

The Parsons Advocate

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GS Millwork Expansion Makes Progress at Parsons City Council Meeting

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

The proposed expansion of GS Millwork has made a step towards fruition after the City of Parsons Council meeting. Dave Lambert of GS Millwork was on hand to hear discussion over the proposed lease of several City owned lots in order for the company to begin work on expanding operations at their location in Parsons.

According to Parsons City Attorney Tim Stranko, both he and City Administrator Agnes Arnold had spoken with representatives of GS Millwork in a Zoom call to discuss particulars of the project. "Aggie (Arnold) and I had a very productive phone call with senior staff, I guess we'll call it, with GS Millwork," Stranko said. "Dave Lambert was the lead though there were other folks on the phone."

The main issue with the project surrounds the lease or purchase of City owned lots in the area. Stranko mentioned three lots in the area that constitute the gravel parking lot. According to Stranko the lots are not part of the FEMA Buy Out lots prevalent in the area and are instead premium lots free of the restrictions many lots in the area have. "You know now what that is it's the rented gravel parking lot that GS Millwork uses to put some of their trailers on. They are interested in either leasing or purchasing," Stranko said. "Council is able to do that."

The decision for the Council was centered around the logistics that would come into play with each option. Recorder Tim Auvil pointed out that lease would be the best option. According to Auvil, if the City chose to sell the lots, they would have

to be publicly listed for bids on the government sale site. With that option, there was



Dave Lambert, pictured, from GS Millwork in Parsons is informed of the latest developments in the expansion project proposed by the company. The City of Parsons Council discussed the latest negotiations between the City and the company at the meeting.

a chance for GS Millwork to be outbid and lose the lots all together, Auvil said.

With the lease option, GS Millworks would be guaranteed the lots, Auvil said. The Council agreed on the need for a long term lease for the lots. The Council decided to have a committee hash out the particulars of a lease agreement and present the Council with the terms. The Council informed Lambert that they intend to have something for his company by March.

As part of the project, the company had requested the blocking of through traffic to two streets in the area, according to

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Tucker County Commissioners Fred Davis, left, and Tim Knotts, right, voted Commissioner Mike Rosenau, center, to remain as Commission President for the 2024 year in a special session at the Commission office in the Tucker County Courthouse.

County Commission Holds First Meeting of 2024

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

The Tucker County Commission held the first meeting of 2024 on in the Commission's office in the Tucker County Courthouse. The special session was held to establish the calendars and other business for the year ahead.

The first order of business for the Commissioners was the election of the Commission President for the year. In a motion made by Tucker County Commissioner Tim Knotts and seconded by Commissioner Fred Davis, Mike Rosenau

was re-elected to the post in a unanimous vote. "Thank you members of the Commission for putting your trust in me to lead the Commission through another year," Rosenau said.

The Commission also addressed back funding for the Hotel/Motel Tax funding from the Town of Davis at the meeting. From the payout, \$100,000 was determined to go back into the Hotel/Motel fund, \$50,000 to EMS and an additional \$50,000 to be dispersed equally to the four fire companies in the County, according to Rosenau. "After a lot of work with

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City of Parsons Addresses DEP Concerns

Zack Musgrove from Thrasher Architecture, Engineering and Field Services addressed the City of Parsons Council regarding changes to the long-term control plan in the sewer improvement project designed to address shortcomings found by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The updates were part of the City's regular meeting.

According to Musgrove and City of Parsons Attorney Tim Stranko, the DEP had discovered some "shortcomings" with the City's sewer system. These issues were related to CSO signage issues and CSP outlet screens, as well as an unreplaced 24-inch line, according to Musgrove.

The 24-inch line at Pulp Mill Bottom had initially been part of a previous project, but was not completed due to budgetary constraints, Recorder Tim Auvil said. The need to replace the line has been known for some time, according to Auvil and suggested it be added to the current project as an item of importance.

Musgrove said the line will need additional CCTV inspection. The CCTV camera inspection is designed to view the line and determine the current state of repair the line is in, according to Musgrove.

The changes are designed to not only address the issues raised by the DEP, but also to help the City avoid paying a fine, according to Stranko. However, the changes will add an additional \$500,000 to \$600,000 to the total cost of the projects, according to Musgrove. "We're glad you guys are on the team," Stranko said. "We want to make sure we don't have to pay a fine."

While the shortcomings were found, Stranko said that an official order has yet



Zack Musgrove, pictured, from Thrasher Architecture, Engineering and Field Services, addresses the City of Parsons regarding the latest developments with three of the City's ongoing improvement projects.

to be received by the City. Stranko also said that once an official order to comply is received, the City will negotiate with the DEP to address it at that time. "They are looking at that. They will respond," Stranko said. "We will negotiate the order when we have to comply."

The items of concern to the DEP are being addressed with the current project and any concerns not able to be immediately addressed by the improvement project, will be added to an amended long term control plan, according to Musgrove. The control plan is scheduled to be updated following the completion of the project, according to Musgrove. No timeline for completion is currently available, Musgrove said.



Ambulance Authority: Tucker County EMS Director Amanda Simmons, left, and Tucker County Ambulance Authority Board President Dennis Filler, right, met with State Senator Randy Smith, center, to discuss a recent State bill geared towards enhancing the pay of EMS workers across the State. The bill will provide \$125,000 to Tucker County EMS to assist in supplementing the current pay of EMS employees. Photo courtesy of Amanda Simmons.

EMS Employees Assisted by State Salary Enhancement Bill

By Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Tucker County EMS Director Amanda Simmons and Tucker County Ambulance Authority President Dennis Filler met with State Senator Randy Smith (R) District 14, at Blackwater Falls State Park in regards to bill WV SB 737. According to Simmons, Tucker County EMS will receive \$125,000

from the bill. "Tucker County Ambulance Authority will receive \$125,000 for salary enhancement under this bill," Simmons said.

According to Simmons, the bill was established to fund salary enhancements of her employees. Simmons said that she and Filler met with the Senator to discuss the intent of the bill, as well as how the money

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Riverwalk Controversy Goes to Court in Effort to Dismiss Eminent Domain Filing

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

The legal team of Pete Johnson, the land developer at the center of an Eminent Domain filing by the Town of Davis, appeared in court with a motion to dismiss the filing made by the town on Johnson's housing development project along the river in Davis. Johnson was represented by Attorney F. Sayre III and Attorney Pat Nichols. The Town of Davis was represented by Attorney Chenoweth and Davis Mayor Al Tomson.

Judge Robert E. Ryan proceeded over court. Judge Ryan opened the hearing by acknowledging that the court had been overwhelmed lately due to back to back trials. The court had just finished conducting the Capital Kidnapping case of Keith Dishler minutes before the hearing began and there was to be a jury selection



Several lots in the Riverwalk Housing Development are the subject of an Eminent Domain filing by the Town of Davis.

in the afternoon for a trial beginning the following Monday. Ryan was apologetic

for not being able to review the filings and motions as he would have liked, but said

he had a general grasp of what was being asked of his court and agreed to hear arguments.

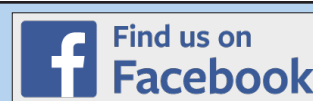
Sayre opened arguments with noting not only case law, but statements that the filing by the Town was faulty on several fronts. Ryan addressed Sayre on a number of occasions to question whether the motion to dismiss was relevant under the case law that applied with the early status of the filing.

Sayre claimed that at least three separate motions should have been filed in the case. Sayre also acknowledged the Town's right to Eminent Domain, but said that the Town should have also posted compensatory money when the filing was made. Sayre also said he and his client doubted that the Town even had the money to pay the fair compensation the law requires. "It appears the town is not planning to put the

See RIVERWALK page 4



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News of Record

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

- Billy Joe Heckler, of Hambleton, was charged with one felony count of Driving while license revoked-DUI (3rd or Subsequent Offense). According to the complaint, on Wednesday, Dec. 6, Patrolman First Class N.C. Gidley received a message that an employee of BFS wanted to speak with an officer regarding an altercation that had occurred earlier at the BFS located in Parsons. He arrived at BFS and spoke with two employees regarding the above mentioned altercation. The first employee stated that the defendant came into BFS and confronted him regarding a matter not pertaining to this complaint. He then observed the defendant exit the store, get into a pickup and drive away. The second employee stated that she observed the defendant pull into the parking lot of BFS from the direction of the town bridge. He entered the store and began to yell at the cashier, before exiting the store, getting back in the pickup and drive away. On Dec. 12 the Assistant Manager was able to provide a copy of the CCTV footage to PFC Gidley, as well as positively identify the defendant and the truck he was said to be driving. Written statements were obtained from both employees. The defendant is known by Gidley as having his driver's license revoked for DUI as there have been prior incidents in which the defendant was arrested driving while license revoked-DUI by Parsons PD in 2021. Gidley obtained driver's license information for the defendant, as well as requested a certified driver's history for the defendant through Tucker 911 also obtained three certified criminal judgment orders from Tucker County Magistrate Court, which show that the defendant has been arrested and convicted of three prior offenses of Driving while license revoked-DUI.
- Marshall D. Parsons, of Parsons, was charged with one felony count of Domestic Assault. The complaint states that Trooper Hahn took a complaint through the State Police Detachment in Parsons from Morgan Lynn Parsons who stated that she and the defendant are going through a divorce. She went on to say that her husband was over packing his things the day prior and had come back to get another load of his belongings. She stated that she had told him that he was not going to grab another load because of the time. She said that he became irate and took her phone from her causing her to fear for her safety. She went on to say that when her husband took her phone he struck her nose, but no injuries were visible at the time the report was taken. The defendant has two prior convictions for domestic battery.
- Travis Edward Hamm, of Davis, was charged with one felony count of Distribution and exhibiting of material depicting minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct prohibited fewer than fifty images; penalty. On July 12, 2023 Sr. Trooper C.D. Harper was assigned CyberTip#23-143526 from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in reference to the upload of child sexual abuse material to the social media application SnapChat. Said upload was said to have occurred same date with an approximate location of Parsons, WV. Said tip also showed the user name of the defendant. Harper reviewed the image submitted by SnapChat and confirmed that it was child sexual abuse material. Harper, along with Sgt. Pyles, of the Parsons Detachment of the West Virginia State Police, made contact with the defendant at his address. It was explained to Hamm the nature of Harper's position with the State Police's Crime against Children Unit and asked if he knew why they were there to speak with him. Hamm said yes, about the image he had sent on SnapChat that morning. He told the officer that he had previously had the mobile application SnapChat installed to his phone and that his account had been disabled that same day by SnapChat. Hamm said he deleted the application from his phone after the disabling of the account and deleted media files from his phone that may or may not be perceived as child pornography. He had feared that someone may be aware of what he had done due to the fact that SnapChat had disabled his account following the sending of said image. Harper asked him about the image sent that same date that was flagged by SnapChat

and he told the officer that he believed the individual to be over the age of 18. Harper told Hamm that he had reviewed said image and did not agree that the child depicted in the image was over the age of 18. He asked Hamm that if 100 people were to view said image how many would say that the child was over 18. Hamm replied, "Not many." Harper did seize and later obtained a search warrant for the mobile cell phone belonging to Hamm. That cell phone was analyzed by the WV Police Forensic Laboratory located in Morgantown.

As a result of said analysis, one more image of CSAM was discovered on Hamm's cell phone. He had allegedly been actively speaking with an individual in a messaging app attempting to trade images of CSAM. Harper affirms that on July 12, 2023, Hamm did intentionally send one image of CSAM as defined by WV State Code using the mobile application SnapChat. A forensic analysis of Hamm's cell phone used to commit the same offense discovered one other image of CSAM that was in Hamm's possession on the same date.

Harper requested the issuance of an arrest warrant for Hamm for the felony offense of "Distribution and exhibiting of material depicting minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct prohibited fewer than fifty (50) images."

- Billy Joe Heckler, of Hambleton, was charged with one count Possession of a Controlled Substance. The complaint states that on Thursday, Dec. 21, 2023, Trooper R.S. Musgrave, along with the Tucker County Sheriff's Office, executed an arrest warrant on Billy Heckler. A routine search was conducted and during the search Musgrave obtained a blue bag containing a white, crystallized substance consistent with methamphetamine. He conducted a field test on it and it produced a positive test for meth. At this time a signed written statement was obtained from Heckler stating he claimed ownership of the above stated substance. Heckler was arrested via arrest warrant and charged with possession of a controlled substance. He was then transported to TVRJ.
- Tyler Addison Collar, of parsons, was charged with Aggravated DUI 1st Offense, No proof of insurance, Failure to obey traffic device and Possession of an open alcoholic beverage container in the passenger area of a motor vehicle. According to the complaint on Wednesday, Dec. 27 Trooper R.S. Musgrave was dispatched to the area of 55 Blackman Flats Rd. for a motor vehicle accident. TCSO Deputy Summerfield observed the driver of the vehicle in the back of the ambulance with slurred speech and the odor of alcohol emanating from the driver's person. The driver identified as Tyler Collar advised Summerfield that he had recently been drinking prior to operating his vehicle. He was transferred to Davis Medical Center by EMS. Musgrave arrived on scene and assessed the damage to the vehicle and acknowledged the odor of an alcoholic beverage emanating from the cab of the vehicle. He observed a Bacardi Rum bottle on the ground just underneath the wrecked vehicle having approximately eight ounces of a clear liquid still in the bottle. Musgrave traveled to Davis Medical Center in order to obtain a statement from Collar. At this time he observed the odor of alcohol, slurred speech, droopy eyelids and bloodshot, watery eyes. Collar advised the officer he was drinking then proceeded to drive, which resulted in him wrecking his vehicle. Musgrave obtained a signed consent from Collar to obtain the BAC that was collected by DMC. The blood alcohol test produced a result of a .287 BAC.
- Alexa Ann Lawson, of Hambleton, was charged with one count of Shoplifting. According to the complaint on Saturday, Dec. 23 Deputy B.M. Gidley received a call for service for a shoplifting that had occurred at Jim's All-Star. He arrived on scene and made contact with the worker that was on duty. The worker advised that a female came in and stole a lighter. He asked the worker if she knew the female and she advised yes that it was Alexa Lawson. She also advised that another worker had seen her do it and a 911 dispatcher also saw it. The other worker showed up and gave a handwritten and sworn statement. In the statement she advised that she had seen Lawson looking at the lighters and out of her peripheral vision she saw her shake her sleeve down. When

she checked out and the worker asked her to shake her sleeve, Lawson said, "It's my IV." The 911 dispatcher was behind her when this occurred and spoke to the worker and said, "Did you see that she took that lighter and put it in her sleeve?"

The worker also advised she had just stocked the lighters and no one had bought any. Troopers were able to locate the subject and made contact with her. The officer was talking to her of what had happened and to get her side of the story. Lawson continued to say she didn't steal anything I will pay for it just to get it over with." The officer obtained her information and made a phone call to the store and was advised by the manager that she had the cameras up and could clearly see Lawson steal the lighter. The officer told Lawson that he was going back and review cameras. She then allegedly admitted that she did steal the lighter. She was cited for Shoplifting 2nd Offense, the value of the lighter was \$2.75. She was convicted of 1st Offense Shoplifting in May 2017 in Lewis County.

- The above crimes were committed in Tucker County and all individuals are considered innocent until proven otherwise in a court of law.

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

- John W. Wheeler, III, Thomas Corporation, 50x120 Lot 71 Thomas to Matthew B. Sherald and Sarah B. Hunt, \$28,000.
- Randel C. Gum and Lucinda C. Gum, Dry Fork District, Unit 141 Deerfield Village Condo to Timothy Schwinabart and Victoria Schwinabart, \$370,000.
- West Virginia University Foundation Inc., Clover District, 39 acres, 6 chains and 15 poles to Shiloh Quarry LLC, \$3,000.
- Mountain Valley Bank, NA, Parsons Corporation, 1.02 acres and easement to Sky Shine Properties LLC, \$95,000.
- Mark E. Russell and Cynthia M. Russell, Dry Fork District, lot 39, 40 Woods End to Timothy Embree and Kristen Hinman, \$575,000.
- Hinchcliff Lumber Company, Hendricks Corporation, 8,100 square feet plat to Town of Hendricks; Hendricks Town of, \$1,200.

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

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The Parsons Advocate

Editor and Publisher Michael Showell
Associate Publisher Mikie Dumire
Office Manager Teri Cayton
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GS Millwork

Cont. From Front Page 1

Stranko. Under the proposal, signage and locked gate would be installed at the site. However, the gates would still allow emergency access to the streets. “They are proposing that we block through traffic with locked gates on Davis and Brook,” Stranko said.

Placement of the signs could be completed by the Public Works Department without Council action, according to Stranko. The gates would be added at a later date, according to Stranko. “That’s not something the Council has to act on at least by State code.”

The original request was to abandon the roads that are proposed to be closed and gated. Under the current plan, the street would have an official status of “vacation of a street.” This measure would not aban-

don the roads permanently and allow the City to reopen them for use at a later date if needed. However, the vacation of the streets would require the approval of one landowner in the area in order to be completed, according to Auvil.

GS Millwork has proposed creating a 26- to 28-foot-wide gravel road around the historic Butternut Tree in the area. The tree is endangered and is the largest known tree of its type in the State. The gravel road would also provide through access between the two streets that are proposed to be gated under the plan.

The next meeting of the City of Parsons Council will be held on January 23rd at 6 p.m. at the Charles W. “Bill” Rosenau Municipal Building located at 341 Second Street in Parsons.

County Commission

Cont. From Front Page 1

the Commission and the Town of Davis, we come to an understanding through the Auditor’s Office what the payout would be from the City of Davis back reimbursement to the County,” Rosenau said.

In other business, due to a Legislative meeting the Commission are obligated to attend, the Commission voted to hold only one meeting in January. A regular meeting schedule is anticipated to return in February.

The Commission also voted to accept the payday and holiday schedule for the year, as well as a schedule for the annual tax equalization review. The review is a chance for the public to address concerns and questions about the tax rates applied to their property, according to Rosenau.

EMS

Cont. From Front Page 1

was intended to be used. “This is a bill that the state of WV legislators are trying to establish additional predictable funding to help ensure that the Paramedics, EMTs and Drivers have salaries that are competitive within the general labor market,” Simmons said.

Simmons said that the money will help fill a pay gap that Tucker County employees face when compared to other agencies in the area. “The providers in Tucker are paid \$10.25 to 14.00 an hour with Paramedics at \$19.00. We are a small facility that is competing with other places that can pay upwards of \$30.00 to 40.00 per hour,” Simmons said.

Simmons said many of her employees have one or two other jobs due to the low pay that Tucker County offers. This fact, however, could affect some employee’s eligibility for the funds, Simmons said. Under the current state guidelines, a part time employee cannot receive funding if they are receiving the funding from any other entity in the West Virginia medical system, according to Simmons. “Most of our providers have one to two other jobs due to their pay being so low,” Simmons said. “Under present state guidance, Tucker County Ambulance Authority is at this time unable to pay more to our part time employees using these funds, if they work and receive any of these funds elsewhere in the WV medical system.”

According to Simmons, the funds are only approved for the current year and the future of additional funding is uncertain. “At this time it is only funded for this fiscal year 2023-2024 and future year funding is

Those requesting an appointment will be granted 15 minutes, but no decisions will be made at the hearings, Rosenau said. The Commission approved available dates in January and February for the reviews. “It gives them an opportunity to come in before February 28th so the Assessor can write the Letter of Explanation or Decision,” Rosenau said.

The Commission also approved a list of expectations and requirements for Commission meetings, special meetings and emergency meetings. Commission seats to boards throughout the county were also approved. The measure established which Commissioner would represent the Commission on various boards throughout the County.

not guaranteed,” Simmons said.

Both Simmons and Filler said they thanked Smith for his sponsorship of the bill and said that the funds will assist in providing a more competitive wage to EMS employees. “The funds granted to us through SB 737 will help with improving pay that is very deserving of our EMS providers in the coming year,” Simmons said.

An excerpt from the introduction of the bill outlines the intent from the State, “There is hereby created in the State Treasury a special revenue fund designated and known as the Emergency Medical Services Salary Enhancement Fund which is an interest-and earnings-accumulating account. The fund is established to support supplementing the salaries of, and providing crisis response for, county emergency medical service personnel as that term is defined in §16-4C-3(g) of this code or a county designated or contracted emergency medical service provider and all moneys must be spent to support increasing salaries of emergency medical service workers and providing crisis response to encourage retention.”

Simmons said that her agency supports all the State’s efforts to address EMS issues and pay shortfalls. “We actively support any and all initiatives to support the future funding of this bill and continue to ask for the state’s and county’s assistance in providing this critical public service. We look forward to future state rule making sessions regarding this bill especially regarding clarification as to how these funds may be used locally to help resolve our staffing shortfalls,” Simmons said.

OBITUARIES

Rosemary Leone



Rosemary Leone, 78, of Berryville, VA., died on Jan. 9, 2024, at Winchester Medical Center.

Mrs. Leone was born Oct. 7, 1945, in Mason-town, WV, the daughter of the late George William Smith and Wanita Agnes Ayresman Smith.

She was a dietary aid for 25 years for Cortland Acres in Thomas, WV.

She was a member of the Clarke County Senior Center. She was a former member of The Order of the Eastern Star where she had served as the Past Grand Representative of The Eastern Star for the state of WV.

She married Frank Leone, Jr. in 1963. Mr. Leone died March 5, 2013.

Maxwell Ervin (Hanna) and Chase Ervin (Hannah); two great-grandchildren, Oliver Ervin and Belle Rose Ervin.

She is preceded in death by two sisters, Ada Chipps and Deloris Jean Hess, three brothers, Bob Smith, Donald Methney (Bill), and George June Smith.

The family received friends 1-2 p.m. and a funeral service followed at 2 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 15, 2024 at Enders & Shirley Funeral Home Chapel, Berryville, VA. Burial followed at Green Hill Cemetery, Berryville, VA.

To view the obituary and send online condolences please visit www.endersandshirley.com.

Surviving is a daughter, Wanita Rose Ervin (Bryon) of Berryville, VA; a son Frank Leone III of Charleston, WV; two sisters, Shirley Hess of Bretz, WV and Dixie Methney (Bill) of Masontown, WV; a brother, Dennis Smith (Brenda) of Masontown, WV; three grandsons, Derek Samples,

Rose Lee Shaffer Scalf



Rose Lee Shaffer Scalf, age 85 years, a resident of Atwater, Ohio, departed this life early Tuesday morning, January 9, 2024, at her home, surrounded by her loving family and under the care of Traditions Health & Hospice.

She was born Sunday, December 18, 1938, on the Shavers Fork Road at Kerens, WV a daughter of the late Ray Lee and Iva Byrd Shaffer. On October 26, 1956, she was married to David M. Scalf, who survives.

Also surviving are two sons, David Allen Scalf and wife Jodonna, and Douglas Lee Scalf and wife Jackie; and one daughter, Bev Dean and husband Bart, all of Atwater, OH; thirteen grandchildren; and several great

Greyhound Bus Terminal but worked mostly in retail. She was a member of the Irons Chapel Church at Kerens and enjoyed helping her husband.

The family received friends at the Lohr & Barb Funeral Home of Parsons on Thursday, January 11, 2024, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Final Rites were conducted at the funeral home, on Thursday at 12 Noon. The Reverend Justin Jones officiated and interment followed at the Parsons Family Cemetery at Shavers Fork, Parsons, WV. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements for Rosa Lee Shaffer Scalf. Condolences may be expressed to the family at; www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com.

grandchildren.

She was the last surviving member of her immediate family. Preceding her in death are two brothers, Carl Lee Shaffer, and Leo Shaffer; and two sisters, Velma Jean Barton, and Lois Shaffer.

Rose was a graduate of Tallmadge High School. She had worked at the

David Fredrick “Boney” Strahin



David Fredrick “Boney” Strahin, age 98 years, a resident of the Porterwood Community, Montrose, WV departed this life Wednesday morning, January 10, 2024 at the WV Caring Hospice Center at Elkins, WV. He had been in declining health.

He was born Saturday, September 12, 1925 at Leadmine, WV a son of the late Charles Judson Strahin and Ottilie Turner Strahin. On July 14, 1979 at Parsons, WV he was married to the former Wilda Marie Bohon, who survives. They had celebrated forty-four years of marriage. Also surviving are one stepson, Rick Kaiser of Montrose; one grandson, David Thrower; and several nieces and nephews.

He was the last surviving member of his immediate family. Preceding him

serving during both World War II and the Korean Conflict. He had worked as a welder for Joe Fent Rock Quarry and later for the United States Forest Service. Mr. Strahin was a member of the H. W. Daniel’s #29, American Legion, and was a Protestant by faith. He was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying hunting, fishing and ginsenging. Mr. Strahin helped build the pavilion at Camp Horseshoe and was Camp Director for three years.

Mr. Strahin’s request for cremation was honored. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements for David Fredrick “Boney” Strahin. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com.

in death are one daughter, Daisy Mae Thrower; two brothers, Maynard and Kenneth Strahin; three half-brothers, Robert, Joe and Delbert Turner; and two half-sisters, Angie McDaniel, and Ruth Turner.

Mr. Strahin was a graduate of Parsons High School and was a veteran of the United States Marines and the United States Navy,

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Thank You

Thank you to our family, friends and St. George Church of God members, Blackwater Unit of Cortland Acres staff and Hostettler Funeral Home for all your care and support.

Thanks to Reverend Todd Rhoades for the beautiful service and The Job Church of God for your love and prayers as we mourn the loss of our Momma.

*God Bless You All,
Peggy and Junior*

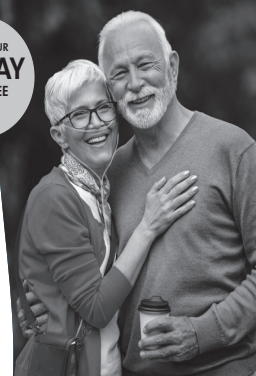
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THE PARSONS ADVOCATE**

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We Get Letters

Editor,

I, Jody Flanagan (Mayor of Thomas), would like to clear up a few statements with the article written on January 3, 2024, in The Parsons Advocate about the Blackwater PSD and the comments of the executive director Judy Rodd with Friends of Blackwater and AI Tomson.

One of Judy Rodd's concerns is with Thomas's sewer plant and leachate. Rodd told the Parsons Advocate, "She was reminded of her concerns over the leachate trucked to Thomas for treatment and the facility's yearly fines." The City of Thomas has worked diligently with the DEP and Tucker Co Solid Waste Authority over the past two years to ensure the proper procedures have been followed according to our sewer and leachate permit. This can be found on the DEP's website.

The leachate was not added all at once to the sewage; it went into a pretreatment tank and was added at the amount allotted (4K gallons per day under our trial permit). The article also quotes Mayor AI Tomson and Blackwater PSD president, "that engineers are also talking to the landfill and talking to Thomas about creating a pretreatment process at the landfill or the cities treatment plant which would allow leachate to periodically be added to the wastewater." This process already exists and has existed for the past ten years.

Also, according to Rodd, "a retired DEP sewage worker informed her that many of the problems Thomas is experiencing would be alleviated through enclosing the existing tanks in order to maintain temperature." "A guy from the DEP who used to manage sewer systems, said they could solve a whole lot of problems if they just

enclosed the tanks". Rodd said, "Because it's too cold. If they enclosed them with a little bit of heat, the bacteria would do a lot better, and the system would work". In response to this quotation, under the trial period for leachate, the City of Thomas and its engineers put implements in place and, therefore, never received any violations.

Since the City of Thomas was taking the leachate and doing the maintenance and running the leachate on a trial basis, the City of Thomas has NOT received a fine in the last three years. All City of Thomas employees work diligently to ensure all proper procedures are followed. To address Mayor AI Tomson's quote, "The

Thomas sewer facility was over-capacitated." The City of Thomas's actual sewer facility was built to treat 300,000 gallons; however, Thomas is permitted to treat at most 150,000 gallons daily. The city actually treats 40,000-50,000

gallons of sewage per day; therefore, Thomas is within its permitted capacity.

Due to the information printed in the paper, I, Jody Flanagan (Mayor of Thomas), felt the need to get the correct information printed. In the future, the City of Thomas would appreciate any concerns about public utilities being brought to our attention before false statements are published as they were in this article. A public meeting could allow these concerns to be addressed correctly. I strongly encourage all residents of the City of Thomas to attend

these public meetings and not let outside special interest groups dictate the outcomes of these meetings.

Riverwalk

Cont. From Front Page 1

money into the court," Sayre said.

Sayre said that each homeowner affected should have had individual petitions filed in the case. "The town of Davis, if they properly do this, have the authority to do this," Sayre said.

Sayre also noted that the five HOA homeowners with houses already under construction were not named in the filing, as well. Sayre noted the homeowner's ownership interest in the development's private drive that was included in the Town's filing.

Sayre also said that there was never a public vote on the issue by the Town Council. This was an allegation that Johnson has been making over the filing since the beginning. Sayre also noted a lack of ordinance on the issue, as well. Three governmental bodies were listed on the filing, according to Sayre: the Town of Davis, the Building Authority and Davis Parks and Recreation.

Judge Ryan said the law requires him to treat what is in the filing as factual. "If you take it all as true," Ryan said, "which the law requires me to do."

Judge Ryan said that many of the issues Sayre brought up did not apply to motion to dismiss that he had before him. "There are matters well outside of the petition," Ryan said. "We've got the cart well before the horse here."

Attorney Chenoweth said that all of Sayre's issues and objections were noted and addressed in the filing by the Town of Davis. "This is addressed in the petition,"

Chenoweth said.

As with Sayre, Chenoweth noted several points of case law in his arguments. A large basis of his arguments hinged on the commonly owned properties and the ownership interest that entailed. "Everyone's interest is affected by what is taken," Chenoweth said.

As to the requirement of an ordinance pertaining to the action, Chenoweth said the Town was under no legal obligation. "None of those cases state that a town has to pass an ordinance in order to claim eminent domain," Chenoweth said.

Chenoweth argued that a motion to dismiss is rarely granted in cases such as this. "A motion to dismiss should rarely be granted," Chenoweth said.

Chenoweth addressed the money issues by saying that the Town was not seeking right of entry. According to Chenoweth's argument, that would have required the Town to post money with the court. He also said that the value of property could be evaluated at a later date and the money posted at that time. Judge Ryan acknowledged that several properties were currently under contract in the development and stated that the contracts could reflect a fair market value for the properties. "Isn't a contract for sale a fair estimate of fair market value?" Ryan said.

Judge Ryan took no action on the matter and requested that the attorneys submit any proposed orders to him for review. "A motion for leave is going to depend on a motion to dismiss," Ryan said.

2025 realignment maps

Last year, the Legislature changed circuits for circuit and family courts and the number of magistrates in some counties, effective January 1, 2025.

Maps showing the new circuits and the number of judicial officers in each circuit/county have been posted on the West Vir-

ginia Judiciary website.

The circuit court map is available at [2025CircuitCourts.pdf](#) (courtswv.gov). The family court map is available at [2025FamilyCourts.pdf](#) (courtswv.gov). The magistrate court map is available at [2025MagistrateCourts.pdf](#) (courtswv.gov).

Tucker County Early Childhood Festival

Sponsored By: Tucker County Family Support Center and Allegheny Highlands Parents As Teachers

Pre-Registration for the Early Childhood Festival

Call now to Pre-Register your birth to preschool age child on or before January 24, 2024.

For children 3 and 4 years of age, please call:

Tucker County Board of Education Office at 304-478-2771

(Upon pre-registration, parents will receive a preschool registration packet that must be completed and returned to the Tucker County Board of Education to reserve an appointment during the Early Childhood Festival. All Preschool Registration Packets must be returned on or before February 14, 2024).

For children birth to 2 years of age, please call:

Tucker County Family Support Center at 304-478-3827

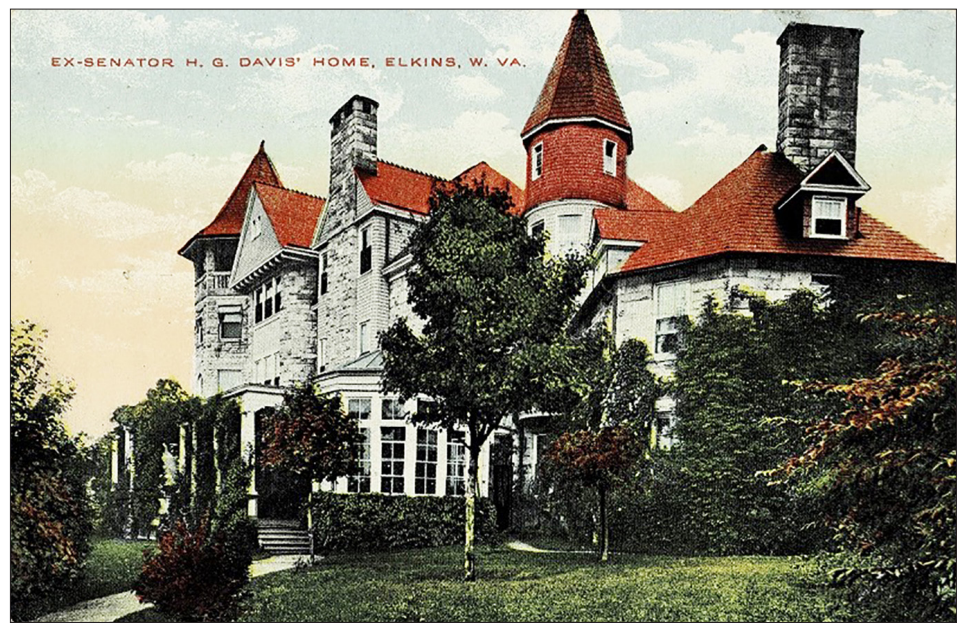
To be preschool eligible your child must meet the following criteria:

- Completion of Preschool Registration Packet on or before February 14, 2024;
- Must be 4-years-old on or before June 30, 2024;
- 3-year-olds who do not meet birth date requirements may be found eligible if they are functioning at, or lower than, 75% of the normal rate of development, or who perform 1.5 standard deviations or more below the mean in consideration of 1.0 standard error of measurement on a standardized evaluation instrument, in two or more of the following areas: Cognition; Physical development including gross motor and/or fine motor skills; Communication; Social/emotional/affective development; and/or self-help skills.

Please note: Children who are 5 years old prior to June 30, 2024, need to enroll for Kindergarten because they will not be eligible for Preschool.

You must call to pre-register your child to receive an appointment.

TURNER'S TIDBITS



This is the home of Henry Gassaway Davis, located in Elkins. He donated property to build Davis and Elkins College. Davis along with his brothers, Thomas and William began purchasing land between 1871 and 1873 in what is now Fairfax and Davis Districts of Tucker County. By that time, they had purchased 6 tracts of land containing 23,550 acres, paying 57 cents per acre. Between 1880 and 1883, they had purchased 28 more tracts of land containing 34,806 acres. The location for the Town of Davis was made on Christmas Day 1882. U. S. Senator H. G. Davis served from 1870 to 1883, he was also on the ticket running for the position of Vice-President of the United States in 1904. He and his partner Alton Parker, who was running for President of the United States, lost to Theodore Roosevelt and Charles Fairbanks. Ideas, comments, suggestions, or items to share contact Tim Turner (304) 478-3389.

300 Attendees to the Community Job Fair, Including WV State Treasurer



MOOREFIELD, W.Va. – Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College's Career Services Department, led by Dixie Heavener, career counselor, held a Fall 2023 community job fair on November 14, 2023. This event was attended by fifty employers, such as Northrop Grumman, American Woodmark, Timberline Mountain, Clearway Energy Group, Pilgrim's, and Workforce West Virginia. There was an abundance of job seekers who attended, plus three hundred high school students from Moorefield, Petersburg, Hampshire, East Hardy, and Hardy were used in to be able to meet with employers.

The job fair drew the attention of West Virginia State Treasurer Riley Moore, who asked to hold a short presentation at noon on campus to tell students about the Jumpstart Savings Programs and the chance to win up to \$12,000 through a contest designed for graduates or current students pursuing an education in the trades. All contestants had to do was tell the world what makes them proud to be a West Virginia skilled worker and snap a photo for submission. More information about the Jumpstart Savings Program can be found by going to [wvjumpstart.com](#). "This is a very unique program that doesn't exist anywhere else in the country. It allows individuals graduating from places like Eastern to be able to save money to buy tools, equipment, licenses, certifications, new business start-up costs...anything relevant to the degree that they have gotten here," said Moore, "They could even save to buy a new vehicle to go to a job site. This is a way to prioritize people who are taking the non-four-year college path because we need to be able to provide the same type of support that we are providing to students who are going to places like WVU. These types of jobs and vocations that are being taught here, are just as important if not more important than people getting a four-year degree."

Heavener said, "Eastern's job fair brings together job seekers and employers from the tri-state area to network and discuss job opportunities and internships. I am honored to plan these

events for Eastern students, alumni, and community members. I am also very proud of today's turnout. I hope to see participation rates continue to soar." Employers who attended also were entered in a raffle drawing to win one of Eastern's Potomac Highland Producers boxes. The winner of the PHP box was Pat Davis of the West Virginia Laborers Union.

Eastern Career Services will hold two big events next year; the Career Carnival and a Community Job Fair. The Career Carnival, scheduled for Tuesday, April 23, 2024, will allow local students and the general public to explore career paths and job readiness skills through interactive and engaging hands-on demonstrations and fun, educational games. Fall 2024 will feature another community job fair. Mark your calendars and plan to attend these community events hosted on Eastern's main campus.

About Eastern Career Services

Career Services at Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College is a comprehensive service center designed to meet the career planning, career exploration, job seeking, and post-graduation needs of every student and alumni. Get expert assistance in building or refining your resume, cover letter, or professional portfolio. Practice your interviewing skills with a mentor and receive feedback on your performance. Learn important career planning and employment skills by participating in bi-monthly mini-courses. Topics include but are not limited to negotiating your salary, benefits of online professional platforms (i.e. LinkedIn, Focus2Career, Handshake), job search strategies, interview skills, personal finance, setting up your own business, and how to ask for what you need at work to be successful.

Stop by Room 111 at Eastern's main campus in Moorefield, WV, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Evening hours are available by appointment. For more information, visit [easternwv.edu/current-students/career-services/](#). Contact Dixie Heavener, Career Counselor at dixie.heavener@easternwv.edu or 304.434.8000 ext. 9239.

What's? Happening

Library Fundraiser

Tickets are on sale now for the "Love Your Library" St. Valentine's Day dinner and entertainment. Tickets for this fundraiser can be purchased at Mountaintop Public Library and Elender's in Thomas, and the Emerald Tree Boutique in Davis. Each ticket is \$100 and features a multi-course dinner with choice of local beef steak or vegan entree, door prizes, a memento of the evening, and stellar local entertainment. The fundraiser takes place the evening of Sunday, February 4th, and all proceeds go toward the new building fund for the library that serves the communities of Thomas, Davis, Canaan Valley and beyond. This fundraiser is being put on by the Friends of the Mountaintop Public Library (FOMPL) a 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to support

Mountaintop Public Library. For more information, call 681-264-3223 or 304-463-4582.

Free Friday Family Table

First UMC of Parsons will host Free Friday: Family Table, a free hot meal for anyone in the community, on Friday, Jan. 26 at 6 p.m. at 101 1st St., Parsons in the fellowships hall.

Soup and Sandwich Luncheon

The Hambleton Community Church is having a soup and sandwich luncheon from 12 – 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 20. Potato, vegetable, chili and Chicken noodle soup will be available along with various types of sandwiches. Donations only.

By Teri Cayton

The Parsons Advocate

I got some unexpected good news this past week. As always I stopped by the bank and dropped off the payment for my truck, just dropped off and drove away, didn't need a receipt. I was down the road a bit on my way home and the phone rings. It was the bank informing me that I had over-paid my payment. I called and they said that the over-payment was due to the fact that a partial payment would pay my loan off.

Well that was good news indeed, so the next day I retrieved the overpayment and now my truck is mine. And as if the truck makers knew that I had paid off the loan, I got in my truck the next day and the radio stopped working. Is that just how it works or what? Momma Said, "Two steps forward and three steps back."

On that same day the roads were nasty with snow and slush and I was just that close to sliding in the ditch on my way to work. I got it squared around and by then I

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



am on the wrong side of the road. Thankfully, there were no cars coming in the other direction. I got everything pointed in the right direction so I guess my angel was awake and sitting on my shoulder.

I have been in a few close calls in my life and sometimes wonder if I do have a guardian angel that watches over me, there were a few times I don't know how I was not killed or hurt very badly. I must have bones made of steel because there were two incidents that I don't know how I kept from breaking my leg. Momma Said, "Just call me the bionic woman."

Blueberry Lemon Delight

Ingredients

BLUEBERRY LAYER:

- ½ CUP water
- ½ CUP sugar
- juice from ½ lemon
- 3 CUPS blueberries
- 2 1/2 TABLESPOONS cornstarch

CRUST:

- 1¼ CUPS crushed graham cracker crumbs
 - ¼ CUP sugar
 - 6 TABLESPOONS unsalted butter melted
- #### LEMON CHEESECAKE FILLING:
- 2 CUPS heavy cream
 - ¼ CUP sugar
 - 12 OUNCES cream cheese softened
 - 1 CUP powdered sugar
 - zest of 2 lemons
 - juice of 1 lemon

Instructions

1. Combine the water, lemon juice and sugar in a medium saucepan, stirring well. Add the blueberries and turn the heat on to medium to bring the mixture to a boil. Lower the heat and simmer the blueberries for 7-8 minutes until they start to burst. Combine the cornstarch with 1 1/2 tablespoons of water and stir it into the blueberry mixture. Raise the heat and bring to a boil. Once the mixture boils and thickens, remove the pan from the

heat to cool.

2. Make the crust by combining the graham cracker crumbs, sugar and melted butter in a small bowl. Press the mixture into the bottom of an 8-inch square baking dish. Refrigerate the crust while you make the cheesecake layer.

3. Beat the heavy cream and sugar together until the cream reaches stiff peak stage (do not overbeat or it will become grainy).

4. In a separate bowl, whip the cream cheese with an electric mixer until smooth. Add the powdered sugar, lemon zest and lemon juice and mix until smooth and fluffy. Fold in 1 cup of the whipped cream. Spread the mixture evenly over the graham cracker crust.

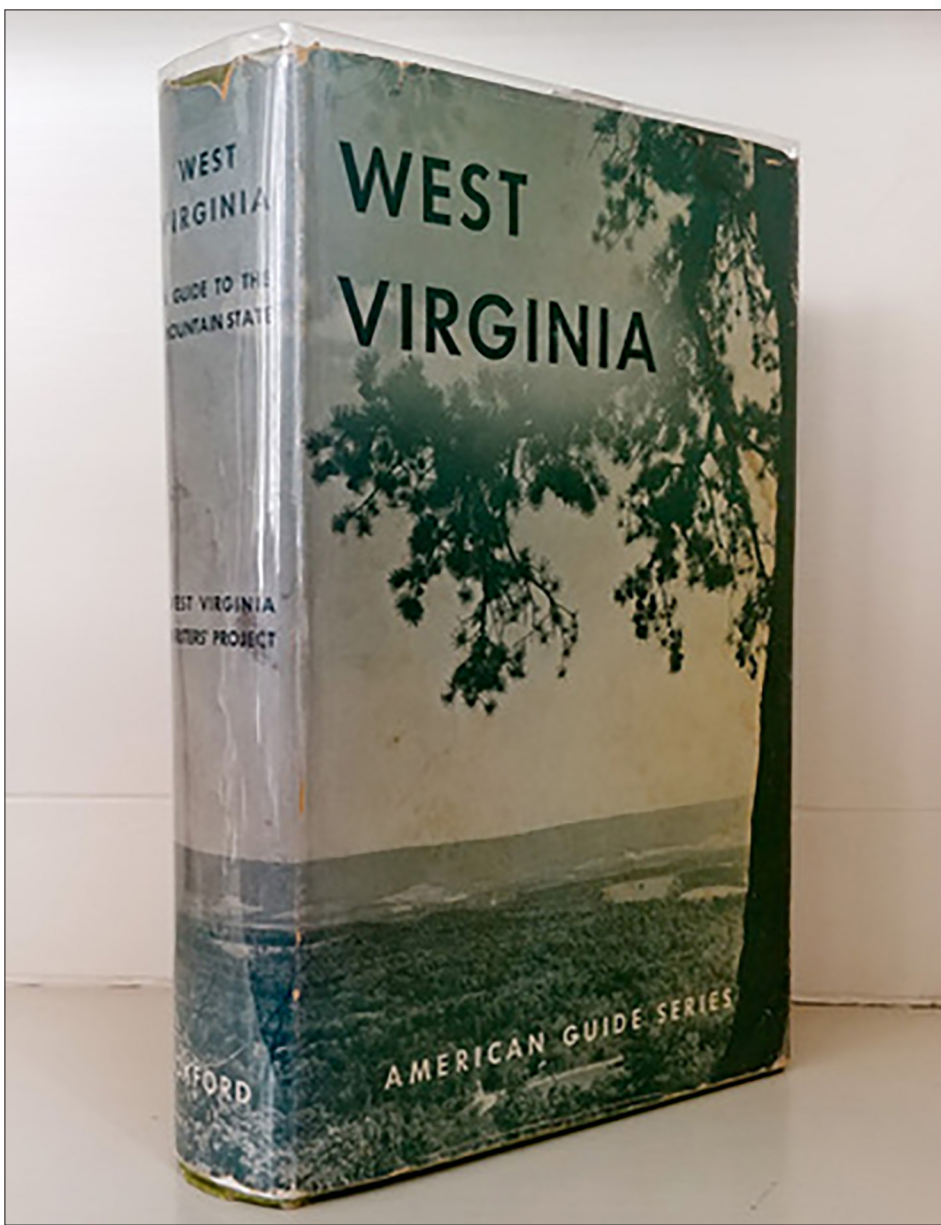
5. Spoon the cooled blueberry filling evenly over the cheesecake layer. Gently spread the remaining whipped cream over the blueberry layer. Use an offset spatula to smooth out the whipped cream or the back of a spoon to form swirls in the whipped cream.

6. Cover with plastic wrap and chill in the refrigerator for at least 6 hours.

7. Before serving, garnish the top of the blueberry lemon delight with a few more blueberries and a few slices of lemon if desired. Then, cut the blueberry lemon delight into squares and serve chilled.



The West Virginia Encyclopedia
www.wvencyclopedia.org



West Virginia: A Guide to the Mountain State was part of a national guidebook series prepared by the Writers' Project of the federal Works Progress Administration during the Great Depression. Researched and written by unemployed writers hired by the WPA, the Guide presents a useful summary of the history, literature, and folkways of the state, as well as a list of suggested tours. Today it is regarded as a West Virginia classic.

Because some writers in the Writers' Project had radical backgrounds, including Bruce Crawford, the West Virginia director, conservatives looked upon the guidebook series with apprehension. In Washington, the House Un-American Activities Committee condemned the project. In West Virginia, Governor Homer Adams Holt, a conservative Democrat, sympathized with

the HUAC and alleged that the West Virginia guide was "propaganda from start to finish." WPA officials, fearful that Holt might refuse to cooperate with other WPA projects, tried to address his complaints about the manuscript, eliminating photographs and sections he found distasteful, including all of the chapter on labor history.

Eventually the dispute over the West Virginia manuscript was resolved after Holt left office in 1941 to be replaced by Matthew Mansfield Neely, a Democrat more sympathetic to labor and the New Deal. With Neely's approval, the chapter on labor was restored and the West

Virginia guide, one of the last of the national series to be published, finally appeared in 1941. West Virginia: A Guide to the Mountain State is a 559-page hardback. The book is divided into four parts. Part I provides general background on the state, Part II describes West Virginia cities, Part III offers tour ideas, and Part IV consists of a chronology with key dates in the state's history and a bibliography.

Thomas, Jerry Bruce "West Virginia: A Guide to the Mountain State." e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia. 03 April 2019. Web. 15 January 2024.

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Super Crossword

MONEY-CHANGING

- | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 43 Lima locale | 86 — Leppard | DOWN | 33 Jr., last year | 82 "You Be —" |
| 1 Combination spear and battle-ax | 44 "Rapa —" (1994 film) | 87 Some PC readouts | 1 Use an ax on | 34 Spirited horse | (1986 hit for Run-D.M.C.) |
| 8 Provo native | 45 Like even scores | 89 Kicked out of the game, for short | 2 One "A" of NCAA: Abbr. | 38 Eye coverer | 88 Jargon |
| 13 Dawn deity | 46 Feel sore | 90 Radio spots | 3 Chou En- — | 40 Often-pickled veggie | 89 Women's patriotic gp. |
| 16 Some fast autos | 48 Refusals | 92 Bruins' sch. | 4 Nest dweller | 41 Pirate | 91 Secondary field of study |
| 19 Virtual merchant | 51 She sang "Constant Craving" | 94 Major shock | 5 "If I Can't Have You" singer | 46 From scratch | 93 George who played |
| 20 Strong cordage fiber | 56 Rocker Brian | 96 Query after someone is told they look like Iranian money? | Yvonne | 47 Compelled | Danny Ocean |
| 21 Performs a charade of | 57 Facts, in brief | 103 German auto society | 6 Says again | 49 In the lead | 94 Mosaic tile |
| 23 Thai money used to buy a Jacuzzi? | 59 Gobble up Iraqi money? | 104 Tampa Bay NFLer | 7 Rive — (Paris' Right Bank) | 50 Squelched | 95 Long rodent feature |
| 25 Height when upright | 62 Gal entering | 105 Over browned bread | 8 E-address | 52 Cat that roars | 96 Most suitable |
| 26 Protest at which people lie on the ground | 63 Jazz's Chick | 106 Houston-to-Madison dir. | 9 Bistro bill | 53 "The Piano" Oscar winner | 97 Assess again |
| 27 Bright red Indian money? | 65 Chaise place | 107 Whack some Mexican money? | 10 Unpaid player | 54 Cable TV's — Geo | 98 Skip over in speech |
| 29 "Madam" counterpart | 66 Cognizant of | 111 Rapper — Rhymes | 11 Classic cracker brand | 55 Miracle — | 99 Chalice, e.g. |
| 32 "The Dance" painter Henri | 67 School where students learn about Swedish money? | 113 More intoxicating | 12 Tennis-playing guy | 57 Here, in Lyon | 100 Nailed the test |
| 35 Biceps locale | 72 Norway's capital | 114 Refuse to contribute | 13 Kodak founder | 58 Election mo. | 101 Desert of Mongolia |
| 36 Powerful auto engine | 74 — facias (certain writ) | 115 South African money? | 14 Prefix with -genarian | 60 Elected (to) | 102 Some purple shades |
| 37 "You missed your chance for folding over that Korean money?" | 75 Used skillfully | 120 Getty of TV | 15 Pentagon | 61 Virginia Tech team name | 103 Milo of films |
| 42 Already-included tips, e.g. | 76 "— favor, señor" | 121 French river | 16 Reach as high as | 64 Cold — (frigid) | 108 Piper's wear |
| | 79 Forms Ghanaian money into a cylinder shape? | 122 Asmara's nation | 17 Large, deep serving dish | 68 Court plea, for short | 109 Twisty fish |
| | 83 Brain tests, for short | 123 Gobbled up | 18 Painter Jan | 69 Very angry | 110 Average |
| | 84 Suffix with meth- | 124 Airport agcy. | 22 R-X fillers | 70 Rule, in brief | 112 Comic Johnson |
| | 85 Venture out on one's own | 125 Played (with) | 24 Attending to the matter | 71 More than loads up (on) | 115 Uno plus due |
| | | 126 Label on a bargain item | 28 Certain Wall St. trader | 72 Assoc. | 116 H.S. proficiency test |
| | | | 29 Said | 73 Great Lakes' — Canals | 117 Gallery work |
| | | | 30 Antiseptic element | 77 Like a single-guy band | 118 Teachers' gp. |
| | | | 31 Bucking bovines | 78 Traditional Irish brew | 119 Ham-marsjköld once of the U.N. |
| | | | | 80 Make laugh uproariously | |
| | | | | 81 Hoopla | |

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

8				3		7		
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		5	3					1
	6			7		4		

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

- ◆ Moderate
- ◆◆ Challenging
- ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Weather Totals

January 2 - January 9

Nursery Bottom
Parsons

Temperature

Max 41° F
Min 12° F

Precipitation

Week 1.4"
January 1.69"
2024 1.69"

Snowfall

New Snow 1"
Snow on ground 0"
Winter Total 11.5"

U.S. Forest Service



Nurturing Healthy Hearts, Close to Home



We understand that every heartbeat is unique & that's why our team of expert cardiologists is committed to providing personalized & comprehensive care for your heart health journey, right here in Elkins.



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📍 501 Railroad Ave in Elkins

📞 (304) 636-5006

SPORTS



Tucker County's Trevan Bonner goes up for a shot in a recent game against Elkins. Photo by Brittany Channell.

MT. LIONS PICK UP WINS OVER TYLER CONSOLIDATED AND CAMERON

By Dave Helmick
TuckerCountySports.Com

SISTERSVILLE – Tucker County traveled to Tyler Consolidated for a pair of games on Friday January 12th and Saturday January 13th. On January 12th the Mt. Lions faced off against Tyler Consolidated. Tucker County had a great second quarter to build the lead and then the visiting Mt. Lions pulled away for a 76-44 win.

In the first quarter both teams battled back and forth as Tucker County had a 16-12 lead after one quarter. The Mt. Lions then built on their lead in the second as they outscored the homestanding Knights 16-4 in the second period to make the halftime score 32-16 Tucker County.

Tucker County then exploded in the third quarter with 31 points and Tyler Consolidated scored 15 points to put the Mt. Lions advantage at 63-31 after three quarters. The reserve players finished the fourth quarter as both teams scored 13 points each to make the final score 76-44 Tucker County.

Treva Bonner led Tucker County with 32 points, 5 rebounds and Ethan Rosenau added 12 points. Ashton Lycliter chipped in with 8 points, 8 rebounds and Maddox Anderson dished out a team high 7 assists

for the Mt. Lions in the win.

SISTERSVILLE – The Mt. Lions tipped off against Cameron at Tyler Consolidated in an afternoon game the next day Saturday January 13th. Tucker County's defense held the Dragons to just 12 first half points and the Mt. Lions cruised to the win over Cameron 57-28.

The first quarter was controlled by Tucker County by the score of 17-5. The Mt. Lions then continued to dominate the Dragons in the second quarter as Tucker County outscored Cameron 11-7 to make the halftime score 28-12.

Tucker County came out strong in the third as they held Cameron to just 5 points in the third and the Mt. Lions scored 11 points to push the Tucker County lead to 39-17 after three quarters. In the final quarter the Mt. Lions outscored Cameron 18-11 to make the final score 57-28 Tucker County.

Ethan Rosenau led the Mt. Lions in scoring with 15 points and Treva Bonner added 14 points for Tucker County. Garrett Wilfong chipped in with 10 points, 9 rebounds and Maddox Anderson dished out 8 assists.

Tucker County(8-2) will return to action on Friday January 19th at Pendleton County. For more info go to TuckerCountySports.Com.

AREA SCHEDULE:

Thursday January 18th

Tucker County Girls' Basketball vs Southern, MD @ Home 5:45pm
Tucker Valley Girls' Basketball vs Belington @ Home 5:45pm

Friday January 19th

Tucker County Boys' Basketball @ Pendleton County 6:15pm
Tucker Valley Boys' Basketball vs Belington @ Home 5:45pm

Saturday January 20th

Tucker County Girls' Basketball @ Grafton 6pm

Monday January 22nd

Tucker County Boys' Basketball @ Trinity 7:30pm
Davis-Thomas Girls' & Boys' Basketball @ Bruceton 5:45pm

Tuesday January 23rd

Tucker County Girls' Basketball @ Braxton County 6pm

TUCKER GIRLS' GET WINS OVER CHARLESTON CATHOLIC AND TUG VALLEY



Tucker County players Addie Hicks(12) and Katie Hicks(21) play defense against Charleston Catholic on Jan. 12th. The Lady Mt. Lions got the win over Charleston Catholic 32-20. Photo by Sarah Hicks.



Makenna Evans of the Lady Mt. Lions dribbles the ball against Tug Valley on Jan. 13th. Tucker County won the contest over Tug Valley 56-42. Photo by Sarah Hicks.

By Chris George
TuckerCountySports.Com

CHARLESTON – The Lady Mt. Lions traveled to Charleston Catholic for a varsity only game on Friday January 12th. In a defensive battle, Tucker County pulled away in the fourth quarter to get the road win over the Lady Irish 32-20.

The first quarter was back and forth as the visiting Lady Mt. Lions held a slight 8-7 lead after one quarter. The offense struggled for both teams in the second quarter as Tucker County outscored Charleston Catholic 4-3 in the second to make the halftime score 12-10 Lady Mt. Lions.

The third quarter was dead even in scoring as both teams scored 7 points each to put the score to 19-17 Tucker County to start the fourth quarter. The Lady Mt. Lions then pulled away in the fourth as they outscored the Lady Irish 13-3 to capture the road win by the final score of 32-20.

Tucker County was led in scoring by Raven Matthews with 11 points, 7 rebounds and Macy Helmick chipped in with 6 points, 4 rebounds in the Lady Mt. Lions win.

CHARLESTON – Tucker County stayed the night in Charleston and hosted Tug Valley at Charleston Catholic for a varsity only contest on Saturday January

13th. The Lady Mt. Lions exploded to a big lead to start the game and Tucker County held off a Lady Panther comeback for the 56-42 victory.

The Lady Mt. Lions got off to a good start as they outscored Tug Valley 21-6 in the first quarter. Tucker County continued to build on their lead in the second quarter as they outpaced the Lady Panthers 14-8 to make the halftime score 35-14 Tucker County.

Tug Valley came out strong in the third quarter as they cut into the Lady Mt. Lions lead as they outscored Tucker County 15-12 to put the score to 47-29. The Lady Panthers comeback fell short in the fourth as Tug Valley outscored the Lady Mt. Lions 13-9 in the fourth quarter, but that was not enough as Tucker County got the win by the final score of 56-42.

Macy Helmick led Tucker County with 9 points, 6 assists and Raven Matthews had 8 points, 7 rebounds. Addie Hicks and Mayah Gross also added 8 points each for the Lady Mt. Lions in the win.

Tucker County(8-2) will return to action on Thursday January 18th at home against Southern, MD. The Lady Mt. Lions will then travel to Grafton on Saturday January 20th for JV / Varsity contest starting at 6pm. For more info go to TuckerCountySports.Com.

THANK YOU FOR READING

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Good Luck!

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



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Tucker Community Foundation Accepting Scholarship Applications



Tucker Community Foundation scholarship recipients that attended the annual scholarship reception at Canaan Valley Resort in 2023.

PARSONS - The Tucker Community Foundation has announced the start of their annual scholarship season. This year's deadline is Friday, March 8th. The Foundation encourages every student to complete and return their application as early as possible.

More than 40 scholarships from the Tucker Community Foundation are available for high school and college students in Barbour, Grant, Mineral, Preston, Pocahontas, Randolph and Tucker Counties, WV and Garrett County, MD. Scholarship awards will range from \$500 to \$10,000 with most in the \$1,000 to \$2,000 range. Last year the Tucker Community Foundation awarded over \$89,000 in scholarships to deserving students in our 8-county service area.

Students can go to www.tuckerfoundation.net/endowed-funds/scholarships/ to download an application and view the list of scholarships. Scholarship applications are available now, and the deadline to apply is Friday, March 8.

Applications are also available at the Foundation offices located in the Board of Education Annex at 100 Education Lane, Parsons. High School guidance counselors throughout the Foundation's service area also have applications for distribution to students.

Chief Financial Officer, Michael Moore, encourages all high school and college students to apply even if their educational needs do not align with a particular scholarship fund.

"Some of the Tucker Community Foundation's scholarships are designated for graduates of a particular high school or for a particular college while others are based on activities or intended college majors" Moore said. "Just because you do not qualify for one scholarship does not mean you would not qualify for another. We review all of the scholarship applications and determine the student's eligibility for each different scholarship."

New this year is the John & Beulah "Bob" Bartlett Scholarship, which provides a yearly scholarship to a deserving

Randolph or Tucker County student that will be attending college in the fall.

Also new this year, the Myers Family Scholarship will provide a yearly scholarship to a student that will preferably attend Potomac State College going into the Mental Health and Addiction Studies Program. This scholarship was created in honor of their sons Walter Roy Myers II and Adam Ryan Myers, both of which tragically passed away at a young age.

Postgraduate college students from Tucker, Preston or Garrett counties who are pursuing a masters, doctorate or professional degree are eligible for a Crimson Shamrock Scholarship.

The Gary Wilson Scholarship Fund provides a scholarship for Tucker County students attending a Christian elementary, middle or high school, or who are being home schooled employing Christian educational principles and values.

These are just a handful of the over 40 scholarships available from the Tucker Community Foundation this year.

High school seniors, college students, students attending technical schools and other non-traditional students (e.g., adults returning to school) are encouraged to apply for a Tucker Community Foundation scholarship regardless of their field of study.

The Tucker Community Foundation manages more than 140 endowed funds providing annual scholarships and grants to nonprofits and charitable causes throughout their eight-county service area. Inspired by the flood of 1985, the mission of the Foundation is "Creating opportunities for the communities we serve". For more information about scholarships contact the Tucker Community Foundation at 304-478-2930 or visit www.tuckerfoundation.net.



WV Department of Health Urges Residents to Test for Radon

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – As part of National Radon Action Month, the West Virginia Department of Health (DH) is encouraging West Virginians to test their home or workplace for radon. Governor Jim Justice also proclaimed January as National Radon Action Month in West Virginia.

"Radon is a problem you can't see, taste, or smell, but that doesn't mean the poisonous gas isn't there," said Dr. Matthew Christiansen, State Health Officer and Commissioner of DH's Bureau for Public Health. "The cancer-causing, radioactive gas comes from the natural breakdown of uranium in soil, rock, and water, and can get into the air we breathe."

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the greatest risk of exposure comes from homes, where residents spend most of their time. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates radon to be a cause of many cancer cases each year and the leading cause of cancer among non-smokers. CDC reports people who smoke and are exposed to radon have a 10 times higher risk of developing lung cancer from exposure compared with people who do not smoke and are exposed to the same radon levels.

The Office of Environmental Health Services' radon program monitors levels across the state, reporting results on the Public Radon Dashboard. Residents may request a free radon testing kit by emailing radon@wv.gov or by calling 304-352-5039.

According to CDC, radon reduction systems can reduce home radon levels by up to 99 percent. Click here to learn more about West Virginia's Radon Program. To view and apply for careers in the public health field, visit dhr.wv.gov/Pages/Career-Opportunities.aspx.

Trip to Lancaster, PA

The Tucker County Senior Center is trying to get a trip together to see "Sight and Sound Production of Daniel." The trip will include three days, two nights and two breakfasts at hotel, one Amish Feast Smorgasbord, a Tour of Amish Farmlands and a trip to Hershey World.

The cost is \$550 per person double occupancy and will be from Monday, April 29 thru Wednesday, May 1. If interested please contact Tucker County Senior Center at 304-478-2423 and speak with Tim Turner.

Tucker County Senior Center

LEGAL

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

Deceased	Personal Representative(s)
Eric Glenn Poling	Ashleigh Sweeney
1st publication 1/10/24	9294 Rixeyville Rd.
2nd publication 1/17/24	Culpepper, VA 22701
Beardean J. Evans	Richard Evans
1st publication 1/10/24	163 Jobs Run Rd.
2nd publication 1/17/24	Kerens, WV 26276

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

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF TUCKER COUNTY,
WEST VIRGINIA

IN RE:
The Marriage of: **Roberta Alderman** and **Christopher Alderman**
Petitioner Respondent

Civil Action No. 24-D-1
ORDER OF PUBLICATION
THE OBJECT OF THIS SUIT IS TO OBTAIN A DIVORCE. THIS IS A PUBLICATION BY CLASS II LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT. To the Above-Named Respondent:

It appearing by affidavit filed in this action that Christopher Alderman is a non-resident of the State of West Virginia or has an unknown address. It is hereby ordered that Christopher Alderman serve upon the Circuit Clerk's Office, whose address is 211 First Street, Suite 403, Parsons, WV 26287, an Answer, including any related counterclaim or defense you may have to the Petition For Divorce filed in this action on or before February 3, 2024. If you fail to Answer the Petition for Divorce, a judgment may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition.

A copy of said Petition can be obtained from the undersigned Clerk's Office.

Entered by the Clerk of said Court Sharon Moats.

Sharon Moats
Sharon Moats, Circuit Clerk of Tucker Co.

LEGAL

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF WEST VIRGINIA
CHARLESTON

CASE NO. 23-0843-G-PC
HOPE GAS, INC., STANDARD GAS COMPANY
and BAZZLE GAS COMPANY, INC.
Joint petition for consent and approval for Hope Gas, Inc. to acquire Standard Gas Company and Bazzle Gas Company, Inc.

NOTICE OF FILING

On October 27, 2023, Hope Gas, Inc. (Hope), Standard Gas Company (Standard), and Bazzle Gas Company (Bazzle) (jointly, petitioners) filed with the Public Service Commission of West Virginia (Commission) a joint petition (Joint Petition) for Commission consent and approval of an acquisition transaction pursuant to which Hope would acquire certain assets of Standard and Bazzle used to provide gas utility service. Standard and Bazzle currently provide natural gas sales service to approximately 460 customers in Lewis and Braxton Counties, West Virginia.

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

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

Type of Customer	(\$ Increase/(Decrease)	(%) Increase/(Decrease)
Residential	\$13.35	21.37%
Commercial	\$25.87	17.23%

The Bazzle customers will pay Hope's existing rates, PGA rate and the Legacy Surcharge, as they change from time to time. Consequently, at close, based on the current base, PGA and surcharge rates proposed, the average monthly bill impact for the Bazzle customers as a result of the Transaction will be as follows:

Type of Customer	(\$ Increase/(Decrease)	(%) Increase/(Decrease)
Residential	\$60.60	170.56%

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

Type of Customer	(\$ Increase/(Decrease)	(%) Increase/(Decrease)
Residential	\$28.79	46.08%
Commercial	\$64.85	43.19%

The Commission schedules this matter for evidentiary hearing to be held on February 21, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. and continuing to February 22, 2024, if necessary, in the Howard M. Cunningham Hearing Room, Public Service Commission Building, 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia. Interested persons should be able to view the evidentiary hearing via an internet livestream. In lieu of an in-person public comment hearing, the Commission will receive public comments online and by mail or hand delivery to the Executive Secretary's Office. All written comments should state the case name and number and be addressed to Karen Buckley, Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323. The Commission website, www.psc.state.wv.us, contains links to "Case Information," "Submit a Comment," and "Commission Webcast."

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

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

HOPE GAS, INC.
STANDARD GAS COMPANY, and
BAZZLE GAS COMPANY, INC.

TUCKER COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

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WVDNR announces return of trout stockings

Anglers are reminded to purchase a 2024 fishing license and trout stamp



SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.VA. — The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) today announced the return of trout stockings to select lakes and streams around the state.

“Trout stocking not only allows us to continue to preserve and enhance our natural resources, but it also provides an excellent opportunity for both first-time and experienced anglers to enjoy West Virginia’s beautiful lakes, streams and rivers,” said WVDNR Director Brett McMillion.

Trout stockings officially returned during the week of Jan. 2, with stockings to the following 29 lakes and streams:

- Anthony Creek
- Big Run Lake
- Blackwater River
- Cacapon State Park Lakes
- Chief Logan Lake
- Conaway Run Lake
- Deegan Lake
- Fitzpatrick Lake
- Hinkle Lake
- Howards Creek
- Hurricane Reservoir
- James P Bailey Lake
- Larenim Park Lake
- Laurel Fork Lake
- Lick Creek Pond
- Little Beaver Lake
- Mannington Lake
- Miletree Lake
- North Fork South Branch
- Opequon Creek
- Pendleton Lake
- South Branch (Catch and Release)
- South Branch (Franklin)
- South Branch (Petersburg)
- South Branch (Smoke Hole)
- Spruce Knob Lake
- Summit Lake
- Thomas Park Lake
- Wayne Dam

While daily trout stockings are not announced in advance, the WVDNR publishes a list of recently stocked waters at WVdnr.gov/fish-stocking. Anglers may also find out what waters have been stocked by calling the stocking hotline at 304-558-3399. In inclement weather, missed stockings are made up by either additional stocking runs or additional fish added to upcoming stocking events. For more information about trout stocking locations, anglers should check pages 14-15 in the 2024 Fishing Regulations Summary.



WVDNR announces updated fishing regulations, new state record fish categories

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.VA. — The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) today announced the availability of updated fishing regulations online at WVdnr.gov/fishing-regulations.

“Whether you’re a West Virginia resident casting a line in a familiar lake or stream or a non-resident visiting on vacation, West Virginia offers the angling public a myriad of exciting opportunities, all within easy driving distance of each other,” said WVDNR Director Brett McMillion.

Anglers are reminded that West Virginia’s fishing regulations for 2024 went into effect on Jan. 1. Updates include changes to regulations regarding sauger and saugeye limits, blue catfish minimum size limits and channel catfish possession limits. Print versions of the regulations are also

available at district offices and license retailers around the state.

The WVDNR also announced the creation of new state record fish categories for black crappie, redbreast sunfish, redear sunfish, pumpkinseed sunfish and redhorse suckers. For a complete list of all state record fish categories and instructions for reporting a catch, anglers should consult page 23 of the fishing regulations.

All anglers 15 years and older are required to have a West Virginia fishing license and a valid form of identification while fishing. A trout stamp is required for catching trout. Licenses and stamps can be purchased at 156 retail locations across the state or at WVfish.com.

To learn more about fishing opportunities and trout stockings in West Virginia, visit WVdnr.gov/fishing.

This Week’s Submitted Photos



This week’s photo of a rainbow over Kight Road was submitted by Carol Craver

YOU CAN HELP...

WARM THE CHILDREN

Providing New Winter Clothing for Local Children in Need



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

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

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

How will the children’s clothing be purchased?

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

How can I help?

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

No administrative fees. EVERY CENT received is used to buy winter clothing!

CLIP & MAIL

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

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

Name: _____

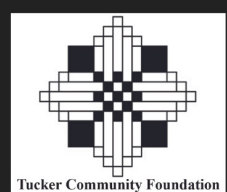
Address: _____

MAIL TO: **WARM THE CHILDREN FUND**

c/o The Parsons Advocate

P.O. Box 345, Parsons, WV 26287

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



JOIN OUR TEAM!

Job Opening: Part-time Office Clerk at Tucker Community Foundation

The Tucker Community Foundation, a non-profit organization that serves an eight-county area in the Potomac Highlands region of West Virginia and Maryland, is currently seeking an entry-level office clerk to join our team part-time.

As an office clerk, the successful candidate will be responsible for assisting with the planning and organizing of annual events, answering the phone, greeting visitors, filing, creating spreadsheets, and digitizing old records. The candidate must be able to demonstrate the following skills:

- Proficiency in Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Adobe, Canva, etc.
- Ability to work independently or as part of a team.
- Detail-oriented, organized, and friendly.
- Willingness to work a flexible schedule.

This is an entry-level position with a negotiable salary based on experience. There is potential for growth within the organization.

To apply, please email your resume to edirector@tuckerfoundation.net or mail it to P.O. Box 491, Parsons, WV 26287. The Tucker Community Foundation is an equal opportunity employer.

