

The Parsons Advocate

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF TUCKER COUNTY SINCE 1896

Volume 128 No. 44

Wednesday, December 27, 2023

\$1.00 (tax incl.)

Homeowners Tied Up in Riverwalk Controversy

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

The City of Davis filed a motion to condemn 12 lots and a private roadway in the Riverwalk housing development. As a result of the filing, the sale of the 12 lots has been put on hold due to titling issues associated with the filing by the City. One of the homeowners affected is 29 year old West Virginia native Colt Holbert.

According to Holbert, the Riverwalk property would be a house he could afford. "Believe it or not, this is affordable housing," Holbert said. "Its a little tiny lot and I am going to build a house that I can actually afford."

Holbert said affordable home ownership for someone his age is difficult and often expensive. "Its going to be super efficient and I am going to try to get my life started because for people my age, its really hard," Holbert said. "We have a lot of road bumps and right out of college I couldn't afford to just buy a house. The



Colt Holbert stands on the lot he purchased in the Riverwalk housing development. Holbert's and 11 other home sites were recently condemned by the City of Davis in a filing at the Tucker County Courthouse. Property Developer Pete Johnson is fighting the filing in court and has filed through is attorney a motion to dismiss that will be heard by District Court Judge Ryan in January.

mortgage payment is going to be super reasonable. Most people would be able to

afford the mortgage on it." The project was available to any-

one interested, according to Holbert. "I was researching the median household income," Holbert said. "Even at that, this was available for anybody who wanted. Like if the locals wanted to move in to here, it was available."

Holbert said that he was attracted to the lot due to the fact that utilities were already on the site making it build ready. "What I like about it is all of the utilities are right there to develop a lot, to put septic, electric, all that, you can have 50 grand in just doing that," Holbert said. "And that's all I'm paying for the lot."

According to Holbert, he purchased the lot for less than what his appraisal of the site was. "When the appraisal came back, the appraisal was higher than what Pete's charging me," Holbert said.

Holbert said he is looking forward to small town life in Davis and the convenience the location has to the town's amenities and shops. Holbert currently lives in Parkersburg and said he expends a lot

See RIVERWALK page 6

Is it Santa's Village? No, its the Nelsons



The Nelsons' Sunset Heights display features a light display with an FM transmitter. The transmitter plays music synced to the light display for passers by to enjoy. The Nelsons also open their driveway to those wishing to drive through the display that is arranged throughout their yard.

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Travel to Sunset Heights and you just may feel like you have arrived at the North Pole. Tammy Nelson and her husband Randy have created a unique light display. The Nelsons' display encompasses the majority of their yard and features a FM transmitter to broadcast music that is synced to the light display.

According to Tammy Nelson, the show is a labor of love. Mrs. Nelson credits her grandmother with instilling her love of Christmas. Mrs. Nelson said her grandmother always had a big display. "I love Christmas. I always have. We've always done Christmas big," Mrs. Nelson said.

The display has been growing over the last seven years, according to the Nelsons. The Nelsons said the archway in the drive was the



The Nelsons' son has set up a display of his own at his home on Highway 72 just past the old motel. While the younger Nelson's display is not set to music, it carries on the family tradition well and will surely grow in the years to come.

first animated display they made. Randy Nelson built the arch and the display has grown each year since with such additions as an elf, Frosty, Merry Christmas sign, animated faces that change to sing along with the music and two trees, including the Nelsons' latest addition of a 12 foot lighted tree in the back by their garage.

When asked if she had any advice for those wanting to start a large display, Mrs. Nelson

said to start small. Mrs. Nelson added that she advised not to jump in with too much at one time, but add to the show each year and build it up gradually. Mrs. Nelson also said that LED lights help keep the electrical costs down better than conventional Christmas lights do. Mrs. Nelson said she has received a lot of advice, assistance and display pieces from Animated Lighting out of Kansas City,

See NELSONS page 2



Judy Honored by City of Parsons

Mayor Dorothy Judy was honored at a Banquet hosted by the City of Parsons for her 16 years of service to the City. Judy was only the second female mayor of the City and served as mayor the longest. Several people spoke at the event including Judy's husband and children, as well as City Administrator Agnes Arnold who served as Master of Cer-

emonies at the event City Council Member Tim Auvil, Mayor Bruce Kolsun and Jason Myers. Judy was presented with a certificate of recognition from City Council Members Tim Auvil and James Humphrey with Mayor Bruce Kolsun. Judy was also given a portrait of the courthouse by her granddaughter at the banquet.

City of Thomas approves new fire service protection fees

By Kelly Stadelman
For The Parsons Advocate

After lengthy discussions and clarifications from the city's attorney and the Thomas Volunteer Fire Department, the Thomas City Council unanimously approved a new ordinance enacting a fire service fee for its residents.

The new fire service fee will be effective on July 1, 2024, giving the city officials time to review and adequately classify each structure within city limits. The classification is based

on the type and use of the structure, with industrial structures, multi-family residential units, non-residential units, and residential structures each having a different fee.

The new fire classification fees are: Industrial Structure \$12 per month, Multiple-Family Residential Unit Structure \$8 per month, Non-Residential Unit Structure \$8 per month, and Residential Unit Structure \$5 per month. The new fire service fee shall be effective upon commencement of

See FIRE SERVICE page 4

City of Thomas seeks additional dilapidated structures to remove

By Kelly Stadelman
For The Parsons Advocate

While the Thomas City Council considers contracting with a local company for trash removal, officials search for additional abandoned and dilapidated structures, including outbuildings and sheds, to demolish.

"We are looking for people inside city limits who have abandoned or

dilapidated buildings on their property that they want removed," said Mayor Jody Flanagan. "If anyone has a structure or an outbuilding they want removed, please contact city hall."

Thomas City Hall telephone, 304-463-4360, or email cityofthomas@frontiernet.net.

In October 2022, the West Vir-

See STRUCTURES page 3

Parsons VFD Address City Council

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Parsons Volunteer Fire Department Chief Kevin White updated the Parsons City Council on matters pertaining to the 2024 Fireman's Fair and the progress the Fire Department has made in updating the Department's fire fighting equipment. The update came as part of the Council's meeting agenda's New Business.

The dates for the 2024 Annual Firemen's Homecoming Fair has been set for Saturday September 22, 2024 to Sunday, September 29, 2024 "About three years ago, we moved it back into September from the May dates," White said. "And that is the date we will probably continue to have from here going forward."

White outlined plans for the annual event. According to White, the amusement ride company will arrive on September 22nd and roads will be blocked the following Monday. Wednesday through Saturday

following will feature amusement rides, entertainment and Bingo with Tuesday being the official start of festivities with an Open House at the Fire Department. "The events actually kick off on Tuesday evening with our annual Open House at the Fire Department," White said.

By Sunday or Monday, White said everything should be torn down and gone from the site. "Sunday, Monday, usually they are gone by Sunday morning," White said. "With the exception of the Bingo tent, which is in the private parking lot and the downtown stage, which is usually on Walnut, where you turn off of First onto Walnut."

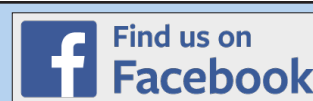
White said that the other streets would be open on Sunday morning. "So all the other streets should be opened up by probably Sunday morning when you show up to go to church or wherever you would be going," White said.

White said the VFD does make a small

See PARSONS VFD page 4



VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM



News of Record

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

- **Katrina Ann Miller**, of Thomas, was charged with one count of Domestic Battery. According to the complaint on Friday, Dec. 15 Trooper G.P. Hahn was dispatched to 275 Brown St. in Thomas for a call of a domestic. He arrived on scene and made contact with John W. Dice (victim) and another officer who was on scene. He was advised that the victim and his partner had gotten into an argument over lights being on in the residence. The officer was advised that the victim's partner, Katrina A. Miller (accused) had been arguing with him before physically attacking him. He was advised that the accused had bitten the victim's chest area and had struck him in the face. The officer was assisted by another WVSP unit who observed bruising on the victim's chest. Hahn made contact with the accused who stated that a fight had ensued between the two parties. The accused stated that she had allegedly struck the victim during the altercation. The accused also stated she had allegedly bitten him at some point during the altercation.
- **Jakob Joshua Plumley**, of Parsons, has been charged with 5 counts of Entry of Building other than dwelling; entry of railroad, traction or motorcar, steamboat or other vessel. The complaint states that Tucker County 911 received a call for a vehicle breaking and entering at 101 McFadden St in Parsons. The victim called and advised that someone had gotten into her vehicle and in doing so had set off the car alarm. The victim advised that when she heard the car alarm going off, she looked out the window and observed the silhouette of a subject running away in the direction of Mill Race Park. Patrolman First Class N.C. Gidley and Trooper Musgrave arrived on scene at approximately 11:23 p.m. and spoke with the victim about the incident. She advised that her rear car door does not lock when using the key fob and she had forgotten to manually lock the door. She stated she was lying in bed when she heard the car alarm going off and saw the silhouette of the subject running in the direction of Mill Race Park but could not get a description. Gidley accessed the Mill Race CCTV camera system and observed a male subject in a plaid jacket with a hooded jacket

underneath, beanie, gloves, unknown type of pants and a face mask walking in the direction of McFadden St from the area of the Wellness Center at approximately 11:15 p.m. It can be observed what appeared to be headlights flashing on a vehicle, which is consistent with a car alarm going off. The same subject is then seen at 11:16 p.m. running from McFadden St in the direction of the Wellness Center and going off camera as they pass behind the bathrooms near the Center. While officers were on the scene, a second call came from Tucker 911 at approximately 11:55 p.m. in regards to a second vehicle breaking and entering at 307 Third St. in Parsons. The victim advised that his wife had heard a noise outside their apartment and upon investigating saw a male subject in her husband's truck. 911 advised the subject was wearing a plaid jacket, WV hat and had a black beard and the wife had told the subject to empty his pockets and get away from the truck. At this point the male subject left the area going down Panther Lane in the direction of the Courthouse. PFC Gidley and Trooper Musgrave then canvassed the area around the scene at 307 Third St. attempting to locate the subject. He could not be located at which time Gidley went to speak with the victim and his wife. At this time they were able to identify the subject as Jakob Plumley. The subject was known as someone that the husband had worked with. When shown a picture of the subject in Mill Race Park the wife stated that it was the same individual that was in her husband's truck. On Thursday, Dec. 14, Chief K.L. Keplinger received information that three individual vehicles had been entered the same night as the two above mentioned incidents. He informed Gidley that two vehicles at EMS Station 1 had been entered and upon seeing camera footage from the Parsons Fire Department CCTV, provided by the Fire Chief, a vehicle on Panther Lane was also entered by the subject. On Friday, Dec. 15 Gidley observed CCTV camera footage from the PVFD and observed the same subject as mentioned above enter into a pickup truck in front of 228 Panther Lane at approximately 11:32 p.m. At which point the subject walks the alley way beside the fire department towards Main St. From the CCTV footage at the fire department, Gidley is able to identify the subject as Jakob Plumley. He

is wearing the same attire as mentioned above and is seen leaving the view of the front camera heading in the direction of EMS Station 1 where the other two vehicles were entered. At approximately 11:45 p.m. the fire department CCTV again captures Plumley coming down Panther Lane from the direction of Third St. This timeframe is consistent with the time and location the second victim advised that his wife had allegedly found Plumley in their vehicle and confronted him. The victim advised that the incident occurred approximately ten minutes before the call to Tucker 911 was made which came in at approximately 11:55 p.m. All individuals are presumed innocent until proved otherwise by a court of law.

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

- Donald J. Cathell and Georgeanna S. Cathell, Dry Fork District, Unit A6 Week 8 Land of Canaan Vacation Resort Inc. to Land of Canaan Home Owners Association Inv., \$505.
- Carolyn M. Corrigan, Dry Fork District, Unit B1, Week 14 Land of Canaan Vacation Resort Inc. to Land of Canaan Home Owners Association Inc., \$505.
- Shannon D. Haug, Dry Fork District, Unit D5, Week 28 Land of Canaan Vacation Resort Inc. to Land of Canaan Home Owners Association Inc., \$5,517.24.
- Donald J. Cathell and Georgeanna S. Cathell, Dry Fork District, Unit D6 Week 2 Land of Canaan Vacation Resort Inc. to Land of Canaan Home Owners Association Inc., \$505.
- Anthony Martin, Dry Fork District, Unit B2, Week 18 Land of Canaan Vacation Resort Inc. to Land of Canaan Home Owners Association Inc., \$505.
- Jaclyn L. Nichols, Parsons Corporation, 1.02 acres more or less to Mountain Valley Bank, \$123,000.
- G. Russell Rollyson, Jr., Clover District, ½ M 85 Clover Run to Reger Companies LLC, \$1,192.69.

The following marriage has been recorded in the Tucker County Clerk's office;

- Conner Miles Oldaker to Faith Marie Coomer on Thursday, Dec. 14, 2023.

J. Pifer Makes Court Appearance

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Jerry Pifer appeared before Judge Courier in District Court with his attorney James Hawkins. Tucker County Prosecuting Attorney Savannah Hull Wilkins appeared for the State in the matter.

The status hearing had no pending motions to be heard that day. However, Wilkins informed the court that a plea agreement had been sent to the defense. The Defense had sent a counter offer, but no agreement had been reached as of the court appearance, according to Wilkins. "We are still negotiating a possible plea,"

Wilkins said. Specifics of the plea and counter offer were not discussed in open court and no details are available. A court appearance in the case was scheduled for February 20th in the case. Pifer is charged with Malicious Assault.

M. Pifer Undecided on Plea Deal

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Maverick Pifer appeared before Judge Courier in District Court. The appearance was intended to hear a plea or suppression motion. Pifer appeared in person along with his attorney Brent Easton. Tucker County Prosecuting Attorney Savannah Hull Wilkins represented the State in the matter.

received the agreement, specifics of the agreement were not discussed in open court. Judge Courier asked about a suppression issue raised by the defense in the case. Easton said the matter did not need to be addressed by the court currently. "I don't think we need to do it today," Easton said. Wilkins said there was a companion case to Pifer's that was also making its way through the courts. She asked that the court proceed slower than usual in order to see how the other case progresses and what the outcome may be. Wilkins commented that the compan-

ion case was progressing well. "The other case is going according to plan," Wilkins said. Pifer was indicted by Grand Jury on two counts and is accused of child abuse resulting in bodily harm and strangulation. If convicted on the charges, Pifer could face a possible 1-5 year sentence and \$100 to \$1,000 fine on the Child Abuse charge and a 1-5 year sentence and up to \$2,500 fine on the strangulation charge. A hearing was scheduled by the court for February 20th to hear motions or address the plea agreement should an arrangement be met.

Nelsons

Cont. From Front Page 1

MO. The company specializes in custom light displays. The Nelsons also said their son has carried on the family tradition at his home on Highway 72 just past the old motel in Parsons. The Nelson spoke with animated pride at the display their son has set up. "Now Andy, our son has gotten into it big time," the Nelsons said. "He lives down there where we lived and he built himself an arch this year." While the Nelsons begin set up in October and some trees can take around three hours to wrap, the Nelsons said that tear down goes much faster. The Nelsons said they try to find and fix any issues with the display as they tear down with some items being placed aside for Mr. Nelson to address later in his workshop. The Nelsons have opened their driveway to the public in order to fully experience the light show. The drive features a lighted arch and overhead laser lights along the drive. The display begins at 5p.m. nightly and ends around 11p.m.



Randy and Tammy Nelson, pictured, begin setting up their musical light display at their home in Sunset Heights in October. Their light show plays from 5 to 11 p.m. each night.

The Parsons Advocate

FROM THE MOUNTAINS
TO THE VALLEYS
YOUR HOMETOWN
OR YOUR SECOND HOME

We bring you news from
Tucker County every week.

Fill out this coupon to subscribe
today or visit us online at
www.parsonsadvocate.com

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

— Circle One —

In-State	Out-of-State	Web Only
\$42/Year	\$47/Year	\$29/Year

Anywhere	Monthly
Print & Web	Print & Web
\$59/Year	\$5.75/Month
	<small>Autorenewal Credit/Debit only</small>

SEND CHECKS TO THE PARSONS ADVOCATE
P.O. BOX 345 PARSONS, WV 26287

PARSONS ADVOCATE LETTERS TO EDITOR POLICY

The Parsons Advocate encourages letters to the editor. Letters can be mailed to P.O. Box 345, Parsons, WV 26287 (envelopes must show a return address), faxed to 304-478-1086, e-mailed to mikie@parsonsadvocate.com or dropped off at our office at 219 Central Ave. Submissions must include a daytime telephone number, name and address. This is for verification purposes. Letters can be submitted only once each 30 days and can not exceed 500 words. Submitting a letter does not guarantee it will be published. All letters become prop-

erty of The Parsons Advocate. The Parsons Advocate reserves the right to edit and/or reject letters. Personal attacks, lies, and etc. will not be published. The views expressed in letters are not necessarily the views of the Parsons Advocate. Thank you notes and advertising are not considered as letters to the editor. When submitting letters do not use all caps, italics or bold. Use punctuation, upper and lower case letters and indent for paragraphs. If you have any questions, please call us at 304-478-3533.

The Parsons Advocate

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

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

OBITUARIES

Harold Otto Gooden, Sr.

Harold Otto Gooden, Sr., age 77 years, a resident of the Clover Run Community, Parsons, WV departed this life Thursday, December 21, 2023, at his home. He had been in declining health.

He was born Sunday, November 3, 1946, at Fairmont, WV, a son of the late Fredrick David Gooden and Vivetta May Summerfield Gooden, who passed away when he was six years old. He was married to the former Sandra Kay Workman, who preceded him in death January 23, 2022.

Surviving are five sons, David Gooden of VA, Gary B. Gooden and wife Heather of WV, James J. Gooden and wife Becca of VA, Joe L. Gooden of Parsons, and Benjamin K. Gooden and wife Jessica of Parsons; beloved stepson, Richard Edward Kencel, Jr. and wife Joyce of Winchester, VA; four brothers, Tom Gooden and Sheila, Boo Gooden and wife Linda, and Robert Gooden, all of Fairmont, and Danny Gooden of Par-



sons; six sisters, Elsie Ford, Vivetta "Sis" Carter, Elsie Metheny, Robin Harper, Mary Ann Lipscomb, all of Fairmont, and Rosie Crocker of VA; seventeen grandchildren, Jessica, Michael, Ryan, Autumn, Matthew, Zach, Kendra, Zane, Kendall, Shelby, Cheyann, Brianna, Ben, Trea, Lance, Eilish, and Caleb; four great grandchildren, Logan, Emberly, Ean and James; sister-in-law, Jane Gooden of Fairmont; and several nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death are his stepmother, Pearl Ruth Youtzy Gooden; one son, Harold O. Gooden, Jr., one grandson, Justin; two

brothers, Dave Gooden and Lester Gooden.

He attended Marion County High School. He was Christian by faith. He was a welder and electrician, while working in the mines, retiring from Eastern Associated Peabody Coal Company in Boone County. Harold enjoyed hunting and running his backhoe in his backyard. Grandpa loved spending time with his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

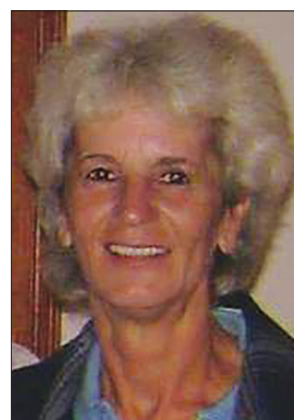
The family will receive friends at the Lohr & Barb Funeral Home of Parsons, WV on Friday, December 29, 2023, from 10 a.m. to 12 Noon. Final rites will be conducted at the funeral home on Friday at 12 Noon. The Reverend Kevin Gainer and The Reverend Justin Jones will officiate and interment will follow at the Harsh Cemetery at Clover Run. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements for Harold Otto Gooden, Sr. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com.

Laura Jean Howell Hunt

Laura Jean Howell Hunt, age 60 years, a resident of St. George, WV, departed this life Tuesday evening December 19, 2023, at Mon Health Medical Center in Morgantown, WV.

She was born Sunday, April 21, 1963, at Elkins, WV, a daughter of Donnie Austin Howell, Sr. of Beverly and the late Georgianna Short Howell. On June 26, 1991, at Parsons, WV, she was married to James Douglas Hunt, who survives. They had celebrated thirty-two years of marriage.

Also surviving are three sons, David Lee Asbury and fiancé Tamara of Bruceton Mills, Brandon Jay Hunt and wife Kelly of Washington, NC, and Nathaniel Gerard Hunt of St. George; one stepdaughter, Kyleen Dye of New Mexico; one brother, Donnie Austin Howell, Jr. and wife



Sandy of Junior; four sisters, Debbie Mallow and husband Bill of Hutonsville, Rose Howell Phares of Elkins, Lisa Howell of Baltimore and Doreen Summerfield and husband Danny of Elkins; seven grandchildren, Lathius and Xavier, Caleb and Tessa, Christopher, Chayce and Camden; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by two sisters, Shirley Ann Arbogast and Donna Gail Hamrick.

She attended Elkins High School. She had

previously worked in nursing at Davis Medical Center and Nella's, she worked in retail management in Petersburg and Parsons. Laura worked in Labor Union #984 of Clarksburg. Laura enjoyed feeding her deer and turkeys and loved the beauty of the outdoors. She recently enjoyed watching Hallmark Christmas movies, was a very strong lady, always had a smile and was a joy to talk with.

Laura's request for cremation was honored. The family will receive friends at the Lohr & Barb Funeral Home of Parsons, WV on Wednesday, December 27, 2023, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. A Memorial Service will be conducted on Wednesday at 6 p.m. The Reverend Julie M. Davis will officiate. Condolences may be expressed to the family at; www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com.

Structures

Cont. From Front Page 1

ginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) awarded the city of Thomas \$245,000 to remove abandoned and dilapidated structures. Thus far, city officials awarded \$111,000 for demolishing five large buildings at no cost to the property owners.

"We have extra money that we were awarded under this particular project grant," Flanagan said. "We can start taking down some more buildings, but we have to go through the bidding process again. It has to be advertised in paper for two weeks, and the asbestos testing has to be done again. We have until April to get everything completed."

The grant covers the cost of removal of the outbuildings and structures, with the property owner retaining ownership of the land. Before demolition, property owners must sign off on the project, allowing the city to tear down the structure(s).

During the Dec. 12 regular council meeting, members heard from Josh Slone, business development manager of Sunrise Sanitation Services.

Slone said Sunrise Sanitation would be interested in taking over the responsibility of trash pickup for city residents and businesses. He said the company recently took over responsibility for trash for the Cities of Terra Alta and Tunnelton.

"I would love, if possible, to start the process of communicating and giving you a bit of information as far as what we can do and what we've

done with a lot of other small towns," Slone said. "Ultimately, we are able to save the city money just by the ease of us taking it over. We can take over all the billing, or you can still do the billing, and we can take care of the trash.

"There are a lot of different avenues that we can take to come at this."

Slone reassured council members that they do not raise the price when Sunrise Sanitation takes over a city's trash responsibilities for its residents and businesses.

"We don't want to make a burden for any of the citizens or anything of that nature," he said.

City Council member Erika Smith asked, "I want to clarify that you take the responsibility for trash, but are you also saying that you take on the fees that the city has already put in place?"

Slone responded in the affirmative that the company would give the customers the same price for at least 12 months and possibly longer. Currently, residents pay \$11.75 monthly.

"In West Virginia, a lot of the pricing has to do with the Public Service Commission and their rules and regulations as far as what we can and can't do," he said. "We always guarantee a full year, and hopefully, we can continue the same price longer."

He added that the collection and billing structure can be done several different ways.

"Our goal is to make it easy for you," Slone said. "Obviously, we are already here, and we are in the business of pick-

ing up trash. We try to do as much as we can for the communities.

"Our goal is to get as much business as we can and grow if we can. If that means we've got to hire more people, we'll hire more people, which is awesome."

Slone said that Sunrise Sanitation is open to different contract lengths and is willing to purchase the city's trash equipment if they wish.

Slone plans to attend the next regular City of Thomas Council meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 9, and give a formal presentation.

During the past year, the council has been reviewing the city's Garbage ordinance for residents and businesses. The current ordinance is dated 2007, the last time rates changed.

Recorder Kimberly Trathen said she would contact the city's accountant, Mark Joseph, to see if he completed the financial review of the Garbage account from the past two years.

In other business:

- Flanagan informed the council that he received a quote of \$4,500 from City Neon to replace the old Miners & Merchants Bank sign on Front Street. The quote includes the cost of removing the old sign, installing new LED lighting, two new blank panels, and a skin (decal) to put over the panels.

"The bank would pay the \$1,100 to remove their old sign, with the city being responsible for the \$3,400," he said. "Design of the new decal is included in the quote."

Smith explained that Miners & Merchants Bank approached the new owners of the old bank building about their desire to remove their logo from the lighted sign. The new owners declined the offer, offering the sign to the city.

"The owners want to know if the city is interested," Smith said. "If we decide not to put a new sign up, they're going to take the whole sign down, so the time, the temperature, all of it would be taken down."

After a short discussion, council members voted unanimously to move forward with the project, keeping the sign and replacing the old Miners & Merchants Bank logo.

- Council unanimously approved a building permit application from Mountain State Brewing Company. The brewery is adding an addition involving enclosing its existing dining area for additional seating.

Members also discussed the city's options for enforcing its construction ordinance, requiring construction projects to receive approval before building.

Currently, there are two new housing projects in violation of the city's ordinance. The projects didn't receive approval before construction. One new house is completed, while the second is under the roof.

Members decided to proceed with enforcement of the construction ordinance by first mailing a letter asking for a construction permit to be filed and paid. If there is no response, the city will send a second letter of request by certified mail.

START YOUR WEEK AT WORSHIP

The following merchants urge you to attend your chosen house of worship this sabbath.

Parsons Advocate
Parsons, WV • 304-478-3533

Kingsford Manufacturing Co.
Parsons, WV • 304-478-2991

The Grant County Bank
Davis, WV • 304-259-5201

Mountain Valley Bank, NA
Parsons, WV • 304-478-2461
www.mountainvalleybank.com
Member FDIC

Jim's All Star Foods
Parsons, WV 304-478-3248

WV Paving Company
"Builders of Highways & Byways"
Parsons, WV • 304-478-2400

Stevens' Florist
120 Poplar St., Parsons, WV 26287
304-478-2161



Heartfelt Thank You

The family of Edna Arbutis "Beauty" Harper Myers would like to thank everyone for the love and support shown to us during the difficult loss of our beloved "Beauty"

Thanks to all who sent flowers, cards, food, and kind words of sympathy following her passing.

Special thanks to Reverends James Snyder and Billy Hardy, Kevin Hostetler and staff, and the Shahan's for a beautiful service.

Thank you to Parsons Police, Keplinger and Gidley, for the escort to her final resting place.

Finally a heartfelt thank you to Hazel Dragovich, the ladies of the Porterwood Church, and her wonderful caregivers.

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

THANK YOU FOR READING
THE PARSONS ADVOCATE

Parsons VFD

Cont. From Front Page 1

amount of money from the event. According to White, the money raised is used to fund the protection of the citizens of Parsons. “We do make a little money at it,” White said. “We don’t make a to, but we do make a little bit of money and in our business, money is protection. Every dime we make goes back to the protection of the citizens or the equipment to protect them in.”

White said the department has received complements. According to White, the Fair has been held since the 1940s. “I can date it back that far,” White said. “We were actually the original group to bring rides to the City of Parsons and then they grouped up with the County Fair and so on.”

The event is about more than fundraising to the VFD, White said. The VFD event brings out the community and gets them involved, according to White. “We feel we bring more than just a money making event,” White said. “We feel that we are bringing some community involvement, a true homecoming. We see people that come out to get a corn dog that come to town once a year basically, but they come for the Fair.”

The Council approved the request of use of the downtown streets for the Fair in an unanimous vote.

While White was before the Council, he also updated them on the VFD’s plans to upgrade equipment. According to White, the VFD has been exploring options to revamp their existing fire truck to extend the life of the rig. The VFD began exploring the option when the cost of a new fire truck skyrocketed, according to White. “I brought to you the fact that the truck we was looking at

is basically a million dollars now,” White said. “We have come up with Plan B because a million dollars is way above our budget and capabilities.”

Instead of ordering a new fire engine, White said the department has decided to have the existing one refurbished. The cost of the refurbishing White said would be around \$200,000. Along with the refurbishment of the engine, White said the department has also invested in a new Rapid Response Vehicle. “So we are going to get two trucks that will be able to service us for under \$300,000,” White said.

The Rapid Response Vehicle the VFD has ordered, according to White, is a 3500 GMC equipped with medical and rescue capabilities. The new vehicle is expected to arrive around the end of the year, White said. “I told you we were looking at a new Rapid Response Vehicle. We did order that vehicle.”

White said the measure would buy the department approximately another eight years to save money and look at options for a new fire truck in the future. Along with buying the VFD additional time to consider the purchase, White said he felt that the refurbishment of the engine and purchase of the Rapid Response Vehicle placed the department with a reliable fleet of vehicles to protect the citizens of Parsons. “We feel by the end of next year that we will have a very solid fleet to protect the citizens of Parsons,” White said.

According to White, the VFD is funded through Harman funds and fire fees that is applied for by the department and awarded through the City. White stated that

the VFD does not have an “open checkbook” and that he wanted it made clear that the City controls the distribution of funds to the department. “The City controls our fire fees,” White said. “We do not have an unwanted, open checkbook. They tell us what we can and cannot buy for our presentation because there has been some question how we get our money and how its spent.”

According to White, the yearly funding mainly goes towards equipment. “We appreciate all the help you all (provide) whenever it comes time to throw a few dollars for the betterment of the citizens of Parsons and our annual fire fees that you all collect on our water bills,” White said.

According to White, the Ladies’ Auxiliary fund raises. Those funds, White said supplies the VFD with discretionary money, but has also been donated to the truck fund over the years as well as other needed equipment. White said the VFD has been looking at the purchase of an electronic sign to display events and information. According to White, the Auxiliary has given the department \$17,000 towards the purchase of the sign through their “Chicken Burn” fund raisers. White said. “They made all that money by selling chickens. That’s a lot of chickens.”

White praised the Ladies’ Auxiliary. According to White, he was recently approached by a fire department outside the county that complimented him on the work the Auxiliary has done. “How do you get a Ladies’ Auxiliary that good?” White said. “That is his exact words...They wanted to know how we got such a good Ladies’ Auxiliary. It told him we was just lucky.”

Fire Service

Cont. From Front Page 1

construction.

Mayor Jody Flanagan said that currently, water and sewer customers of the City of Thomas have the option to pay a dollar per month to the Thomas Volunteer Fire Department.

“Right now, it’s optional, but there is a bunch of grant money out there for fire departments so they can get new equipment and have enough money to pay their taxes, insurance, training, and stuff like that,” he said. “It’s very expensive to operate a volunteer fire department. We’ve been fortunate over the years to have such a good volunteer fire department.”

“The state is requiring the fire departments to have a mandatory fire service fee to be eligible to apply for these grants. It can’t be a donation. This new fee will make the fire department eligible for two grants, totaling around a quarter of a million dollars.”

Chief Christopher Pase and Assistant Chief/President Randy Davis of the Thomas Volunteer Fire Department attended the special council meeting on Dec. 18 to answer the council’s questions about the new fire service fee ordinance.

Recorder Kim Trathen asked how the fire department decided the fire fees for each structure unit classification.

“I would like to understand where this number came from and how to explain it to people,” she said.

Davis said the fire department started at a lower fire service fee but increased it based on the rate of the cities in the immediate area. Additionally, the department is applying for a state grant of \$150,000 and wants to ensure it is eligible.

“The rest of the cities around that did \$5 to get the

state grant, and that’s why we went with \$5,” Davis said. “With this amount, we wouldn’t raise it for several years.”

Pase added that the department also had to consider its expenses when developing the fee rates for city structures.

“Our insurance roughly every quarter is \$8,000, so I mean that’s why we went with \$5 a month,” Pase said. “Also, we are looking to build a new building on the side of the existing station.”

Council member Erika Smith asked if the fire department could provide the city with a copy of their annual budget for residents to review. Davis responded that the fire department would give the city a copy of the report.

“Once a year, we put the budget in the paper, and residents can also come look at our books, and we can show them how much we spend,” Davis said. “The money collected on July 4th goes toward next year’s fireworks, while the money from the cakewalks and hotdog sales goes to the fire department. We have separate accounts for each.”

Flanagan requested that fire department members keep city officials updated on how the fire service fees have been used.

“I would just like for you guys to come to one or two of our meetings a year and update the city so we can put it in the minutes,” he said. “Every six months, come down, give a brief report, tell us what’s been going on and what was purchased.”

Davis and Pase agreed that the public needs to be educated on equipment costs and the required training and keep city officials informed.

“Right now, all our gear needs replacement, and you’re looking at \$300,000 to \$400,000,” Davis explained. “The mandatory training is expensive too.”

Flanagan also encouraged the fire department to contact residents in the Thomas Volunteer Fire Department responding area who are outside city limits to request donations.

“Your responding area is large and includes Hogback, Leadmine, and Sugarlands,” Flanagan said. “It’s up to you guys to send out donation cards to get those residents living in that area to donate.”

Davis and Pase pointed out that some of the residents inside the responding area of the Thomas Volunteer Fire Department are already paying a fire service fee, but the money does not go to them.

“The people down there call us and say, ‘Hey, we’re paying this Parsons, and we’re in your territory,’” Davis said.

The legal detailing the new ordinance enacting a fire service fee and the structure unit definitions ran in The Parsons Advocate on Oct. 11 and 18. The city council held three readings of the new ordinance as required by law.

Members voting in favor of the ordinance at the second and third reading include Trathen and council members Christine Kozan, Charlie Davis, and Erika Smith. Council member Janice Mullenax was absent. City council members accepted the resignation of Junior Davis earlier this year.

At the next regular council meeting on Jan. 9, members will vote on an amendment to the new fire service fee ordinance. They are adding “short-term rentals” to the non-residential unit structure definition.

SENIOR NEWS

Senior Center Christmas Celebration

The Parsons Senior Center hosted a Christmas celebration on December 14, 2023. Linda J. Bonner welcomed everyone and led the Lord’s prayer and the pledge of allegiance. Jean Morrison played the piano for the group singing of God Bless America. Sharon Daniels led a lively discussion of old community traditions including sled riding on Quality Hill and skating on the pond. Linda J. Bonner and Eleanor Nestor did Christmas readings.

Linda J. Bonner introduced Dennis Filler, president of the Tucker County Ambulance Authority. Mr. Filler entertained the group with Christmas songs. He is playing for area organizations to raise donations for the Tucker County Emergency Squads. Santa Clause appeared and posed for pictures with delighted attendees. Linda D. Bonner, receptionist, held drawings for door prizes.

Tim Turner, Tucker County Senior Center Director, spoke of future

plans for the center and wants to see attendance grow. Meals are served daily at 11:30 am, the choir meets on Thursdays, and special programs are held throughout the month. To get on the newsletter mailing list or for further information, please call the center at 304-478-2423.

Attending were Betty Bennett, Jim Buddingh, Meg Buddingh, Shirley Cassidy, Raymond Collins, Ruth Connell, Sharon Daniels, Kenny Knotts, Betty Knotts, Virgil Knotts, Barb McClain, Earl Moore, Jean Morrison, Karl Myers, Don Nestor, Jane Parsons, Rita Roberts, Eleanor Nestor, Bonnie Smith, Glenda Lipscomb, Ida Workman, Nellie Workman, Dale Varner, David Varner, Linda J. Bonner, Arlene Ramsey, Virginia Popio, Lilly Nestor, Jean Myers, Buddy Arnold, Deloris Kelley, David Sharp, Mary Morral, Anna Fitzwater, Mabel Fitzwater, Sue Carroll, Pat Woods, April Fitzwater, Joyce Matheny, and David A. Poling.

Well, that’s a wrap!

The Tucker County Family Support Center’s 4th Annual Cindy’s Giving Tree program concluded yesterday with 226 kids receiving Christmas presents from well over 125 local sponsors. “We estimate that over \$39,500 worth of Christmas presents were distributed during this year’s program.

The generosity from our community surprises us every year,” said April Miller, executive director of the Tucker County Family Resource Network. “Cindy’s Giving Tree

is designed to help support local families by offsetting the sometimes-challenging costs that comes along with the holidays,” said Sandra Bohon, director of the Tucker Family Support Center. “The goal is sharing and spreading the joy of the Christmas holiday to everyone and we think we’ve successfully achieved that again this year.”

If you would like more information on programs of the Tucker FSC please message us or call us at 304-478-3827.

Tis the Season...

- ✓ Flu
- ✓ Stomach Bug
- ✓ Stuffy Nose
- ✓ RSV

Rebecca DePew, NP • Tisha Marsh, NP

DAVIS MEDICAL CENTER
Walk-In Clinic

Outpatient Center
Monday – Friday 7a-7p
Saturday 8a-12p

What's? Happening

Historic Landmark Meeting
The Tucker County Historic Landmark Commission will have a meeting on Jan. 8, 2024,

at the Tucker County Historical Society Museum at 4:30 p.m. The public is always welcome to attend.

Gov. Justice announces Water Development Authority approves over \$26 million in economic enhancement projects

CHARLESTON, WV — Gov. Justice announced the West Virginia Water Development Authority (WDA) has approved nine additional Economic Enhancement Grant Fund (EEGF) projects worth \$26,320,768.00 million.

The WDA manages the fund, which provides matching grants to municipalities for upgrading infrastructure such as water, sewer, economic development, commerce, and tourism projects.

In April 2022, Gov. Justice called a special session to fund the Economic Enhancement Grant Fund, at the time securing an initial amount of \$250 million.

Since then, the program has seen

exceptional success, and the WDA has approved EEGF projects worth \$330 million, impacting over 500,000 West Virginians. All in all, these projects will affect residents statewide.

The latest water and sewer projects approved by the Water Development Authority include in Tucker County Canaan Valley PSD in Tucker County

The Canaan Valley PSD has secured a \$1,000,000 WDA EEGF grant to extend sewer service to the customers in the area of Winwood Fly-In Resort, Deerfield Village and Canaan Village. This project is part of Canaan Valley PSD's comprehensive sewer plan. The total project cost is \$4,405,000.

Gov. Justice, WVDNR announce blue catfish state record broken again in West Virginia



Michael John Drake of St. Albans, WV, caught and released a record-breaking blue catfish weighing 69.45 pounds and measuring 50.51 inches

Michael John Drake of St. Albans, WV, caught and released a record-breaking blue catfish weighing 69.45 pounds and measuring 50.51 inches

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. — The state record for the largest blue catfish by weight has been broken for the fourth consecutive year, Governor Jim Justice and the West Virginia Division of National Resources (WVDNR) announced today.

On Dec. 8, Michael John Drake of St. Albans, WV, caught and released a blue catfish weighing 69.45 pounds and measuring 50.51 inches. Drake was

fishing using cut shad from his fishing boat on the R.C. Byrd Pool of the Ohio River near Gallipolis. Drake's record fish was measured by WVDNR hatchery manager Ryan Bosserman.

The previous record blue catfish of 67.22 pounds and 50.70 inches was held by Steven Price.

Anglers who believe they have caught a potential record-breaking fish should report their catch to the WVDNR for verification. Fish that do not qualify as a state record may still qualify for a trophy citation. For more information, visit wvdnr.gov/fishing/state-records.

By Teri Cayton
The Parsons Advocate

The Winter Solstice has come and gone and now "Dark Winter" starts to decrease day by day. As the days get longer it is just a waiting game until the first day of spring. All though winters around here are nothing to get excited about anymore it just more of an inconvenience than anything with all the mud. Momma Said, "Just remember to wipe your feet!"

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and got to and fro safely. I just stuck close to home and enjoyed family and good food. My lotto ticket didn't get picked so I didn't get everything I wished for but all else was fine. Momma Said, "Never look a gift horse in the mouth and appreciate everything you receive."

I hope the New Year will be good to all of us, all the animosity in the

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

world goes away along with the hate and prejudice. If all the wars were over and people could just meet on the street and not judge each other for the color of their skin. If we could once again be God's children and peace would reign, would that not be a site to behold? Momma Said, "Just close your eyes and see everyone the way God sees us and hold out a hand in peace not hate."

Here is a new recipe that may help you ring in the New Year in style.

Tequila Lime Shrimp Tacos

Ingredients

- ½ CUP tequila
- zest of one lime
- ¼ CUP fresh lime juice
- 2 CLOVES garlic minced
- ¼ CUP cilantro leaves chopped (plus more for garnish)
- PINCH hot red pepper flakes
- 1 small red onion thinly sliced
- ½ CUP olive oil
- 1½ POUNDS large shrimp deveined (about 32 shrimp)
- Salt
- 8 small flour or corn tortillas
- Salsa
- Shredded romaine or iceberg lettuce

Instructions

1. Combine the tequila, lime zest, lime juice, garlic, cilantro, red pepper flakes, red onion and olive oil in a zipper sealable plastic bag or a mixing bowl. Add

the shrimp and mix together to coat all the shrimp in the marinade. Refrigerate and marinate for 30 minutes to as long as 4 hours.

2. Pre-heat an electric griddle to 400°F or pre-heat a large skillet over medium-high heat.

3. Remove the shrimp and onions from the marinade and toss onto the griddle or into the skillet. Season with salt and cook quickly over high heat, tossing or turning several times for 3 to 5 minutes, until cooked through but not overcooked.

4. Remove the shrimp and onions to a side plate. Wipe the griddle or skillet clean and warm the tortillas on the griddle or in the skillet. Fill the warm tortilla with some shrimp and onions, some shredded lettuce and some salsa and serve with lime wedges and fresh cilantro leaves if desired.

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM

Super Crossword

FORGET THE WHOLE THING

ACROSS

1 Warning about a racy web pic
5 "West Side Story" knife
9 Seasoned vet
15 Bro
19 French for "yours"
20 Treat for feet, for short
21 Pope after Marcellus II
22 Scads
23 RFORM
26 Rapper
27 Variety show hosts, e.g.
28 ACLU interests: Abbr.
29 Farming unit
31 Pasty luau food
32 Flight takeoff abbr.
33 NTR
38 "Peek —!"
40 Classic comic
41 Uplifting poems
42 Place full of video games
43 UBL
46 Chicken cordon —
47 British chums
48 Stars and Stripes' nation
49 —"wester (certain storm)
50 "Oh, God!"
54 Cousins of aves.
55 Name of some newspapers
57 GHTE
62 Actors
63 Fiennes and Macchio
65 Very top
66 Flying
67 TRONI
72 Cast out of the country
73 Official helper
74 Pays out
75 EAKI
79 Diner check
80 Start for existing
83 Name of some newspapers
84 Vetoer's vote
85 U.S. tax org.
88 Aromatic aftershave liquid
90 QBs' blunders: Abbr.
92 RKE
96 Person doing a crossword puzzle, e.g.
99 Outer limit
100 Chimney grime
101 Great serves
102 HEER
105 2000-15 CBS series
106 Writer Rand
107 Blood type, in brief
108 Total
109 Wakes up
112 Writer Uris
114 NTEN
119 Peel, as fruit
120 Excited response to "Who wants ice cream?"
121 Cozy corner
122 Pierce player Alan
123 Cast off hair
124 Swan constellation
125 Forest sight
126 Saclike growth

DOWN

1 Neck back
2 Mushroom feature
3 Some plays on ground balls
4 Fiancee
5 Colo. — (city S. of Denver)
6 Skirt line
7 "Just go ahead and try!"
8 Wine merchants
9 Unlock, in poems
10 Resting place for a napkin
11 Drinker's hwy. offense
12 Implores
13 Christina of "Bel Ami"
14 Put too high a price on
15 Papa
16 Perfect world
17 Be charitable
18 Gas guzzler
24 Multivolume U.K. lexicon
25 Chicago winter hrs.
30 Blarney
31 Stone's land
33 Mushroom feature
34 King, in Lyon
35 Hubbub
36 Novelist Deighton
37 Runs furtively with short, quick steps
38 Heads of fleets: Abbr.
39 Regatta entry
40 Upshot
44 Evan of figure skating
45 Univ. helpers
46 Web automaton
49 Brother of Moe and Curly
51 Deep black, in poems
52 Break in friendship
53 Hairy TV cousin
56 "Science Friday" ainer
58 Person tying shoes
59 Onetime transportation agcy.
60 Foods created by biotech
61 Flood-prevention sack
62 One sharing your blood
63 Songwriter Carmichael
64 Salon noise
67 Large-scale public show
68 Untrue tales
69 Neighbor of Mont.
70 Caress
71 How money may be lost
72 Sci-fi gift
76 Belonging naturally
77 "One Mic" rapper
78 "— ToK" (#1 hit for Keshia)
80 On the nose
81 Viking letter
82 Rescue crew VIPs
86 Occupant
87 Represented
89 Peruvian singer with a wide range
91 Notorious emperor
92 OR workers
93 Rust may be a sign of it
94 DVR remote abbr.
95 Cain, to Eve
96 Hair-raising sites?
97 "Is that so?"
98 Poe's "radiant maiden"
99 Yuletide quaff
103 Destitute
104 Tic: — -toe
105 Gear tooth
109 Yard tool
110 Outer limits
111 Sports datum
113 TV neighbor of Homer
115 Pewter, mostly
116 Univ. website suffix
117 Veterans' votes
118 Rival of Wade

DEADLINE 3PM FRIDAY

Weather Totals

December 12 - December 19

Nursery Bottom
Parsons

Temperature
Max 54° F
Min 15° F

Precipitation
Week 0.59"
December 2.25"
2023 46.23"

Snowfall
New Snow 6.5"
Snow on ground 6.5"
Winter Total 9"

U.S. Forest Service

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

© 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
19				20					21						22				
23			24					25							26				
27						28					29			30		31			
		32				33				34	35	36				37			
38	39			40					41				42						
43				44				45				46							
47						48					49				50	51	52	53	
54				55		56		57	58	59	60			61					
		62				63	64		65					66					
	67	68						69				70	71						
72						73					74								
75					76	77				78		79				80	81	82	
83					84					85	86	87		88		89			
													95						
96	97	98					99					100				101			
102						103					104				105				
106						107					108				109			110	111
112			113			114			115	116	117			118					
119							120												
123							124												

Puzzle answers page 7

of gas just running errands. “I’m really looking forward to small town living where I can walk and go get a pizza, go further down and go to the grocery store,” Holbert said. “You burn a lot of gas just cruising around town trying to get groceries and run errands.”

Holbert currently lives with his father. Holbert said the Davis property was his chance to start his own life. “It just never feels like I’m at home,” Holbert said. “It feels like I live out of suitcase. This is going to be my place where I can – my stuff’s been in storage since college. This is my opportunity to get my things out of storage and start my life.”

Holbert’s grandfather was from the Davis area, according to Holbert, and often spoke fondly of his life in the area. “My grandfather is from this area,” Holbert said. “And my great-grandfather immigrated from Poland to work the coal mines. After the industry burned out, my grandpa joined the Navy and just never made it back and he always talked about how much he loved the area and how he loved to live here, but finances were tight and they just never made it back here.”

Holbert said his family brought his grandfather and great-uncles ashes to the Camp 70 area to spread at his grandfather’s favorite fishing spot. “About 10 years ago, his favorite fishing spot is just

right up here, we dumped his ashes out right there,” Holbert said. “His brother died around the same time, so we mixed their ashes together and spread them out down the Camp road there. He had a little spot that he liked and that is where he is now.”

Holbert said he looks forward to being just up the road from the site. “It is going to be awesome that I can walk down there or ride my bike down there,” Holbert said. “It’s a great fishing spot and every time I’m there I see fish jumping up out of the water and it’s just really majestic.”

Holbert said with so much state and federal park land nearby, he feels like his little lot is part of something much larger. “It feels like I am going to own 10,000 acres and I’m not going to have to pay taxes on it,” Holbert said.

Land Developer Pete Johnson and his attorney have filed a motion to dismiss the City of Davis’ filing to condemn 12 lots, including Holbert’s, in the Riverwalk project. A court date on the motion has been scheduled for January. For more information on the controversy, please read the companion articles featuring Johnson’s allegations and Davis Mayor Al Tomson’s response. The Parsons Advocate will provide updates on the story as it develops.



Friends Of Mountaintop Public Library Announces Donations

Thomas, WV--At a recent Trustees meeting, Friends Of Mountaintop Public Library (FOMPL), a non-profit organization formed to support West Virginia’s smallest library, announced that over \$5000 more in donations for the new library building fund had been received. Pictured here, from left to right: Moun-

tain-top Public Library Board of Trustees President Erin Marks, and FOMPL Treasurer Brian Hicks. Funds are going to the Tucker Community Foundation’s designated building fund for the new library building to be constructed in Thomas. For more information on the library, go to <https://mountaintop.wvlibrary.info/>.

Preston-Taylor Community Health Centers, Inc., Offers Medical, Dental, Pharmacy and Retail Services in Tucker County

Thomas, WV (December 20, 2023) – This holiday season, Preston-Taylor Community Health Centers, Inc., (PTCHC) is celebrating more than a decade of keeping the Tucker County communities safe and healthy with its medical, dental, pharmaceutical, and retail services.

Opened in 2012, PTCHC’s Mountaintop Health Center is located in Thomas, West Virginia and provides a variety of services for the entire family throughout all stages of life. In addition, PTCHC has its Mountaintop Pharmacy in the same building for ease of retail and pharmaceutical prescription services. Alongside the Mountaintop Health Center and Pharmacy, PTCHC owns and operates the Mountaintop Dental Center, also located in Thomas.

“We love being here in Tucker County and a part of such a thriving community,” said June Griffith, CEO of PTCHC. “Being able to provide these services for more than ten years to such a vibrant area has been such a wonderful opportunity and we look forward to many more years.”

The Mountaintop Health and Dental Centers are located on the campus of Cortland Acres, a partnership originally established to help meet the care needs of the residents. It was quickly realized that the surrounding community also needed access to these services.

“As a community health care provider, our goal is to treat the whole needs of our patients and their families, through every stage of their life,” stated Griffith. “By establishing these locations in Tucker County, we can provide a wide array of services that ensure the health and well-being of the entire family, as well as the community at large.”

PTCHC offers full medical services at the Mountaintop Health Center. The phar-

macy offers traditional pharmacy services, mail services, and participates in the 340B discount drug program.

Mountaintop Dental Center has two dental providers on site, Dr. Don Kines, DDS and Dr. Heather Linkinogor, DDS offering a full dental program.

“It has been an honor to serve the communities of Tucker County for the past decade,” shared Griffith. “We look forward to serving them for the next decade and longer.”

Preston-Taylor Community Health Centers, Inc., employs more than 100 employees, and provides medical, dental, and pharmacy services to Grant, Preston, Taylor, and Tucker Counties. To learn more about Preston-Taylor Community Health Centers, please visit <https://www.ptchc.com/> or follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/PrestonTaylorCommunityHealthCenters/ or our Instagram profile, @prestantaylorchc.

About Preston-Taylor Community Health Centers, Inc.

Preston-Taylor Community Health Centers is a federally qualified health center (FQHC). The organization provides comprehensive health care services to citizens of northern West Virginia with insurance, Medicare and/or Medicaid, and for those who are uninsured, regardless of income level.

The provider operates 10 health centers, including pharmacies. The Preston-Taylor staff is made up of highly competent health care professional teams, who offer a variety of services including Behavioral Health, Dental, and Lab Tests. Preston-Taylor Community Health Centers, Inc has been dedicated to serving the communities since 1976. Learn More About the Preston-Taylor Community Health Center, Inc.

USDA Forest Service Closing Dolly Sods Roads for Public Safety January 2

PETERSBURG, W.Va.,– Monongahela National Forest officials will implement the annual winter road closures in the Dolly Sods area by closing the gates on Forest Roads 19 and 75 January 2, 2024, the first business day after the holiday. These roads are closed to motor vehicle use from January to early or mid-April annually to provide for public safety due to variable road conditions in the winter months. Non-motorized use of the roads is allowed.

“The road closures are put in place to ensure the safety of both visitors and employees,” said Cheat-Potomac District Ranger Jon Morgan. “Forest visitors and emergency responders are put at unnecessary

risk without the road closures.”

Both roads usually open again by mid-April. “We will monitor road conditions in March and April, and reopen the roads as soon as weather permits,” Morgan said.

Staff from Monongahela National Forest work with local landowners and residents affected by the road closures to ensure they have access to their property. Landowners and residents who need access behind the gates should contact the Cheat-Potomac Ranger District office in Petersburg for assistance at (304) 257-4488.

Information about the status of roads and facilities is also available at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/mnf/>.

THANK YOU FOR READING



Davis HealthSystem

Vandalia Health

Inspired to improve healthcare in our communities. **Together.**

Davis Health System, comprised of Davis Medical Center, Webster Memorial Hospital, and Broadus Hospital, has officially joined **Vandalia Health!**

We unite with one shared vision for making the highest quality care accessible and affordable to everyone who needs it. By sharing our expertise and resources, we can strengthen healthcare throughout West Virginia while continuing to keep and attract the most skilled doctors, nurses and staff in our communities.

You deserve the best healthcare, and that’s what we will continue to deliver, **together.**

Vandalia Health

The Gift of Lower Gas Prices Continues in West Virginia

The average price for gasoline across Northern West Virginia is 16 cents lower this week at \$2.969 per gallon, according to AAA East Central’s Gas Price Report.

This week’s average prices: Northern WV Average \$2.969

Average price during the week of December 11, 2023 \$3.129

Average price during the week of December 19, 2022 \$3.103

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

\$3.107	Bridgeport
\$3.102	Clarksburg
\$2.825	Huntington
\$3.119	Martinsburg
\$3.029	Morgantown
\$2.995	Parkersburg
\$2.787	Weirton
\$2.787	Wheeling

Trend Analysis:

AAA is forecasting 104 million Americans will drive to their holiday destinations and many of them will find the gift of lower gas prices. The national average for a gallon of gas is lower now than at any time in all of 2022. Today’s national average of \$3.06 is three cents lower

than 2022’s low of \$3.09 and nine cents lower than a week ago. The main reasons are moderate demand and a low cost for oil, which is hovering around \$70 per barrel.

According to new data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA), gas demand increased from 8.47 to 8.86 million barrels per day last week. Meanwhile, total domestic gasoline stocks increased slightly to 224 million barrels.

At the close of Wednesday’s formal trading session, West Texas Intermediate increased by 86 cents to settle at \$69.47. Oil prices increased after the US Federal Reserve announced that it plans to hold interest rates steady through the end of the year and potentially reduce them up to three times in 2024. The market had been concerned that the economy could tip into a recession if interest rates kept increasing. Additionally, the EIA reported that total domestic commercial crude inventories decreased by 4.3 million barrels to 440.7 million barrels last week.

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



SPORTS



The Mt. Lions players celebrate at the end of the game against Elkins on Dec. 20th. Tucker County got the win in close game 47-46. Photo by Brittany Channell.



Tucker County's Maddox Anderson takes the ball to the basket against Elkins on Dec. 20th. The Mt. Lions got the win 47-46. Photo by Brittany Channell.

TUCKER COUNTY BOYS' EDGE ELKINS IN FINAL SECONDS 47-46

By Dave Helmick
TuckerCountySports.Com

HAMBLETON – The Mt. Lions Boys' Basketball team hosted Elkins on Wednesday December 20th. Tucker County trailed at the half, but the Mt. Lions battled back to get the win in a thriller 47-46.

The visiting Tigers got off to a hot start as they raced to an 8-0 lead to start the game. Tucker County then battled back with a 10-0 run to take the lead 10-8 midway through the first quarter. Elkins would respond to lead after one quarter 13-12. The second quarter was back and forth as both teams scored 11 points each in the quarter to make the halftime score 24-23 Elkins.

The Mt. Lions would control the third quarter as they outscored the Tigers 12-6 to take a 35-30 lead after three quarters of play. In the fourth quarter both teams continued to battle as the game came down to the end. Elkins would make a comeback late in the contest to take the

lead 46-44 with under 40 seconds left in the game. The Tigers got a stop on defense as Tucker County missed a shot, however, Elkins would turn the ball back over to the Mt. Lions with 20 seconds left in the contest. Then Tucker County's Ethan Rosenau hit a go ahead three-point basket with 9 seconds left in the game to put the score to 47-46 Tucker County. Elkins then missed a shot before time expired to give the Mt. Lions the victory by the score of 47-46.

Trevan Bonner led the Mt. Lions with 24 points. Ethan Rosenau added 6 points, while Ashton Lyclyter had 6 points and a team high 13 rebounds. Garrett Wilfong also grabbed 8 rebounds in the win for Tucker County. The Mt. Lions JV team got the win over Elkins 48-38.

Tucker County(4-2) will return to action on Tuesday January 2nd at Moorefield. The Mt. Lions will then travel to East Hardy on Friday January 5th. For more info go to TuckerCountySports.Com.

LADY MT. LIONS DROP GAME TO LINCOLN AT HOME 52-44

By Chris George
TuckerCountySports.Com

HAMBLETON – The Tucker County Girls' Basketball team host "AAA" Lincoln for a JV and Varsity contest on Thursday December 21st. The Lady Mt. Lions trialed at halftime and Tucker County could not complete the comeback as they fell to the Lady Cougars by the final score of 52-44.

The Lady Mt. Lions controlled the game early in the first quarter. Lincoln responded at the end of the first to make the score 12-11 Tucker County after one quarter of play. Lincoln then got their offense going and the Lady Mt. Lions went ice cold as the visiting Lady Cougars outscored Tucker County 17-7 to put the half-time score to 28-19 Lincoln.

Tucker County then responded to start the third quarter as they outpaced Lincoln 17-14 to cut the Lady Cougars lead to 42-36 at the end of the third quarter.

The Lady Mt. Lions got the score down to 44-40 late in the contest, but Lincoln held off Tucker County to pick up the win over Tucker County 52-44.

Raven Matthews led the Lady Mt. Lions in scoring with 14 points, 9 rebounds. Ericka Zirk added 9 points, 8 rebounds for Tucker County in the loss. Addie Hicks finished with 6 points and Macy Helmick dished out 5 assist for the Lady Mt. Lions. The Tucker County Girls' JV team got the win in the first game of the night 45-36.

Tucker County(4-1) will return to action on Thursday December 28th as they will host the Mt. Storm Powerstation Holiday Classic. The Lady Mt. Lions will host Frankfort in the first game at 6pm and then Grafton will play Hurricane in the second game. The winners of Thursday's games will play in the Tournament Championship on Friday December 29th at approximately 7:30pm. The consolation game will start at 6pm before the Championship. For more info go to TuckerCountySports.Com.



Tucker County's Avery Colebank goes for the steal against Lincoln on Dec. 21st. The Lady Mt. Lions fell in the game 52-44. Photo by Brittany Channell.



Lady Mt. Lions player Addie Hicks dribbles the ball against Lincoln on Dec. 21st. Tucker County dropped the contest 52-44. Photo by Brittany Channell.

AREA SCHEDULE:

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

Tuesday January 2nd

Tucker County Boys' @ Moorefield 6pm
Davis-Thomas Girls' & Boys' Basketball @ Tygarts Valley 5pm



Your community.
Your healthcare.

Good Luck!

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



St. George
MEDICAL CLINIC, INC.

stgeorgeclinic.org

Fun ways to spend the first day of the new year

New Year's Day marks the unofficial culmination of the holiday season, which some feel begins months earlier with Halloween. Retailers have had all sorts of party and decorative goods filling shelves throughout the holiday season, and much emphasis has been placed on celebrating with friends and family.

The revelry that comes on New Year's Eve is hard to match, particularly for those who attend lavish parties or venture to city centers to ring in the new year with others. While January 1 may be a bit more quiet, there are still plenty of ways to enjoy this first day of the year.

Plan a hiking excursion

There's a good chance you have not been out hiking for awhile, with your most recent venture having been a leaf-peeping trip. Enjoy the natural scenery during an entirely different season, with much lighter crowds at parks and on trails. If you've resolved to exercise more this year, hiking is a great start.

Host a relaxing brunch

With all the merrymaking the evening before, most people may need a little time to recuperate before heading out. Brunch is a great way to get people fed and help them shake off fatigue from a late night of partying. With a focus on conversation and food, rather than dancing and drinking, this can be an intimate way to set the tone for the new year.

Queue up the movies

The hustle and bustle of the holidays can be exciting yet exhausting. Take an opportunity on January 1 to slow down

for perhaps the first time in at least two months. Ask household members to choose their favorite films, then spend the day binge watching movies. Eat leftovers or order in so no one needs to leave the comfort of the sofa.

Adopt a new pet

Many charitable animal groups advise against giving pets as holiday gifts because the idea may be spontaneous and pets require a lot of care. For those who have been thinking of welcoming a pet into the family, this may be a good time to visit an animal shelter (if any are open) or peruse online adoption postings. The slow pace of the post-holiday months might be the ideal time to help an animal get acclimated to a new home.

Go shopping

It may seem like the average person has exhausted all of his or her shopping energy by this time, but post-Christmas sales are great ways to stock up on holiday decor for next year at reduced prices. If stores are open on New Year's Day, shop around for ornaments, lawn figures, lights, and more at steep discounts. Then spend the rest of the day sorting and organizing holiday items and discarding those that have seen better days.

Help at a nonprofit

Volunteer time at a local nonprofit group that delivers meals to homebound locals or one that visits nursing home residents. Start spreading New Year's cheer early on.

New Year's Day is a good time to spend quality time and have fun with loved ones.



Tips to rebound after a fun New Year's Eve

New Year's Eve is a popular night to go out on the town. It's customary to usher in a new year with friends and family members, and such gatherings tend to run late as celebrants anxiously await the stroke of midnight.

The later a New Year's Eve celebration goes, the more likely revelers may have to battle a little fatigue on the first of January. With that in mind, celebrants can consider

LEGAL

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

Deceased Harry T. Reed	Personal Representative(s) Brian F. Reed
1st publication 12/27/23	1470 Ravenswood Pike
2nd publication 1/3/24	Ripley, WV 25271

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

LEGAL

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATES

To the Creditors and Beneficiaries of the following decedent's estate:

JUSTIN R. KNOTT'S
Sandra Owens, Admin.

A Waiver of Final Settlement for the above captioned estate has been presented before me by the Fiduciary of said estate for approval, which report is retained in my office at 14 S. Randolph Ave., Elkins, West Virginia.

I have approved the Report as presented and will file it with the Honorable County Commission of Tucker County, West Virginia, on or after January 5, 2024.

Any person having any interest in said estate may appear before the Honorable County Commission to protect their interests as they may appear or else may be forever thereafter barred from asserting such interest.

Given under my hand 21st day of December, 2023 .

/s/ John J. Wallace, IV
John J. Wallace, IV
Fiduciary Commissioner
Tucker County, West Virginia

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT AND EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING SERVICES

Pursuant to W.Va. Code §5G-1-3, the Tucker County Board of Education is seeking Expressions of Interest from qualified design professions to provide Architectural/Engineering Services to include design and construction phase administration for the Waster Water Treatment Plant Replacement at Tucker County High School. Qualified firms are invited to contact Jonathan Hicks (jrhicks@k12.wv.us or 304-478-2771) at the Tucker County Board of Education Office to obtain a copy of the Statement of Qualification and submission requirements. Statements of Qualification must be received no later than 2:00 p.m. local prevailing time on January 10, 2024, at the Administrative Office of Tucker County Schools, 100 Education Lane, Parsons, WV 26287. In accordance with the requirements of WV Code 5G-1-3, these statements will be evaluated, and the county will conduct discussions/interview with at least three firms which are deemed to be the most highly qualified to provide the services required. The Tucker County Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and/or all statements from interested firms and to make the award in any manner deemed to be in its best interest in accordance with WV Code 5G-1-3.

LEGAL

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

PETITIONER:
DANIELLE C. CARR Civil Action No. 23-D-36
RESPONDENT:
ROANLD W. CARR

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

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
010 2022880004	S388-REC/AL-24 00	STBG-2024(009)D	PAVEMENT MARKINGS D-8 RECALL STRIPING 2024 DISTRICT WIDE

COUNTY: DISTRICT 8, PENDLETON, POCAHONTAS, RANDOLPH, TUCKER
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.

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 deferral, 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 and PUBLIC HEARING STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Water and Waste Management
601 57th Street SE
Charleston, WV 25304
Telephone: (304) 926-0495
Fax: (304) 926-0463

GENERAL WV/NPDES WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PERMIT STORMWATER ASSOCIATED WITH CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES WV/NPDES PERMIT NO. WV0115924

The State of West Virginia, Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Water and Waste Management is proposing to reissue the West Virginia National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Water Pollution Control Permit for Stormwater Associated with Construction Activities. The General Permit will authorize discharges to surface waters of the state for land disturbance operations during development of residential, commercial, or industrial sites. It is proposed that this General Permit be issued for a five (5) year term.

The Director of the Division of Water and Waste Management retains the authority to require any owner/operator to apply for and obtain an individual WV/NPDES Permit. This authority will be exercised when the Director determines that such an individual permit will better protect the receiving water. The Draft Permit and Fact Sheet are available on the WVDEP website at: <https://dep.wv.gov/wve/Programs/stormwater/csw/pages/home.aspx>. Hard copies can be mailed upon request.

A virtual public hearing has been scheduled to take official comments on the Draft General Permit. The hearing has been scheduled from 6 to 8 p.m. on Monday, January 29, 2024. Pre-registration for the hearing is required. To register, please complete the registration form at: <https://forms.gle/wHwSWyqJ9sYjaVQN8> or call Terry Fletcher at 304-926-0499 ext. 49720 by 5 p.m. the day of the hearing. Registrants will receive a separate email with the link and call-in number for the virtual hearing once the registration deadline passes.

Any person may submit oral or written statements concerning the Draft General Permit; however, reasonable limits may be set upon the time allowed for oral statements at the hearing. Written comments on the Draft General Permit can be submitted via email to DEP.Comments@wv.gov or regular mail to:

Director
Division of Water and Waste Management
601 57th Street SE
Charleston, WV 25304
Attention: Sharon Mullins
Phone: (304) 926-0499, Extension 43808
E-mail: sharon.a.mullins@wv.gov

The comment period closes at the conclusion of the virtual hearing. All comments submitted by this time, including those provided at the hearing, will be added to the official record for the Draft General Permit and considered by the agency.

For more information, contact Sharon Mullins at the email address or phone number listed above. Hearing impaired individuals having access to a Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD) may contact our agency by calling (304) 926-0489. Calls must be made between 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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

The Parsons Advocate

P.O. Box 345
Parsons, WV 26287
304-478-3533

Fax: 304-478-1086
email: miki@parsonsadvocate.com
www.parsonsadvocate.com

Notary Services Available

OFFICE HOURS
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m
Monday thru Friday

DEADLINE 3PM FRIDAY



GO, TEAM!
Good luck to our local student athletes!

Connect Anywhere, Anytime.

Enjoy Free Internet Data on Your Mobile Devices with ACP

You qualify today for the Government Free Internet Program if a household of two has an income of less than \$39,440, or if you receive:

- Medicaid
- SNAP
- SSI
- WIC
- Veterans Pension
- Survivors or Lifeline Benefits
- Tribal Assistance Program
- Housing Assistance



maxsip TELECOM

Get a subsidized 4G Android Tablet for \$20

CALL TODAY (833) 317-1335

NOTICE

ALL STATE PAVING
Driveways, parking lots, basketball courts, resurfacing old asphalt, patchwork, seal coating – Machine laid and rolled – All Work guaranteed – Over 40 years experience – Licensed and insured- Competitive prices and discounts – Free Estimates – 304-472-8097.

WV014137.
LUMP HOUSE COAL.
Adkins Home Center.
304-478-2488 .
CONTINUOUS GUTTER NOW IN STOCK ON A MOBILE UNIT.
Adkins Home Center, Parsons. 304-478-2488
WATER WELL PUMPING SYSTEMS, SALES AND INSTALLATION. Rowan Drilling WV004493 304-591-0272; 304-940-6544

LET US KNOW "WHAT'S HAPPENING"

304-478-3533

THANK YOU FOR READING THE PARSONS ADVOCATE

POWER UP FROM ANYWHERE

DURACELL®

M150 Portable Power Station

From Duracell, the #1 trusted battery brand, the M150 Portable Power Station enables you to work and have fun from anywhere – the kitchen table, the couch, the porch, airplanes, tailgates, coffee shops or wherever else you'd like.



When fully charged, the M150 provides:		
Laptop	Phone	Tablet
1 Charge	6 Charges	3 Charges
Earbuds	Smartwatch	Drone
50 Charges	50 Charges	4 Charges

ONLY \$199
Give the gift of portable power to friends and family this holiday season!



portablepower.info/offer72

*Order by December 15th for Christmas delivery. Battery purchase does not include phone.



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 WVPAF 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.

DENTAL Insurance

Get your **FREE** Information Kit from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company.

1-855-405-3412
Dental50Plus.com/Press

Product not available in all states. Contact us to see the coverage and offer available in your state. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation including costs and limitations. This specific offer is not available in CO. Call 1-800-969-4781 or respond for a similar offer. In WV. To find a provider in the network visit us at <https://www.physiciansmutual.com/web/dental/find-dentist>. Certificate C250A (ID: C250E); Insurance Policy P950; Rider Kinds B430/B439. In CA, CO, ID, KY, ME, MD, MA, MI, MO, NJ, NC, ND, VA. Includes Participating Providers and Preventive Benefits Rider. Certificate C254/B465 (PA: C254PA); Insurance Policy P154/B469 (GA: P154GA; OK: P154OK; TN: P154TN). 6323

HINCHCLIFF LUMBER COMPANY

Now starting at the equivalent of **\$14.00/hour** (including weekly attendance bonus)

Other Benefits Include:

- 10 Paid Holidays
- Production & Safety Bonuses
- Earn Paid Vacation Time
- Become Eligible for 401K with Company Match

Apply in person
Mon. – Fri. 8:00am – 3:00pm
Part-Time WORK ALSO CONSIDERED

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

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

West Virginia Statewide Classified Network

Featured in WVPA Newspapers Across West Virginia

ANIMALS
ADD ToneKote to dog & cat rations to treat dry, scaly skin, doggy odor & insure winter coat. At Tractor Supply® (www.happyjackinc.com)

CAREER
TRAIN ONLINE TO DO MEDICAL BILLING! Become a Medical Office Professional online at CTI! Get Trained, Certified & ready to work in months! Call 877-635-0244. The Mission, Program Information and Tuition is located at Career-Technical.edu/consumer-information. (M-F 8am-6pm ET)

HEALTH/MEDICAL
DONT LET THE STAIRS LIMIT YOUR MOBILITY! Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call AmeriGlide today! 1-844-592-5113

PORTABLE OXYGEN CONCENTRATOR May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 833-274-3943

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-405-3412 www.dental50plus.com/press #6258

INTERNET/TV
DIRECTV OVER INTERNET - Get your favorite live TV, sports and local channels. 99% signal reliability! CHOICE Package, \$84.99/mo for 12 months. HBO Max and Premium Channels included for 3 mos (w/CHOICE Package or higher.) No annual contract, no hidden fees! Some restrictions apply. Call

IVS 1-855-656-0296
SWITCH TO DISH and get up to a \$300 gift card! Plus get the Multisport pack included for a limited time! Hurry, call for details: 1-855-736-4350

CONNECT TO THE BEST WIRELESS HOME INTERNET WITH EARTHLINK. Enjoy speeds from 5G and 4G LTE networks, no contracts, easy installation, and data plans up to 300 GB. Call 844-230-3640

HUGHESNET SATELLITE INTERNET - 25mbps starting at \$49.99/mo! Get More Data FREE Off-Peak Data. FAST download speeds. WiFi built in! FREE Stand-ard Installation for lease customers! Limited Time, Call 1-877-567-2866

FREE HIGH SPEED INTERNET for those that qualify. Government program for recipients of select programs incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet service. Bo-nus offer: Android tablet FREE with one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping & handling. Call Maxsip Telecom today! 1-833-317-1335

MISCELLANEOUS
DONATE YOUR CAR, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Sched-ule a FAST, FREE vehicle pick-up and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-888-964-4167 today!

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 844-601-2044

UPDATE YOUR HOME with Beautiful New Blinds & Shades. FREE in-home estimates make it convenient to shop

from home. Professional installation. Top quality - Made in the USA. Call for free consultation: 877-802-8381. Ask about our specials!

HANDS ON THE RIVER MASSAGE, Geraldine Gardner, LMT, 3422 Pennsylvania Ave., Charleston, WV. Call (304) 541-9139 for an appointment.

ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING FOREVER! LeafFilter, the most advanced de-bris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. Plus 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-844-295-2840

BECOME A PUBLISHED AUTHOR. We want to Read Your Book! Dorrance Publishing-Trusted by Authors Since 1920. Book manuscript submissions currently being reviewed. Comprehensive Services: Consultation, Production, Promotion and Distribution Call for Your Author's Guide 1-833-675-6435 or visit dorrancein-fo.com/WV

PREPARE FOR POWER OUTAGES TODAY with a GENERAC home stand-by generator \$0 Money Down + Low Monthly Payment Options Request a FREE Quote. Call now before the next power outage: 1-844-901-2301

UP TO \$15,000.00 OF GUARANTEED LIFE INSURANCE! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral and other final expenses. Call Physicians Life Insurance Company-888-217-5559 or visit www.Life55plus.info/wv

SAFE STEP. NORTH AMERICAS #1 WALK-IN TUB. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-844-803-1282

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



ASSOCIATION • SERVICES • FOUNDATION

Auld Lang Syne

They might not realize it, but New Year's Eve celebrants honor a world-renowned Scottish poet and lyricist each time they sing along to 'Auld Lang Syne' as the clock strikes 12 midnight on New Year's Eve. Robert Burns wrote 'Auld Lang Syne' in 1788 and translations regarding what the phrase means vary. Burns wrote the poem in the Scots language, which is a little known language spoken in Scotland and parts of Ulster in Ireland. The phrase is now widely translated as 'times long past,' which may explain why it has become the unofficial anthem of New Year's Eve.

'Auld Lang Syne'

Should old acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should old acquaintance be forgot,
And old lang syne?
For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne,
We'll take a cup of kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.
And surely you'll buy your pint cup!
And surely I'll buy mine!
And we'll take a cup o' kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.
For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne,
We'll take a cup of kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.
We two have run about the slopes,
And picked the daisies fine;
But we've wandered many a weary foot,
Since auld lang syne.
For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne,



We'll take a cup of kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.
We two have paddled in the stream,
From morning sun till dine;
But seas between us broad have roared
Since auld lang syne.
For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne,
We'll take a cup of kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.

And there's a hand my trusty friend!
And give me a hand o' thine!
And we'll take a right good-will draught,
For auld lang syne.
For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne,
We'll take a cup of kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.
Lyrics by Robert Burns
Lyrics courtesy of Britannica.com

Tips for a safe New Year's Eve

New Year's Eve is one of the most festive nights of the year. Despite its reputation for revelry, New Year's Eve also can be dangerous, which underscores the need to celebrate responsibly when ringing in a new year.

American Addiction Centers surveyed 1,000 Americans regarding their alcohol consumption habits on certain holidays. The survey found that the average person

consumes 4.4 alcoholic drinks on New Year's Eve, making the holiday second only to Mardi Gras in terms of drinks consumed. Alcohol lowers individuals' inhibitions and adversely affects their judgment, which could make them vulnerable to criminals and more likely to make bad decisions, including driving after a few drinks. In fact, the National Safety Council estimates that 427 people

may die on U.S. roads during the 2022 New Year's holiday period.

A new year is worthy of celebration, and the festivities can be even more enjoyable when individuals take these safety tips to heart.

Avoid the roads. Data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration indicates that 68 percent of drunk driving traffic fatalities on New Year's 2016 involved drivers with a high blood alcohol concentration. One of the safest things individuals can do on New Year's Eve is to avoid the roads. Consider celebrating at home or staying in a hotel or the home of a loved one. If you must be on the road, call a cab or book an Uber when you need to get to

and from a party.

Be careful even if you're hosting. New Year's Eve celebrants also must be vigilant if they're hosting a gathering at home. Laws vary, but social host liability laws generally hold hosts who serve alcohol responsible for the actions of their guests after they leave their homes. So hosts could conceivably be vulnerable to criminal or civil proceedings if they serve alcohol to guests who are then involved in traffic accidents or other incidents after they leave hosts' homes.

New Year's Eve is a time for celebration. Taking steps to ensure celebrations are safe can make the night even more fun.

Thank You From the Bottom of Our Hearts

The Pase and Moreno Families would like to thank our family and friends in the Parsons area for your kindness, prayers and support over the past year during the illness and death of our daughter, Katya.

Your thoughts, cards, and gestures of support helped us through a very trying time. Kat loved West Virginia and her family and friends in Tucker County. Katya leaves behind many precious memories, a husband, Juan, and two little boys; Luka who is 2 years 10 months old and Israel, who will be 1 on Dec. 22nd.

We especially want to thank:

- Parsons First Baptist Church—Pastor Greg and the Ladies and Members of the church for your pray support, letters of encouragement and the use of the church and your assistance with the Celebration of Life Service the amazing reception following
- Pastor James Strawderman for leading the graveside and Celebration of Life services
- Hambleton Community Church for your prayer support, letters of encouragement and help with the reception
- Hendricks Community Church for your prayer support, letters of encouragement and help with the reception
- Parsons First Methodist Church for your prayer support and the prayer shaw
- Pastor Neil Parsons for your prayers and help at the graveside and the Celebration of Life service
- Jon and Paula Bush for the outstanding food prepared for the reception
- Lohr & Barb Funeral Home—Nick for supporting the grave side arrangements.
- The faculty and staff at Tucker Valley Elementary and Middle School for your gift of flowers.

Jesus spoke these words, *"Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy"* (John 16:20).

We love you,

Bob and Deb Pase and Juan, Luka and Israel Moreno



Glotfelty Tire Center

Your Tire Superstore!

Just 30 minutes from Parsons on the Beverly 5-Lane.

■ Tires	■ Forklifts	■ Loaders	■ Road Service
■ Tubes	■ Agriculture	■ Shocks/struts	■ Repairing
■ Retail	■ Excavators	■ WV Inspections	■ Retreading
■ Wholesale	■ Mining	■ Brakes	■ Great Prices

■ Two Computer Alignment Machines & ASE/N.I.A.T. Certified Mechanics

We proudly carry



COOPERTIRES

Call 304-635-0001
1080 Beverly Pike, S. Elkins
7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday
7 a.m. to Noon Saturday

TUCKER COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

304-478-6232 304-704-4405







Sponsored by Mountain Valley Bank




TRUCK MONTH

2023 RAM 1500 ECO DIESEL

\$5,500 OFF MSRP

UPTO 28MPG

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