be filled with wonder. Be touched by peace. Believe in the miracle. May the holidays bring you lots of reasons to smile.

WV Paving
Parsons
304-478-2400

"One of the greatest joys of this season is the opportunity to wish you and all those close to you a joyous holiday season and a new year filled with happiness and hope for a world at peace."

Savannah Hull Wilkins
Tucker County Prosecuting Attorney

We thank you for your business and wish you a very Merry Christmas and the Happiest of New Years.

Filler Construction and Filler Taxidermy

Step back in time with Christmas goose

The holiday season is a sentimental time of year. Nostalgia for past holiday seasons and excitement about what's to come make this a particularly special time of year for millions of people across the globe.

It's not uncommon for Christmas celebrants to include a little history in their decorations and celebrations each year. Some families may read Charles Dickens' early Victorian novella A Christmas Carol together before watching one of the many film adaptations of the beloved story. Many popular Christmas carols also date back to the nineteenth century if not earlier, adding another degree of nostalgia to the season. Even food can add a touch of the sentimental to Christmas celebrations. This year, holiday hosts can create some nostalgia around the Christmas dinner table by serving this recipe for 'Roasted Christmas Goose' courtesy of the Food Network and Mark Slawson of the The Wort Hotel in Jackson, Wyoming.

Roasted Christmas Goose

Yields 6 to 8 servings

- 1 14- to 16-pound goose
- 1/4 cup sea salt
- 1 lemon, halved
- 1 apple, cut into chunks
- 1 potato, cut into chunks
- 1 orange, sliced
- 1 cup chopped celery

Basting Syrup (recipe follows)

Stuffing (recipe follows)

Cumberland Sauce (recipe follows)

Basting Syrup

- 1/3 cup corn syrup
- 1/3 cup cane syrup
- 1/3 cup melted butter
- 1/4 cup light brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons brandy

Stuffing

- 3 cups whole chestnuts, roasted and peeled
- 1 14-ounce bag stuffing mix
- 1 cup raisins



- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 1/4 cup diced apple
- 1/4 cup diced onion
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper
- 3 cups chicken stock
- 3/4 cup melted butter
- 1/4 cup heavy cream

Cumberland Sauce:

- 1 1/2 cups beef stock
- 3/4 cup port wine
- 3/4 cup red wine vinegar
- 3 shallots, peeled and chopped
- 1 tablespoon crushed black peppercorns
- 3 oranges, juiced

1. Place goose in a large pot. Add water to cover and stir in the sea salt. Refrigerate overnight.

2. Preheat oven to 450 degrees F.

3. Remove goose from water and drain well. Remove all innards and trim excess fat from the tail. Rub inside cavity with lemon juice. Place apple, potato, orange and celery inside the body cavity. Truss the bird like a tur-

key.

4. Place the goose in the preheated 450 degree F oven. Reduce oven temperature to 350 degrees F. Cook 20 to 25 minutes per pound. Baste the goose every half hour with the Basting Syrup.

5. Carve goose and serve with Stuffing and Cumberland sauce.

Basting Syrup:

6. Mix all ingredients together in a small bowl.

Stuffing:

7. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

8. Coarsely chop the chestnuts and put in a large bowl. Add the stuffing mix, raisins, celery, apple, onion and salt and pepper. Toss to combine. Pour in the chicken stock, butter and cream and mix until evenly moistened.

9. Transfer to a baking dish and bake until the top is browned and crisp, about 1 hour.

Cumberland Sauce:

10. In a saucepan, combine the stock, port, vinegar, shallots, peppercorns and orange juice. Bring to a boil, cook until reduced by 2/3, about 25 minutes. Strain and refrigerate. Serve cold over roast goose.

May the timeless message of Christmas fill your heart and home with joy today and throughout the coming year.

Camden's Corner Mart

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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

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Warmest thoughts and best wishes for a wonderful holiday and a happy New Year.

May peace, love, and prosperity follow you always.

Brian Wilfong

TUCKER COUNTY MAGISTRATE

Paid by candidate.

May this Christmas end the present year on a cheerful note and make way for a fresh and bright New Year. Here's wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Tucker County Family Resource Network

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Wishing you the best during this joyful season. I hope your holidays are filled with festivities and plenty of merry enjoyment.

The Christmas Shoppe & More

East Ave., Thomas • 304-463-4002

Joy and Blessings

from our family to yours, this Christmas and every day.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL. We appreciate each of you.

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Parsons • 681-399-9184

May the good times and treasures of the present become the golden memories of tomorrow for your lovely family, just as our childhood memories of Holidays past are such happy recollections now. Wishing you lots of joy and happiness. Merry Christmas!

Hinchcliff Lumber Company

Hendricks, WV

HAVE A HAPPY HEALTHY HOLIDAY!



Davis HealthSystem

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Wishing You a Merry Christmas

And a Healthy New Year!

Amidst the twinkling lights and festive cheer, St. George Medical extends warm wishes to our cherished Tucker County community. As we embrace the spirit of the season, we're reminded of the importance of health and well-being. May your holidays be filled with happiness, good health, and the love of those who matter most. From all of us at St. George Medical, Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays! Here's to a Healthy New Year!

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Parsons / 304-478-3339
-  **St. George Canaan Valley Clinic**
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Your health matters, especially during the holidays. Call to schedule your appointment or visit StGeorgeClinic.org for more information.



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