

# The Parsons Advocate

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF TUCKER COUNTY SINCE 1896

Volume 129 No. 11

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

\$1.00 (tax incl.)



The eminent domain suit filed by the Town of Davis against Real Estate Developer Pete Johnson has reached an agreement. Johnson has supplied a copy of a joint statement to The Parsons Advocate.

## Riverwalk Eminent Domain Case Dismissed

By: Lydia Crawley  
The Parsons Advocate

The Town of Davis and Real Estate Developer Pete Johnson have reached a settlement in the eminent domain suit filed by the Town against Johnson and his Riverwalk development project. In a joint statement supplied to The Parsons Advocate by Johnson, the Town of Davis agreed to dismiss the Town's Petition for Condemnation.

The joint statement stated that the Town, Davis Parks and Recreation Commission and the Davis Municipal Building Commission all agreed to the dismissal. All three entities were originally listed as petitioners on the Town's petition for condemnation of the Riverwalk Subdivision property in the Town's filing. "The Town of Davis, The Town of Davis Municipal Building Commission and the Davis Parks

and Recreation Commission, Inc., have agreed to dismiss the Petition of Condemnation," the statement reads.

The statement also attests that the Town of Davis, as well as the other entities listed on the original petition, do not intend to file any other petition to condemn the property. "The Town of Davis, The Town of Davis Municipal Building Commission, and the Davis Parks and Recreation Commission, Inc., agree that they do not have any plans to file another Petition for Condemnation," the statement writes. "The parties look forward to working together to allow for the completion of the project."

As previously reported in The Parsons Advocate, the condemnation filing had affected the sale and development of 12 lots within the Riverwalk Subdivision project and left several buyers in limbo from lots under contract that could not

See RIVERWALK page 2

## Tucker County EMS Receives New Ambulance



The newest addition to the Tucker County EMS fleet passes under a spray of water from a Parsons VFD fire engine during the "Dowsing Ceremony". The ceremony is a tradition in the fire and EMS community to inaugurate a new rig to the fleet.

By: Lydia Crawley  
The Parsons Advocate

There is a new rig in town. Tucker County EMS has received a new Ambulance. In a ceremony held on Tuesday, March 5th at Station One in Parsons, members of the Tucker County Ambulance Authority, area municipal government, EMS and the public assembled to await the

arrival of the new Ambulance. "Our new ambulance, number 52, should be arriving from the factory momentarily," Tucker County Ambulance Authority President Dennis Filler said.

Filler relayed in his speech the history of ambulance use, from the Anglo-Saxons in 900 AD to the first US based hospital service in Cincinnati in 1865 during the wan-

See EMS page 3

## Parsons Police See Increase in Homelessness; Applies for Camera Grant

By: Lydia Crawley  
The Parsons Advocate

City of Parsons Police Chief Kevin Keplinger updated the City of Parsons Council March 5th on his department's efforts over the past couple of weeks. Of the issues raised in the meeting, Keplinger reported an increase in encounters with homeless individuals in the City and the struggles his department has seen during the encounters.

Keplinger addressed the Council on the increase his department has seen in intoxicated and homeless individuals within the City. "We are aware and we are working on some, I don't want to say vagrancy issues, but some homelessness issues within the town," Keplinger said.

Keplinger informed the Council of a recent incident at Mill Race Park that one of his officers responded to. According to Keplinger, it involved a heavily intoxicated individual. "It is a difficult situation to deal with to be quite honest," Keplinger said. "Recently we had an individual who was fairly heavily intoxicated at Mill Race Park. We showed up,

one of my officers showed up."

According to Keplinger, public intoxication is not an offense that his department can jail for. "Public intoxication is not a jailable offense," Keplinger said.

There is no longer a shelter for inebriated individuals, according to Keplinger. "Our options basically and there is no public inebriated shelter anymore. The P.I. Shelter does not exist."

Keplinger expressed frustration over the situation and lack of options his department legally has to deal with the issues. "Our only option is to cite and release," Keplinger said. "I am not particularly happy with that. Its just a difficult situation."

Keplinger told the Council that he realized there was an issue, but his department was working on a solution. "We are trying to work that, but we do understand that there is an issue," Keplinger said.

Keplinger said his department has already been in contact about applying for Congressional Directed Spending Grants. According to Keplinger, these grants would be used to purchase camera systems for various points within the

## Arnold Resigns as Parsons City Administrator

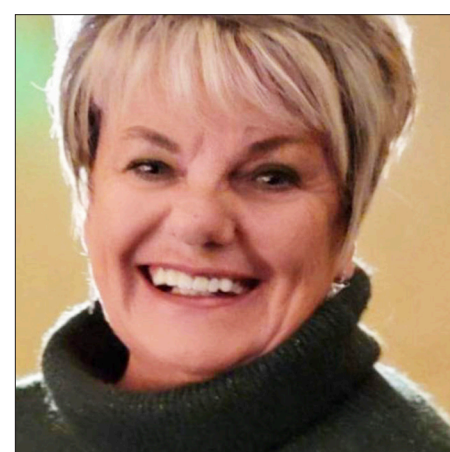
By: Lydia Crawley  
The Parsons Advocate

Parsons City Administrator Agnes Arnold has resigned effective March 30th. The City of Parsons Council reluctantly accepted the resignation March 5th during the Council's regular meeting.

Arnold submitted her resignation in the form of a letter dated February 28th to Parsons Mayor Bruce Kolsun. In the letter, Arnold expresses thanks to the Mayor and City Council for her time as City Administrator and gratitude for the knowledge the experience has given her. "I want to express my gratitude to the mayor and the city council for the opportunity to work for the city," Arnold wrote. "I am grateful for the experience and knowledge gained during my tenure."

Arnold also wrote that she strives to make the transition as smooth as possible and offered her assistance to the staff during the transition. Arnold also wrote that she intended to have all her duties completed prior to her last day. "I am committed to making the transition process as smooth as possible and willing to assist the staff for as long as may be necessary or needed," Arnold wrote.

Arnold's closing remarks stated that her experience working with the council, staff and customers has been positive and that she considered the present and past staff of the City to be family. Arnold wrote that her time spent assisting with events and



decorating, as well as spent planting and watering flowers over the years have been the most rewarding for her. "I appreciate the opportunity in helping make our "Small City with a Big Heart" a beautiful and quaint place to live," Arnold wrote.

The matter was taken up in executive session under the exemption that applies to personnel issues. Following the executive session discussion, the Council returned to open session and accepted the resignation with regret with only one vote opposing issued by Council Member Tim Turner. The Council unanimously expressed regret at Arnold's leaving and thanked her for her service to the City.

The next meeting of the Parsons City Council will be held Tuesday, March 19th at 6 p.m. at the Charles W. "Bill" Rosenau Municipal Building at 341 Second Street in Parsons.

## Meet the Candidate: Tucker County Commissioner Fred Davis

After six years as Tucker County Commissioner, Fred Davis is running for reelection. Davis, a Tucker County resident for 58 years, has served as Commissioner since 2019.

According to Davis, his focus has been to be a voice for the citizens of Tucker County. Davis said that he has always strove to field citizen concerns to the County Commission and has even taken long calls from citizens in the middle of the night. "When I ran, I told everybody I would be their voice of the people," Davis said. "When they come to me, I bring it to the commission and to the county to let them know what is going on."

Davis said that during his first campaign, he had said he would expand access to trade school opportunities for the citizens of Tucker County. According to Davis, he has been working with Eastern College as well as helping citizens with mining classes, CDL and phlebotomy classes. "When I ran last time, I promised people I would do trade schools to help the community out and I've done that the entire five years I've been (on the Commission)," Davis said.

Davis said he also has assisted local companies and carpenters to find employees, as well as fielding call often on the subject of employment. "I still get calls from people asking for me to find them employees and people call me about find-



Tucker County Commissioner Fred Davis at his desk in the Tucker County Commission Office. Davis is running for reelection in what he hopes to be his second six year term as a County Commissioner.

ing jobs and that has worked out really well with me helping to do that," Davis said. "As Commissioner, people come to me on that."

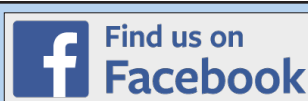
According to Davis, he enjoys his work with local recreational service. "I like the part of working with the recreation and community centers and our parks," Davis said. "These are the main things that I like. I really like putting my time into those things."

Davis said he feel that the County is a

See COUNTY COMMISSIONER page 2



VISIT US ONLINE AT [WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM](http://WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM)



# News of Record

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

- **Chad Nicholas Shaffer**, was charged with one felony count of Strangulation. According to the complaint on Friday, March 1 at approximately 4:45 a.m., Trooper R.S. Musgrave was dispatched by WVSP Elkins Communication to a physical domestic in progress in Davis. At this time the officer was advised the victim was able to leave the residence and agreed to meet at the BFS in Parsons.
- At approximately 5.20 a.m. Musgrave made contact with the victim who was identified by her driver's license. She advised she got into a verbal altercation with her boyfriend Chad Shaffer. During this altercation she advised that the suspect began to get aggressive and physical in nature, allegedly striking her with a closed fist to her body. She stated he began shoving her into the bathroom at which point he placed both hands around her neck, preventing her from breathing. She stated he began to squeeze her throat to which point she blacked out.
- At this time she stated she came to and began trying to leave the residence and she said the suspect shoved her to the ground again, jumped on top of her and began squeezing her throat again. She said she started blacking out again but did not pass out and was able to leave the residence.
- During this altercation Musgrave observed markings on her neck and throat consistent with being choked. He also observed some bruising around this area along with the markings on her upper arm. She was checked by Tucker County EMS but refused to be transported to the hospital.
- **Jherika Ashley Winkler**, of Cresaptown Allegheny, Md., was charged with two counts of shoplifting. The complaint states that on Wednesday, Feb. 7 Deputy C.R. Summerfield of the Tucker County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) received a call from the Sheriff's office regarding a shoplifting complaint at the Davis Shop-n-Save. He arrived on scene and was met by the store manager and obtained a handwritten statement from her. In summary she stated that on Thursday, Feb. 1 the suspect came into the store and was

caught shoplifting. She stated that the suspect was in Isle 5 for quite some time and she could be seen picking up products and shoving them into her pants, shirt and purse. She also stated that the suspect checked out and paid for some groceries with her EBT card. When she was leaving employees stopped her in the foyer and asked her to open her purse. When she did they observed two Febreeze sprays, five wax-melts and three plug-ins. The store manager stated that there was more, but the suspect walked into the parking lot before employees could see the rest. She stated that the total of the merchandise stolen, to the best of her knowledge, was \$190. The officer was provided with a USB drive containing security footage of the incident. When viewed he observed a female suspect that appeared to be the suspect in the isle placing items into her purse and shopping cart.

- **Gregory Dean Smith, Jr.**, of Ravenswood, was charged with one count of unlawful taking of vehicle, one count driving under influence of alcohol, one count of obedience to traffic-control devices and one count of operation without certificate or failure to produce certificate. According to the complaint on Saturday, Feb. 24 Trooper R.S. Musgrave, along with Deputy B. Gidley were dispatched to a domestic at 254 Henry Ave in Davis by Tucker County 911. The officers arrived on scene and made contact with caller. At this time they were advised that the other party involved was Gregory Smith, Jr. who has had multiple law enforcement interactions prior to this incident.
- Musgrave was advised that Smith had left the scene and Tucker County 911 reported there had been a motor vehicle accident on the Appalachian Highway going toward Canaan. Musgrave was advised that Smith was in possession of the caller's vehicle to which he did not have permission or consent to take.
- Musgrave arrived on the scene of the accident and observed a vehicle on the left side of the roadway, over an embankment, in the ditch collided with a pole. Musgrave observed Smith acting in a belligerent manner and acknowledged a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage emanating from

Smith's person. Upon speaking with Smith he allegedly admitted that he had stolen the vehicle from the caller.

- At this time officers placed him under arrest for the unlawful taking of the vehicle. He had no identification or operators and was transported to the WVSP Parsons detachment in regards to obtain a warrant for Smith's blood. Officers arrived at Davis Medical Center in Elkins and at this time a blood draw kit was collected and a trauma kit was executed to ascertain any injuries Smith might have sustained from the accident, and he was cleared by DMC medical professionals.
- After release from medical services officers transported Smith to Tygart Valley Regional Jail where he was processed via Live Scan and charged with unlawful taking of a vehicle, DUI, Failure to obey traffic devices and failure to produce operators. He was then remanded into the custody of Division of Corrections.
- All individuals are presumed innocent until proven otherwise in a court of law.

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

- Zachary J. Millimet and Amy C. Millimet, Dry Fork district, Lot 18 Northface Timberline to Frederick Heath Damron and Mariette Barbier, \$56,000.
- Martin L. Milner and Stephanie T. Milner, Dry Fork District, Unit C-204, Herzwood Condominium to Slopeside Rentals LLC, \$268,648.50.
- Patricia Shupp Kerr and Richard Kerr, Black Fork District, 4.3 acres Roaring Run to Luke M. Rhodes and Bayli D. Rhodes, \$32,500.
- Robert V. Rebois and Margaret J. Rebois, Dry Fork District, Lot 58 Mountainside Timberline 2.19 acres to James C. Shelton and Rachel B. Shelton, \$440,000.
- Paul S. Magness and Meredith J. Magness, Dry Fork District, Lot 52 North Lake IV to Patrick Dowd and Michelle L. Dowd, \$71,000.
- Cable of the Carolinas Inc., Dry Fork District, 123 acres to Matthew S. Shockley and Angie Shockley, \$80,000.
- Carolina Cable Inc., Dry Fork District, 0.08 acres; 3,600 square feet to Matthew S. Shockley and Angie Shockley, \$4,700.

## Riverwalk

Cont. From Front Page 1

complete financing due to the filing. As well as housing, the development is planned to include a green space park area and trail access through a donated tract to the DNR that is slated to tie into the trail and bridge proposed with the Friends of the Blackwater, according to Johnson's previous interview.

The Town of Davis and Mayor Al Tomson, as previously reported in The Parsons Advocate, had denied any wrong doing in regards to the filing. In an interview with The Parsons Advocate previously, Tomson has said the matter had been before the Town Council for two years prior to the filing. Tomson outlined in that interview that the Town had

intended to use the property included in the eminent domain filing to improve parking in the downtown area and expand the riverfront park.

The issuing of the joint statement and the dismissal of the condemnation filing brings an end to the eminent domain issues facing the future of the Riverwalk Subdivision Project. The dismissal of the Town's petition will allow for future development and sale of lots in the area of Phase Two of the project as well as allow the project's frontage road to remain property of the Riverwalk project's Home Owner's Association.

## County Commissioner

Cont. From Front Page 1

team and attributed much of the County's successes to the combined effort of the County departments. "We're a team," Davis said. "You work it out to make it work for the County."

Davis said in his time as Commissioner, he has focused on employment, EMS and Fire, civic infrastructure projects involving water and sewer and the expansion of broadband internet service in the area through the Commission's partnership with Prodigy. "The last few years, I've helped give money for infrastructure through the Covid money to water and sewer and the water plant," Davis said. "I work closely with Canaan, Davis and Thomas and Hamrick PSD to make sure they had the right pumps and the water lines."

Davis said if reelected, he plans to continue his work in education and employment, but also feels there is a need for continued support of emergency services. Davis said he plans to continue working on the infrastructure of the county and continue doing what he has since he was initially elected. "This job is 24-7 and I take it very seriously," Davis said. "It's about looking out for the well being of this County."

Davis, a retiree of the City of Thomas, said his family has been in the Douglas area since the 1920s. According to Davis, his family were coal miners in the area. Davis said he has three grandsons and a daughter in Tucker County. "My heart is in Tucker County," Davis said.

## We Get Letters

Dear Editor,

Too often, we of the "older generation" overlook the efforts of the "younger generation." I'd like to shine the light on a group of young people here in Tucker County, who has for weeks now, been collecting donations of non-perishable foods and money to support our local community. Hunger knows no age limit. So what the younger people in the Honor Society have done is step up and help all of Tucker County that may need a helping hand.

Seeing students, and their teacher, at their tables at both Shop-n-Save stores in our county was heart-warming. It also reminded me of all that I learned from my civics and social studies teachers at Parsons High and TCHS, who, like Mr. Wilson, helped and inculcated the values of the Honor Society.

Deborah Stiles

## Road Closure Starting on Monday, March 11

RANDOLPH COUNTY, WV – One eastbound and one westbound lane of US 33, Allegheny Highway, will be closed starting near Middle Mountain Sports and ending near the intersection of Kelly Mountain Road beginning from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 11, 2024, for culvert replacement, paving and median reconstruction. Special accommodations for emergency vehicles and school buses, all other motorists should seek alternate routes.

# 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](http://www.parsonsadvocate.com)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

— Circle One —

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

<b>Anywhere Print &amp; Web</b>	<b>Monthly Print &amp; Web</b>
\$59/Year	\$5.75/Month

Autorenewal Credit/Debit only

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](mailto:mikie@parsonsadvocate.com) or dropped off at our office at 219 Central Ave.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## The Parsons Advocate

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

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

# OBITUARIES

## Kenneth Lacy Moody



Kenneth Lacy Moody, 84, a resident of Parsons, passed from this life Friday, March 1, 2024, at Nella's at Autumn Lake Healthcare in Elkins and under the care of Mountain Hospice.

Kenneth was born Tuesday, July 4, 1939, on Muddy Creek Mountain in Greenbrier County, a son of the late George Estell Moody, Sr. and Margie Hanna Moody. On May 31, 1959, in Parsons, he married the former Shirley Grace Hardy for the first time, and they were married for twenty-one years. After a thirty-year span apart, he remarried Shirley on June 26, 2010, in Parsons.

Left to cherish Kenneth's memory besides his wife are two sons, Kenneth Lacy Moody, Jr., and wife, Annie of Martinsville, VA, and Jeffrey "Clay" Moody and wife, Penny of Parsons, two grandchildren, Eric Scott Moody and wife, Kelsey of Bruceton Mills, WV and Heather Wade of Martinsville, VA., five great-

music, and traveling. He loved his family and taking care of them.

Visitation will be held at Hostetler Funeral Home on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, from 5pm to 7pm. Funeral services will be held from the funeral home chapel on Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at 1pm. Interment will follow in Parsons City Cemetery where members of the US Air Force Honor Guard, Tucker County Veterans Association, HW Daniels Post #29, American Legion, Tygarts Valley Post #3647, Veterans of Foreign Wars will conduct full military honors. The family requests memorial contributions be made in Kenneth's name to Mountain Hospice, 1002 S Crim Ave, Belington, WV 26250 or [www.mountainhospice.com/donate](http://www.mountainhospice.com/donate). The Hostetler Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements for Kenneth Lacy Moody, Sr. Send online condolences to the family at [www.hostetlerfuneralhome.com](http://www.hostetlerfuneralhome.com).

grandchildren and one great great-grandchild, a sister, Helen Moody Dosier, and several nieces and nephews.

Preceding Kenneth in death besides his parents was a brother, George Estell Moody, Jr., and a sister, Emily Faye Moody Estep.

Kenneth attended school in Rainelle and served in the U.S. Air Force for four years during which time he had obtained his GED. He was employed by Georgia Pacific, McClain Printing Company, The Parsons Advocate, and Goodyear Tire as a mechanic until he became disabled. Kenneth enjoyed his family, camping, Bluegrass



Members of the Tucker County Community watch the arrival of the newest EMS ambulance.



Representatives of Tucker County EMS and Parsons VFD push the new rig into the EMS station as part of the traditional "Push Back Ceremony".



Tucker County Ambulance Authority President Dennis Filler addresses the crowd prior to the delivery of the newest addition to the EMS fleet.

calls," Filler said. "Just a little bit over the number that we provide on an annual basis here in Tucker County."

As part of the ceremony, the new ambulance was ran under a spray of water from a Parsons Volunteer Fire Department fire engine in what was called a "Dowsing Ceremony". "Some ambulance crews douse their ambulances with an IV bag from the rig that is being replaced," Filler said. "Somehow that just didn't seem right for Tucker County."

Following the Dowsing Ceremony, Pastor Julie Davis of the First United Methodist Church gave the invocation and blessing for the new ambulance. As a part of her presentation, she read an excerpt from Psalm 91 which she said was a Psalm of protection. This was followed by a prayer.

Dylan Oliveto, Regional Account Manager for Atlantic Emergency Solutions was also on hand representing his company at the event. As part of the presentation ceremony, Filler presented Oliveto with a check for the ambulance. "The ambulance authority is now in debt for a brand new ambulance," Filler quipped. "But we appreciate the fine job that you have done and can't thank you enough."

Filler went on to thank the members of the Tucker County Ambulance Authority board both past and present for making it possible to purchase the ambulance. Filler credited Treasurer Chris Davis with sourcing competitive financing. The Tucker County Commission was also thanked by Filler in his speech for the recent transfer of Hotel-Motel funds which allowed for the Ambulance Authority to prepay the first year's payment. EMS Director

Amanda Simmons was also thanked by Filler for her hard work in procuring the new Ambulance. "I want to thank our EMS Director Amanda Simmons for doing the legwork finding us the opportunity to be able to buy and receive an ambulance in about six months at a very extremely fair and competitive price," Filler said.

Filler said that the average time on a new ambulance construction and delivery runs 18 months to two years. The Tucker County ambulance was delivered in six months. "It is doubtful that we could replace this ambulance today for what we contracted it for and for those of you who do not know, the average delivery time for an ambulance is 18 months to two years," Fuller said. "The fact that we could locate and procure one in six months, that's remarkable."

Filler closed his speech by thanking the residents of Tucker County for their support. "I'd like to thank the citizens of Tucker County for participating in the process of selecting the look of our new ambulance and being supportive in all of our endeavors to modernize our equipment, for their donations and allowing us to better serve the residents and visitors to Tucker County," Filler said.

Tucker County EMS Director Amanda Simmons gave some short comments following Filler's speech. Simmons thanked the Tucker County Commission and the Tucker County Ambulance Authority board, as well as the Parsons Volunteer Fire Department for hosting the event and area Fire Departments for their support and cooperation. Simmons also thanked the EMS crews for their hard work and dedication. "This last year, the growth in this agency is due to the crew members that have stepped up, taken the helm and said, 'We're going to make Tucker County better than its ever been before,'" Simmons

said.

Simmons said the current fleet includes two 2012, a 2014 and a 2016 model year ambulance. The new ambulance will be a template for future ambulance models for the county, according to Simmons. Simmons said the fleet drive thousands of miles a month serving Tucker County. "This is something that has been much needed throughout the years," Simmons said.

The event also highlighted remarks from the Tucker County Commission delivered by Commission President Mike Rosenau and remarks from Davis Mayor Al Tomson, as well as from Thomas Mayor Jody Flanagan and Parsons Mayor Bruce Kolsun. Tucker County Director of Emergency Management Kevin White gave remarks at the ceremony, as well.

Following the remarks, the ceremony ended with a "Push Back Ceremony" in which representatives of EMS pushed the new ambulance into the EMS station for the first time. The ceremony signifies placing the new rig in its home and has its tradition in the days of horse drawn emergency equipment. "So the Push Back or Push In Ceremony is a tradition that dates back to the late 1800s," Filler said. "Fire crews used hand drawn pumps and horse drawn equipment. Upon returning to the station following a fire call, the horses could not easily back the equipment into the station. The horses had to be disconnected from fire equipment and the fire fighters would then push the equipment back into the bays themselves. So Tucker County EMS has adopted this tradition and will do a modern version of this."

Following the Push Back Ceremony, the ambulance was driven back out of the station bay and opened for the public to view. Oliveto sat inside the new ambulance to answer any questions those viewing the rig might have.

ing days of the Civil War. Filler also outlined the use of ambulances in New York at Bellevue Hospital in 1869. "In 1870, their ambulances responded to 1400 emergency

**St. Patrick's Eve Democratic Dinner**  
 Cured Beef & Cabbage with all the trimmings  
 Comedy & 50-50 drawing  
 Sat, March 16, 2024 5:00pm - 7:00pm  
 Rudolph's, Front St, Thomas, WV  
 \$40 adv. tickets, \$45 at door

scan to buy tickets

Paid for by Tucker County Democratic Executive Committee

**START YOUR WEEK AT WORSHIP**

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

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

**St. John's United Methodist Church**  
 River St., Parsons, WV 26287  
 (304) 478-2620

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](http://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

**LEGAL**

**STOCKHOLDER'S MEETING**  
 A meeting of the Stockholder of Miners & Merchants Bank of Thomas, West Virginia, will be held at the Bank's Main Office Building located at 16000 Appalachian Highway, Thomas, West Virginia, on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, beginning at 1:00 p.m., for the purpose of electing a Board of Directors for the ensuing year and transacting any other business that may properly come before the meeting. Given under my hand this 15th day of February, 2024.  
 Jennifer Newland  
 CEO

**LEGAL**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS BOND COUNSEL SERVICES**  
 On April 4, 2023, the WV Public Service Commission formerly approved the creation of the Blackwater Public Service District (PSD), Tucker County, West Virginia. The Blackwater PSD proposes to acquire the public sanitary sewer systems of Davis, WV and Thomas, WV. After the acquisition, the Blackwater PSD will continue to serve the existing customers of Davis and Thomas, as well as expand service to other unserved areas of Tucker County, WV. Blackwater PSD is requesting proposals from qualified firms to provide the above referenced services for its acquisition of two systems, as well as expanding service to other areas of Tucker County. A list of services required are included in the complete Request for Proposal and may be obtained by visiting Region VII website: <https://www.regionvii.com/resources> or by contacting Blackwater PSD c/o Alan Tomson, at [alantomson@gmail.com](mailto:alantomson@gmail.com) and Region VII Planning & Development Council c/o Lisa Karickhoff at [lkarickhoff@regionvii.com](mailto:lkarickhoff@regionvii.com) or (304) 472-6564. An electronic copy of each proposal must be marked "Proposal for Bond Counsel Services" and must be received by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, March 22, 2024. Submissions shall be sent to: Blackwater PSD c/o Alan Tomson and Region VII Planning & Development Council c/o Lisa Karickhoff via the email addresses above. The PSD will afford full opportunity to small, disadvantaged and minority business enterprises that submit a proposal in response to this solicitation and will not discriminate against any interested firm or individual based on race, creed, color, age, disability, nor national origin in the contract award. The PSD is an equal opportunity employer. Selection criteria will include certification, experience, expertise, personnel, references, and cost (which must include the hourly fee and proposed contract cost). The PSD will review all proposals and rank, based upon such criteria, the firm that will provide the services that are most advantageous to the PSD. The PSD reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals.  
 Alan Tomson  
 Blackwater Public Service District

**LEGAL**

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

Deceased	Personal Representative(s)
Pamela J. Poling	Kevin D. Poling
1st publication 3/6/24	PO Box 133
2nd publication 3/13/24	Hendricks, WV 26271
Mary V. Crowl	Jordan DelSignore
1st publication 3/6/24	PO Box 283
2nd publication 3/13/24	Bayard, WV 26707

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**

The West Virginia Division of Corrections & Rehabilitation is seeking documents from qualified Architectural Engineer Firms to establish a contract via an Expression of Interest (EOI) for Air Systems and Building Automation Control Systems at: 1 - Lakin Correctional Center & Jail (LCC&J) located at 11264 Ohio River Road, West Columbia, WV 25287, Mason County WV, 2 - Eastern Regional Jail & Correctional Facility - Building No. 2 (ERJ&CF-B2) located at 38 Grapevine Road, Martinsburg, WV 25401, Berkeley County WV, 3 - Salem Correctional Center & Jail (SCC&J) - Building B located at 7 Industrial Blvd, Industrial, WV 26426, Doddridge & Harrison County WV, 4 - Donald R. Kuhn Juvenile Center (DRKJC) located at 1 Lory Place, Julian, WV 25529, Boone County WV, 5 - James H. "Tiger" Morton Juvenile Center (JHTMJC) located at 60 Manfred Holland Way, Dunbar, WV 25064, Kanawha County WV, 6 - J.M. "Chick" Buckee Juvenile Center (JMCBCJ) located at 144 Jerry Lane, Augusta, WV 26704, Hampshire County WV, 7 - Kenneth Honey Rubenstein Juvenile Center (KHRJC) located at 141 Fenneth Camp Road, Davis, WV 26260, Tucker County WV, 8 - Lorrie Yeager Juvenile Center (LYJC) located at 907 Mission Drive, Parkersburg, WV 26101, Wood County WV, 9 - Robert L. Shell Juvenile Center (RLSJC) located at 2 O'Hanlon Place, Barboursville, WV 25504, Cabell County WV, 10 - Sam Perdue Juvenile Center (SPJC) located at 843 Shelter Road, Princeton, WV 24739, Mercer County WV, AEOI 0608 DCR2400000001. Expression of Interest (EOI) documents are due by 10:30 a.m. EST on March 22, 2024 and accepted via WVOASIS. The bid documents can be viewed via WVOASIS at <http://www.wvoasis.gov> vendor self-service portal. Questions concerning bid, please contact Philip.K.Farley@wv.gov.

# What's? Happening

**PHS Alumni Meeting March 14**  
Parsons High School Alumni Meeting Thursday March 14, at Grand Slam Grill at 1:00 pm..

**Retired School Employees Meeting March 20**  
Tucker County Association of Retired School Employees meeting is at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, March 20 at Grand Slam Grill. All retirees are invited to attend.

**Easter Cantata, Porterwood.**  
March 23rd at 7:00 P.M.

**Farmer's Market Informational Meeting**  
Anyone interested in selling items at this year's Farmer's Market should plan to attend an informational meeting Thursday evening,


5PM at the Tucker County Extension Office. Any Questions please contact the Extension Office 3044782949.

**Hendricks Free Methodist Church**  
The Hendricks Free Methodist Church is having a yard sale, hotdog and peanut butter egg sale from 8:30 a.m. - ? on Saturday, March 16 at the Parsons Senior Center. Proceeds benefit the Children's Field Trip.

**Saturday, March 16 6:00 PM**  
Michelle Fonda from WVDNR will speak on the Wild Yards program at the Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center. Come and learn how to make your yard welcoming to wildlife including suggestions on which native plants to choose.

**By Teri Cayton**  
*The Parsons Advocate*  
"Spring Forward" is official and I love it I can hardly wait for it to cycle around and I don't even mind the loss of an hour of sleep. Momma Said, "As our blue rock spins in space the days will get longer and it sends joy to my heart."  
When I was on the farm this was the time we were preparing the garden soil and doing maintenance on the farm equipment for hay season. Never too early to get started on that sort of thing so no surprises rear their ugly head when the time was at hand. Nothing ruins the day like anticipating a long day's work and have something go wrong with the equipment. Momma Said, "Always better to be safe than sorry."  
It was hard work and I miss it so much. At the end of a hard, hot day it was rewarding to see the end result and know that you

**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*

are secure for the winter to come. I was happy, the cows and horses were happy and that gave me peace of mind, oh those were the good ole days.  
There is so much I miss about that part of my life but I guess time rolls on and you just take it as it comes. I put my efforts into what I have now and try to keep up with all the chores. Momma Said, "Same hard work just different ways of doing it guess I have to keep on keepin' on."

## e-WV The West Virginia Encyclopedia

www.wvencyclopedia.org

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

March 13, 2002: Herbalist and folk doctor Catfish Gray died in Huntington. Gray was known for his vast knowledge of traditional plant lore and for his quaint and engaging personality. At the height of the folklore revival of the 1970s, Gray was a frequent newspaper and television interview subject.

March 14, 1931: Noting the interest in the annual reunion of Carnifex Ferry battle veterans from the Civil War, the legislature created the Carnifex Ferry Battlefield Park Commission.

March 15, 1882: Union leader Frank Keeney was born on Cabin Creek, Kanawha County. Keeney, who went to work in the mines as a boy, became a rank-and-file leader during the Paint Creek-Cabin Creek Strike of 1912–13.

March 15, 1952: Governor Earl Ray Tomblin was born in Logan County. He was elected as a Democrat from Logan County to the House of Delegates in 1974, when he was only 22 years old and still a senior at West Virginia University.



**March 18, 1950: Actor Brad Dourif was born in Huntington. He is best known for his portrayal of offbeat characters, including Billy Bibbitt in One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest and Grima Wormtongue in Peter Jackson's Lord of the Rings trilogy.**

players in 1936.

March 18, 1820: William Stevenson was born in Warren, Pennsylvania, but later moved to Wood County in western Virginia. In 1868, he was elected the third governor of West Virginia.

March 18, 1922: Athlete Frank "Gunner" Gatski was born in Farmington. Gatski played 11 years for the Cleveland Browns (1946–56) and one for the Detroit Lions (1957). He played in 10 championship games, eight on the winning side.

March 18, 1950: Actor Brad Dourif was born in Huntington. He is best known for his portrayal of offbeat characters, including Billy Bibbitt in One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest and Grima Wormtongue in Peter Jackson's Lord of the Rings trilogy.

March 19, 1925: Basketball teams from 11 of West Virginia's 24 Black high schools took the court at West Virginia State College (now University) in Institute for the first West Virginia Athletic Union (WVAU) state basketball tournament. Lincoln High School of Wheeling defeated Kimball, 25-24, in the final game to win the championship.

March 19, 1992: Four miners were killed at the Blacksville No. 1 Mine in Monongalia County while it was being sealed. Drainage pipes were being welded together, and a spark fell into the shaft, igniting methane gas.

## Next-Level Pineapple Upside-Down Cake

**Ingredients**  
For the Caramel:  
• ½ cup butter  
• 1 ¼ cups dark brown sugar  
• 1 large can sliced pineapple in juice  
• 10-13 maraschino cherries (stems removed)  
For the Cake:  
• ½ cup butter, softened  
• ½ cup granulated sugar  
• ½ cup dark brown sugar  
• 2 large eggs  
• ½ cup whole milk  
• ½ cup juice from the tinned pineapple  
• 1 teaspoon almond extract  
• 2 cups all-purpose flour  
• 2 teaspoons baking powder  
• ½ teaspoon salt

**Instructions**  
To Make The Caramel:  
• Preheat the oven to 350°F (180°C) and generously butter a 9x13-inch baking pan. Set aside.  
• In a small saucepan over medium-low heat, combine butter and brown sugar and simmer until the sugar is dissolved in about 2-3 minutes. Pour into the prepared baking pan.  
• Drain the pineapple rings and reserve ½ cup of juice. Arrange as many rings 4 x 3 or as you can fit in a single layer in the pan on top of the butter and brown sugar

mixture.  
• Place a maraschino cherry in the center of each pineapple ring.  
To Make The Cake:  
• In a medium mixing bowl, combine the flour, baking powder and salt, mix well and set aside.  
• In a large bowl cream together room temperature butter, dark brown sugar and granulated sugar until light and fluffy.  
• To the butter-sugar mixture, whisk in the first egg and cream it until fully incorporated. Add in the second egg and cream it until fully incorporated, too.  
• Then mix in the dry ingredients until it comes together and resembles bread crumbs.  
• Slowly stream in milk followed by the reserved pineapple juice.  
• At last, measure and pour in almond extract. Mix all until just combined and the batter is light and fluffy.  
• Carefully spread the batter over the pineapples and then bake for 35-40 minutes, until a wooden skewer inserted into the center comes out clean.  
• Let the cake cool for 10 minutes in the pan before inverting onto a serving tray.  
• This cake is best the day it is made, but you can store leftovers in an airtight container at room temperature for up to 2 days.

March 16, 1906: Country musician Buddy Starcher was born Oby Edgar Starcher near Ripley. In 1946, Starcher cut his first recordings on Four Star, including his best-known composition, "I'll Still Write Your Name in the Sand," which became a hit in 1949.

March 17, 1837: Mercer County was created from parts of Giles and Tazewell counties and named for Hugh Mercer, a Revolutionary War general.

March 17, 1858: William Edwin Chilton was born in Coalsmouth, now St. Albans. A lawyer, U.S. senator and businessman, Chilton expanded Charleston's electric streetcar system and was publisher and editor of the Charleston Gazette.

March 17, 1891: West Virginia State University was founded as the West Virginia Colored Institute by the legislature. It was one of 17 Black land-grant colleges established under the Second Morrill Act of 1890.

March 17, 1912: Athlete Joe Stydhar was born in Pennsylvania. A star in football and basketball at WVU, he was the first-round selection of the Chicago Bears in the first NFL draft of college

## Super Crossword WELL-DEFINED

<b>ACROSS</b>	48 Stray calf	113 120-Across #8	8 Burial vaults	49 The Beatles' "— Work It Out"	86 The "E" of UAE
1 Ran after	49 120-Across #4	116 Male sweetie	9 Poet Percy — Shelley	50 Tequila plant	87 Overtums
8 — oil (trendy marijuana extract, for short)	55 Plead	117 Day, to Juanita	10 — Moines, Iowa	51 Sacred image	88 Singer Sumac
11 Old TV ET	56 Cabinet chief: Abbr.	118 Totally lost	11 One-off, as a committee	52 Big Apple address abbr.	89 Word before goblin
14 Feudal peons	57 Muse of poetry	119 Bruins' Bobby	12 Lerner's songwriting partner	53 Sch. near the Rio Grande	90 Employed
19 More ill-bred	58 Mimosa tree, e.g.	120 What this literally provides	13 Skillet	54 Axes, e.g.	91 — bad example
20 Loaf in a deli	62 "Put — Happy Face"	124 Wee	14 Ilk	55 Scrooge's outbursts	92 Split
21 Palme — (Cannes award)	64 DiCaprio of "Titanic"	125 Hitler's stat	15 Grand-scale	59 U.S. spy org.	93 Ritalin treats it, for short
22 "La Traviata," e.g.	70 120-Across #5	126 Single-named R&B singer	16 Give new energy to	60 Fluid in a pen	98 Science writer Willy or ESPN anchor Bob
23 120-Across #1	75 More furtive	127 Erase	17 Region prohibiting slavery prior to the Civil War	61 Anxiousness	99 Urge strongly
25 "Over here!"	76 Possess	128 Some Canadian gas stations	18 Made unhappy	63 In times past	101 Kind of steak
26 Sieved, as potatoes	77 Gets the impression	129 Tot's "piggy"	24 — "Puf (facial sponge)"	65 Scot's denial	102 Like some headsets
27 Folk rocker DiFranco	78 Core belief	130 Bible translation, e.g.: Abbr.	29 Really hate	66 Novelist Rand	104 Chemist's "I"
28 Drink holders	81 Light tan	131 Lobby sofas	30 Suffix with serpent	67 Varnish stuff	105 Brief pang
29 120-Across #2	84 Groom's vow	<b>DOWN</b>	31 120-Across #3	68 "Judge —" (Stallone film)	106 For a really long time
31 120-Across #3	85 120-Across #6	1 The Sims or Minecraft, say	36 Suffix of enzymes	69 — bucco	109 Muscle car booster
36 Suffix of enzymes	94 "Take —" ("Jot this note")	2 Muse of astronomy	37 Don effortlessly, as shoes	71 Artist Jan van der —	110 Macabre
37 Don effortlessly, as shoes	95 Water spigots	3 Fast part of a river ride	38 Toxin-fighting fluids	72 "Nola" composer Felix	111 Interval
38 Toxin-fighting fluids	96 Extort money from	4 Govt. stipend	39 Functional unit of a kidney	73 Actor Wilson was recorded	112 Is really angry
39 Functional unit of a kidney	97 Fit to reside in	5 Adm.'s org.	42 Suffix of enzymes	74 How much '90s music was recorded	114 Lotto variant
42 Suffix of enzymes	100 Architect Saanen	6 Brain wave test: Abbr.	43 Syringe	79 LAX info	115 Deposits, as eggs
43 Syringe	103 Island near Bora Bora	7 Harry Potter bully Malfoy	44 Stretch (out)	80 High-quality	120 License-issuing agcy.
44 Stretch (out)	107 Rage		46 — Lingus (Irish carrier)	82 CSA soldier file suffix	121 Palindromic
46 — Lingus (Irish carrier)	108 120-Across #7		47 Writer Dahl	83 Web address	122 Fitting
47 Writer Dahl				85 Certify	123 Cashew, e.g.

**Weather Totals**  
February 27 - March 5

**Nursery Bottom Parsons**

**Temperature**  
Max 73° F  
Min 17° F

**Precipitation**  
Week 1.31"  
February 4.28"  
2024 9.65"

**Snowfall**  
New Snow 0"  
Snow on ground 0"  
Winter Total 28.5"

*U.S. Forest Service*

**Weekly SUDOKU**  
by Linda Thistle

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

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!

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

**Puzzle answers page 5A**

©2024 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.



# Eastern Foundation's Inaugural Cupcake Soiree: A Sweet Success for Alumni Reunion

Moorefield – The Inaugural Cupcake Soiree, hosted by the Eastern Foundation at Eastern West Virginia Community & Technical College, was a success in bringing alumni together for an evening of networking and indulgence. “I am delighted to resonate with the joy of our first-ever cupcake celebration dedicated to our esteemed alumni. Last evening was more than just a gathering; it was a wonderful testament to the enduring bonds formed within these walls,” said Monica Wilson, Interim Vice President of Academics and Student Services at Eastern, “The inaugural cupcake celebration served as a sweet reminder of the enduring ties that bind us together. Here’s to the first of many reunions, celebrating the past, present, and future of our incredible alumni family.”



Alumni gathered on Thursday, February 28, 2024, at 4 p.m. to enjoy a selection of gourmet cupcakes from Beth’s Cakes & More. The event, organized by the Eastern Foundation, highlighted the Foundation’s commitment

to fostering a strong and connected community of Eastern alumni. “The event was a great opportunity to stay connected with other Eastern Alumni as well as network with members of the communities that Eastern serves,” said Jaennae Snyder, Eastern Alumna & HR Representative for Eastern, “These events show the value of being an Eastern student and all the successes that

come with it. It also allows us to stay engaged in the college community.” Those who missed the event can stay tuned for future gatherings and opportunities to reconnect.

The Eastern Foundation’s next event coming up is the annual Farm-To-Table Dinner. This will be held on June 26, 2024, at the Misty Mountain Event Barn in Fisher, WV from 4:30 p.m. to

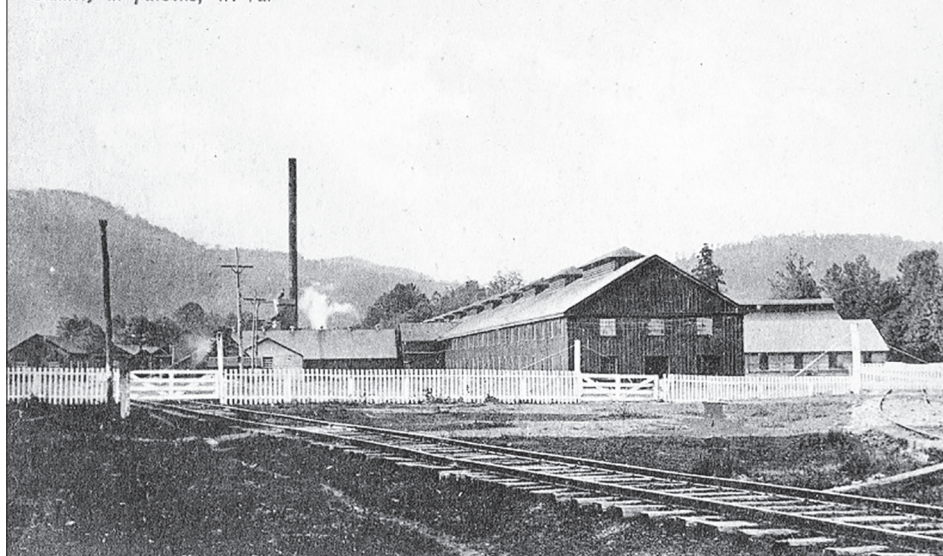
8 p.m. Learn more about the Farm-To-Table Dinner at <https://easternwv.edu/foundation/events/> and stay up to date with this event by liking the Eastern Foundation on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ewvctcfoundation>.

“The foundation’s activities and fundraising endeavors are vital in supplying necessary scholarships for students,” said Dr. Tom Striplin, president of Eastern, “serving as a cornerstone of the college’s mission to deliver high-quality and affordable educational opportunities.”

About The Eastern Foundation Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit that works with the college to raise funds for scholarships and advancement. Foundation activities include campaigns such as Giving Tuesday, online fundraising, and the foundation’s annual Farm to Table event. To learn more about the Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College Foundation, visit [easternwv.edu/foundation](http://easternwv.edu/foundation).

## TURNER'S TIDBITS

Cannery at Parsons, W. Va.



This is a photo of the Tannery of Parsons. The card was printed in Germany sometime before 1915. Notice that the plant is fenced in, and the railroad tracks run into the plant. The tannery suffered damage during the Big Flood of October 1954. At the time there were 85 people employed and they tanned 550 hides daily. Ideas, comments, suggestions, or items to share contact Tim Turner (304) 478-3389.

THANK YOU FOR READING

## 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

## TUCKER COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

304-478-6232

304-704-4405



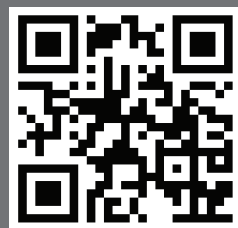
Sponsored by Mountain Valley Bank

## WE WANT TO RETURN YOUR MONEY

The West Virginia State Treasurer's Office is holding millions in unclaimed property.

WE COULD HAVE YOUR OLD UTILITY DEPOSITS, UNREDEEMED STOCK, UNCASHED CHECKS, SAFE DEPOSIT BOX CONTENTS, AND MORE!

Do a FREE search and claim online: [wvunclaimedproperty.gov](http://wvunclaimedproperty.gov)



Need Help?

1.800.642.8687

← SCAN TO SEARCH YOUR NAME

UNCLAIMED PROPERTY



A PROGRAM OF THE WEST VIRGINIA STATE TREASURER'S OFFICE

# SPORTS

## Tucker Grils' Defeat Tyler, Fall to Gilmer at State Tournament



The Lady Mt. Lions team before their State Tournament game on March 8th. Photo by Brittany Channell.



Tucker County's Raven Matthews was selected to the Class "A" All-Tournament Team. Photo by Kelly Helmick.

By Chris George  
TuckerCountySports.Com

CHARLESTON – The #3 Lady Mt. Lions Basketball team opened up State Tournament play on Wednesday morning March 6th against #6 Tyler Consolidated. Tucker County pulled away in the second quarter and then cruised to a 64-31 victory.

The Lady Mt. Lions fell behind early in the contest, but they responded to take the first quarter 20-10. The low scoring second quarter was also controlled by the Lady Mt. Lions 7-2 to give Tucker County the halftime lead of 27-12.

In the third quarter the Lady Mt. Lions continued to pull away as they outscored the Lady Knights 15-10 to make the score 42-22 at the end of the third quarter. The final quarter would

also belong to Tucker County as they outshot Tyler Consolidated 22-9 to take the quarterfinal victory by the score of 64-31.

Raven Matthews led the Lady Mt. Lions with 13 points, 13 rebounds and Ericka Zirk had 11 points, 5 rebounds. Macy Helmick added 10 points, 8 rebounds, 10 assists, 6 steals and Katie Hicks had 10 points, 3 assists in the Tucker County win. Brylee Wetzel chipped in with 9 points for the Lady Mt. Lions. Tucker County forced a total of 32 turnovers in the game.

CHARLESTON – The #3 Tucker County Girls' Basketball team continued State Tournament play on Friday evening March 8th in a Semi-Final matchup with #2 Gilmer County. The Lady Mt. Lions led throughout in a back and forth contest, but the Lady Titans forged ahead late in the game,

then held on for the 49-41 victory.

Tucker County jumped out to an early lead and the Lady Mt. Lions were in front after one 12-10. The second quarter was also highly competitive as both teams made runs. Gilmer County would edge Tucker County in scoring 14-13 in the second quarter to put the halftime score to 25-24 Lady Mt. Lions.

The third quarter was low scoring as both teams combined for just 10 points as Tucker County edged the Lady Titans 6-4 in the third to make the score 31-28 after three. The fourth quarter did not disappoint as both teams battled down to the end. Gilmer County broke a 35-35 tie with a three-point basket with 3:20 left in the game to make the score 38-35 Lady Titans. Tucker County then cut the lead to 42-41 after an Ericka Zirk layup with

1:27 left in the contest. Then the Lady Mt. Lions were forced to foul and Gilmer County made their foul shots down the stretch to take the win 49-41.

Makenna Evans led Tucker County in scoring with 10 points, 5 rebounds and Raven Matthews added 8 points, 13 rebounds. Brylee Wetzel chipped in with 8 points and Ericka Zirk had 5 points for the Lady Mt. Lions.

Tucker County finished the season with a 20-6 record. Raven Matthews was also selected for the Class "A" All-Tournament Team. A special thanks goes out to the Lady Mt. Lions Seniors: Ericka Zirk, Brylee Wetzel, Macy Helmick, Katie Hicks, Addie Hicks and Avery Colebank. In the Class "A" Championship game #1 Cameron defeated #2 Gilmer County 50-43. For more info go to TuckerCountySports.Com.

## Mt. Lions Win Regional Championship Over Tygarts Valley 73-53



Tucker County Boys' Basketball Team – Regional 2 Champions. Photo by Brittany Channell.

By Dave Helmick  
TuckerCountySports.Com

HAMBLETON – The Tucker County Boys' Basketball team hosted Tygarts Valley for the Regional Co-Final on Tuesday March 5th. The Mt. Lions built a big lead in the third quarter and then Tucker County got the win over the Bulldogs to clinch a State Tournament berth with a 73-53 victory. The Mt. Lions took the lead in the

first quarter as they led after one quarter 17-10. Tucker County then exploded in the second quarter as they outscored Tygarts Valley 25-7 in the second to make the halftime score 42-17 Tucker County.


The visiting Bulldogs would then fight back in the third quarter as they edged the Mt. Lions in the third quarter 17-15 to put the score to 57-34 Tucker County after three quarters. Tygarts Valley would also outscore Tucker

County 19-16 in the final quarter, but the Mt. Lions would get the victory by the final score of 73-53.

Trevan Bonner and Ethan Rosenau led Tucker County with 14 points each. Owen Knotts added 12 points, 9 rebounds for the Mt. Lions, while Maddow Anderson and Garrett Wilfong scored 10 each for Tucker County. Ashton Lycliter pulled down a team high 11 rebounds for the Mt. Lions. The victory advanced Tucker County to the WV

Boys' Basketball State Tournament.


#1 Tucker County(21-3) will open State Tournament play today Wednesday March 13th at 5:30pm in Charleston against #8 Huntington Saint Joseph's. The Quarterfinal winners will face off in the Semi-Finals on Friday March 15th at 11:15am and 7:15pm. The Class "A" Championship game will be played on Saturday March 16th at 5pm. For more info go to TuckerCountySports.Com.



**Your community.  
Your healthcare.**

*Good Luck!*

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



**St. George**  
MEDICAL CLINIC, INC.  
stgeorgeclinic.org

# Tucker County Girls Basketball State Tournament

Photos by Brittany Channell



**DEADLINE 3PM  
FRIDAY**



# TUCKER COUNTY GIRLS BASKETBALL VARSITY TEAM



Photo by Amanda Kisamore

# TUCKER COUNTY GIRLS BASKETBALL JV TEAM



Photo by Amanda Kisamore

**Adkins HOME CENTER**  
SOUTHERN STATES  
304-478-2488  
304-478-2552

**Backstreet Auto**  
Hambleton  
304-478-1071

**Best of Canaan**  
Canaan Valley  
304-866-8680

**CONGRATULATIONS FROM City of Parsons**  
"A small town with a big heart"

**Brenda's BACKWOODS GRILL**  
38 Cheat Valley Hwy, Parsons  
681-399-9020  
Open Tuesday – Friday 3 – 8 p.m.  
DINE IN OR CARRY OUT  
Go Mountain Lions!

**Camden's Corner Mart**  
Dryfork • 304-227-4192

**Christmas Shop & More**  
Front St., Thomas  
304-463-4002

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

**East/West Printing**  
Davis • 304-259-5618

**Tucker County Family Resource Network**  
Parsons • 304-478-2837  
CONGRATULATIONS!!

**HINCHCLIFF LUMBER CO.**  
Hendricks • 304-478-2500

**Hinkle-Fenner FUNERAL HOME**  
Jordan L. Fenner, CFSP Licensee in Charge  
Davis • 304-259-5261

**Hosteller Funeral Home**  
Parsons • 304-478-4800  
Mountain Lions Rule!

**Jim's ALL STAR**  
Parsons  
304.478.3248

**Kidwell Auto Parts**  
Parsons/Thomas  
304-478-3121 • 304-463-4222

**LOHR & BARB FUNERAL HOME**  
H. Nicholas Barb, LIC  
Parsons • Elkins  
304-478-2300 • 304-636-4440  
lohrbarbfuneralhome.com

**McClain Printing**  
Parsons  
304.478.2881

**MINERS & MERCHANTS Bank**  
Thomas, WV  
304-463-4155  
Member FDIC

**SHOP 'n SAVE EXPRESS**  
Parsons • 304-478-4803  
Mountain Lion Strong!

**Ricottilli Lumber**  
Parsons • 304.478.4402  
Proud supporters of our youth!

**Rob's Locksmith Service**  
304-704-6774  
Mt. Lions are #1

**StateFarm INSURANCE**  
Parsons • 304-478-3464

**St. George MEDICAL CLINIC, INC.**  
Your Community Your Health.  
stgeorgeclinic.org

**Stevens' Florist**  
Parsons • 304-478-2161  
GO MT. LIONS!



**Sirianni's Cafe**  
Davis/Canaan Valley  
304-259-5454  
304-866-3388

# TUCKER VALLEY GIRLS BASKETBALL



Photo by Amanda Kisamore

# TUCKER VALLEY CHEERLEADERS



Photo by Brittany Channell

## Congratulations Mountain Lions!

# MINERS & MERCHANTS Bank



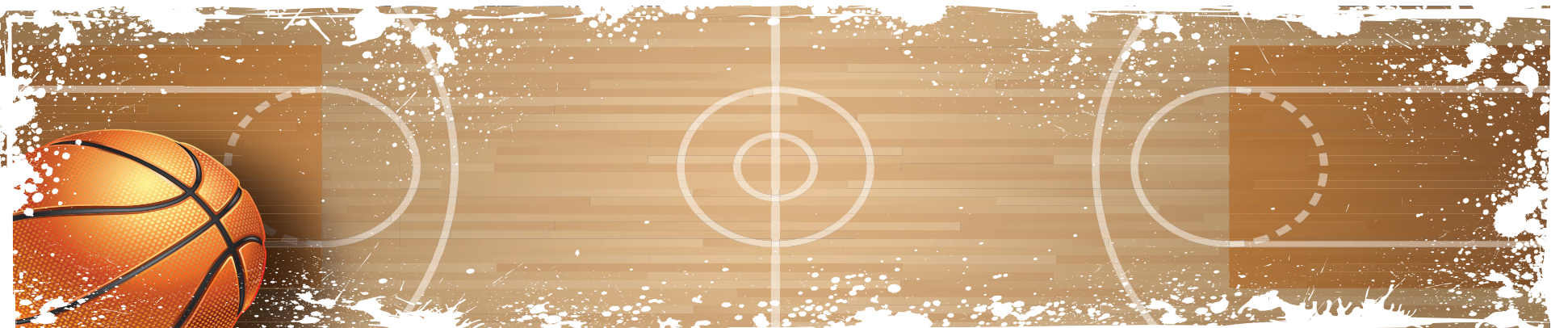
**Oakland Office**  
P.O. Box 542  
13164 Garrett Hwy  
Oakland, MD 21550  
(301) 334-5616  
Fax (301) 334-5617

**Thomas Office**  
P.O. Box 189  
16000 Appalachian Hwy  
Thomas, WV 26292  
(304) 463-4155  
Fax (304) 463-4374

**Bayard Office**  
P.O. Box 272  
2140 Front Street  
Bayard, WV 26707  
(304) 693-7675  
Fax (304) 693-7523



**VISIT US ONLINE AT**  
[WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM](http://WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM)



# DAVIS-THOMAS GIRLS BASKETBALL



Photo by Amanda Kisamore

# DAVIS-THOMAS CHEERLEADERS



Photo by Amanda Kisamore

**The Parsons Advocate**  
304.478.3533

**Stevens' Realty & Management**  
Parsons ~ 304-478-2141  
*Our Mt. Lions are the BEST*

**WV Paving**  
Parsons  
304-478-2400

**Brian Wilfong**  
Parsons  
304-478-2321

**CORK'S TURKEY KNOB WINES, LLC**

Blackman Flats Rd ~ Parsons  
304-704-2144  
**CHEERS TC LADY MT. LIONS**

**Congratulations Mountain Lions!**

**BONNER'S COLLISION Service**  
PULP MILL BOTTOM, PARSONS  
304-478-1186

**Proudly supporting Lady Mt. Lions Basketball!!**

**Ben "Travis" Hamrick**  
For  
**Tucker County Commissioner**

Paid for by the candidate

**Proud of you Mountain Lions! Congratulations!**

**GO TEAM**

**MOUNTAIN VALLEY BANK, N. A.**  
Parsons, WV • (304) 478-2461

**THANK YOU FOR READING THE PARSONS ADVOCATE**

*Serving the people of Tucker county since 1896*

# TUCKER COUNTY BOYS BASKETBALL VARSITY TEAM



Photo by Amanda Kisamore

# TUCKER COUNTY BOYS BASKETBALL VARSITY TEAM



Photo by Amanda Kisamore

**Adkins HOME CENTER**  
SOUTHERN STATES  
304-478-2488  
304-478-2552

**Backstreet Auto**  
Hambleton  
304-478-1071

**Best of Canaan**  
Canaan Valley  
304-866-8680

CONGRATULATIONS FROM  
**City of Parsons**  
"A small town with a big heart"

**Brenda's BACKWOODS GRILL**  
38 Cheat Valley Hwy, Parsons  
681-399-9020  
Open Tuesday – Friday 3 – 8 p.m.  
DINE IN OR CARRY OUT  
Go Mountain Lions!

**Camden's Corner Mart**  
Dryfork • 304-227-4192

**Christmas Shop & More**  
Front St., Thomas  
304-463-4002

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

**East/West Printing**  
Davis • 304-259-5618

**Tucker County Family Resource Network**  
Parsons • 304-478-2837  
CONGRATULATIONS!!

**HINCHCLIFF LUMBER CO.**  
Hendricks • 304-478-2500

**Hinkle-Fenner FUNERAL HOME**  
Jordan L. Fenner, CFSP Licensee in Charge  
Davis • 304-259-5261

**Hosteller Funeral Home**  
Parsons • 304-478-4800  
Mountain Lions Rule!

**Jim's ALL STAR**  
Parsons  
304.478.3248

**Kidwell Auto Parts**  
Parsons/Thomas  
304-478-3121 • 304-463-4222

**LOHR & BARB FUNERAL HOME**  
H. Nicholas Barb, LIC  
Parsons • Elkins  
304-478-2300 • 304-636-4440  
lohrbarbfuneralhome.com

**McClain Printing**  
Parsons  
304.478.2881

**MERCHANTS Bank**  
Thomas, WV  
304-463-4155  
Member FDIC

**SHOP 'n SAVE EXPRESS**  
NO CARD NEEDED  
Parsons • 304-478-4803  
Mountain Lion Strong!

**Ricottilli Lumber**  
Parsons • 304.478.4402  
Proud supporters of our youth!

**Rob's Locksmith Service**  
304-704-6774  
Mt. Lions are #1

**State Farm INSURANCE**  
Parsons • 304-478-3464

**St. George MEDICAL CLINIC, INC.**  
Your Community Your Health.  
stgeorgeclinic.org

**Stevens' Florist**  
Parsons • 304-478-2161  
GO MT. LIONS!



**Sirianni's Cafe**  
Davis/Canaan Valley  
304-259-5454  
304-866-3388

## TUCKER VALLEY MS BOYS BASKETBALL



Photo by Brittany Channell

**CORK'S TURKEY KNOB WINES, LLC**  
 Blackman Flats Rd ~ Parsons  
 304-704-2144  
**CHEERS TO LADY MT. LIONS**

**GO TEAM**  
  
**MOUNTAIN VALLEY BANK, N.A.**  
 Parsons, WV • (304) 478-2461

**Proudly supporting Mt. Lion Basketball!!**  
**Ben "Travis" Hamrick**  
 For  
**Tucker County Commissioner**  
Paid for by the candidate

## DAVIS-THOMAS BOYS BASKETBALL



Photo by Amanda Kisamore

**WV Paving**  
 Parsons  
 304-478-2400

**Brian Wilfong**  
 Parsons  
 304-478-2321

**The Parsons Advocate**  
 304.478.3533

**Stevens' Realty & Management**  
 Parsons ~ 304-478-2141  
*Our Mt. Lions are the BEST*

**Congratulations Mountain Lions!**  
  
**BONNER'S COLLISION**  
*Service*  
 PULP MILL BOTTOM, PARSONS  
**304-478-1186**

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

## Upshur County Public Library's 29th Annual Ramp Dinner

Come to the Upshur County Public Library's 29th Annual Ramp Dinner, an Appalachian Extravaganza, from 5-8 p.m. on April 12, 2024, brought to you by the Upshur County Public Library in partnership with Fish Hawk Acres. Chef Dale Hawkins of Fish Hawk Acres will be preparing the meal. The evening's atmosphere will be enhanced by Key to Adam, a regionally known guitar and violin duet, as they provide entertainment during the dinner. The dinner is held in the library, located at 1150 Rt. 20 South Rd., Buckhannon, WV 26201. We will also be adding a serving line this year to reduce wait time, and still have take-out available if needed.

This is a unique opportunity to sample gourmet ramp dishes. If you would like the non-ramp version of the meal, please specify when reserving your ticket. The menu includes:

- Deviled Eggs with Pickled Ramps
- Fish Hawk Acres Signature Baked Ham (no ramps)
- Asparagus, Baby Carrots, Sugar Snap Peas (with and without ramps)
- Roasted Spring Potatoes (with & without ramps)
- Spinach Salad with Bacon Ramp Vinaigrette (non-ramp option available)
- Potato & Ramp Chowder
- Ramp & Vegetable Strata (Italian Quiche w/ Spinach, Mushrooms, Peppers, Tomatoes & Ramps)
- Ramp Focaccia

- Strawberry Shortcake

Tickets are \$28 a person and \$14.00 for children ages 6-12 (children under 6 eat free). All proceeds benefit the Upshur County Public Library. Advance ticket purchase is required and will be accepted through the morning of April 8, by 10:00 a.m. Further information about the event may be found at <https://upshur.wvlibrary.info/ramp-dinner/>. Ticket payment via cash or check is accepted in person at the Circulation Desk, via credit or debit card at the above website, or by calling the Library at (304)473-4219, ext. 2 or 3, during regular library hours. If you own a business and are interested in Corporate Sponsorship, or are an individual who would be interested in sponsorship opportunities for this event for yourself or in memory of a loved one, please ask for more information. When purchasing tickets, you will be asked whether you want to dine-in or take-out so we can plan appropriately. Library hours are 9:00 a.m. through 6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. through 5 p.m. on Fridays, and 9:00 a.m. through 2 p.m. on Saturdays.

This culinary experience is available only once a year and has been a tradition in Upshur County since 1994. Since 1979, the mission of the Upshur County Public Library has been to provide our community with lifelong learning opportunities by providing access to materials, services, technologies and programs for patrons of all ages. These programs and services are only possible through active and sustained community support.

## Congratulations Mountain Lions!

# MINERS & MERCHANTS Bank



**Oakland Office**  
 P.O. Box 542  
 13164 Garrett Hwy  
 Oakland, MD 21550  
 (301) 334-5616  
 Fax (301) 334-5617

**Thomas Office**  
 P.O. Box 189  
 16000 Appalachian Hwy  
 Thomas, WV 26292  
 (304) 463-4155  
 Fax (304) 463-4374

**Bayard Office**  
 P.O. Box 272  
 2140 Front Street  
 Bayard, WV 26707  
 (304) 693-7675  
 Fax (304) 693-7523



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

VISIT US ONLINE AT [WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM](http://WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM)

# WVDNR announces details about youth outdoor adventure contest with Whitetail Frenzy

*Youth hunters who attend a regulations meeting on March 11-12 may enter drawing for hunting, fishing and camping trip*

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.VA. — The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) announced today a collaboration with Whitetail Frenzy to host an exclusive youth outdoor experience at the Little Coal River Wildlife Management Area (WMA) in Boone County on May 3-5.

Interested youth can enter a contest for the opportunity to attend by visiting one of the upcoming WVDNR Sectional Meetings and filling out a registration form. One lucky resident or non-resident youth aged 10-15 will be selected to participate in this special event, which includes participating in an episode of Whitetail Frenzy.

"Youth hunters and anglers represent the future of outdoor enthusiasts. This is an opportunity for a few youth to get outdoors and experience a mentored hunt, and maybe even get their first turkey. We are hopeful this will spark a life-long love of the outdoors," said Brett McMillion, WVDNR Director. "Thanks to our partnership with Whitetail Frenzy, participants will be able to enjoy several of our state's great outdoor experiences, while spending time on

one of our newest wildlife management areas."

Meeting dates, times and locations for the public meetings are as follows:

**Monday, March 11 - 6-8 p.m.**

- Grafton – Tygart Lake State Park Lodge
- Martinsburg – Martinsburg Holiday Inn (I-81, Exit 13)
- Elkins – DNR Operations Center (Ward Road)
- Beckley – Beckley-Raleigh County Convention Center
- Milton – West Virginia Pumpkin Park (Office Building)
- Spencer – Spencer Heritage Park Community Building

**Tuesday, March 12 - 6-8 p.m.**

- Triadelphia – Cabela's Wheeling (2nd Floor Conference Room)
- Moorefield – South Branch Inn (Route 220 and Corridor H)

- Sutton – Braxton County High School
- Pipestem – Pipestem Resort State Park Lodge
- Logan – Chief Logan State Park Conference Center
- Parkersburg – DNR District 6 Office (Emerson Ave. and Conservation Way)

The youth outdoor experience will begin with dinner and campfire activities at a private campsite on Friday, May 3. On Saturday, May 4 participants will embark on a guided turkey hunt led by WVDNR Natural Resources Police Officers at Little Coal River WMA, followed by a trout fly fishing experience guided by WVDNR staff in the afternoon. The evening will include dinner and another campfire at the private campsite.

The winning youth participant must bring one parent or guardian at no additional cost. The contest winner must ensure they obtain all necessary licenses prior to the event. Additionally, participants are responsible for arranging their transportation to and from the event. All meals and required equipment will be provided.

## Week of the Young Child

MountainHeart Community Services, Inc. is looking forward to celebrating the Week of the Young Child during the week of April 6-12, 2024. The Week of the Young Child highlights the importance of families, early childhood professionals, and communities working together to support every child's healthy development and early learning.

"Quality early childhood education is one of the best investments MountainHeart Community Services, Inc. can make for our children's future," said Peggy Rittenhouse, Community Outreach and Resource Specialist. Research shows that children attending high quality programs are more likely to develop the language, pre-mathematics, and social skills they need to succeed in school.

Local celebrations of the Week of the Young Child are designed to build broader support for early childhood programs that nurture young children's early learning and growth. "Early childhood is where our future begins," said Rittenhouse. "If we value our children, our

families, our schools, and our community, we must make accessible, affordable, high-quality early childhood education a priority."

MountainHeart Community Services advocates a comprehensive effort to improve the quality of early childhood education, including

- Providing professional development and technical assistance opportunities;
- Improving the health and safety of child care programs;
- Using developmentally appropriate practices to encourage literacy and learning from birth; and
- Support the family's crucial role in early education.

MountainHeart employs a Professional Development Team that consists of Behavioral Consultants, Early Childhood Specialists, Infant/Toddler Specialists, a Quality Improvement Specialist and two TRAILS teams. These early childhood professionals work to improve

professional practice and working conditions in early childhood education and to build public support for high-quality early childhood education programs. MountainHeart's Subsidy Team can assist families in applying for subsidy services and educate them on what quality child care looks like.

MountainHeart Community Services, Inc. is an affiliate of NAEYC, the largest organization of early childhood educators and others dedicated to improving the quality of early education programs for children born through age eight.

If you would like more information about services that MountainHeart offers, please call your local MountainHeart office in Petersburg office at 304-257-9375.

MountainHeart Child Care Resource and Referral is a program of MountainHeart Community Services, Inc. This program is being presented with financial assistance as a grant from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources.

## Gas Prices Rising in West Virginia

The average price for gasoline across Northern West Virginia is six cents higher this week at \$3.327 per gallon, according to AAA East Central's Gas Price Report.

This week's average prices: Northern WV Average	\$3.327
Average price during the week of February 26, 2024	\$3.263
Average price during the week of March 6, 2023	\$3.286

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

\$3.365	Bridgeport
\$3.328	Clarksburg
\$3.269	Huntington
\$3.445	Martinsburg
\$3.364	Morgantown
\$3.219	Parkersburg
\$3.291	Weirton

\$3.337 Wheeling

**Trend Analysis:**

Motorists saw gas prices increase over the final week of February. The national average for a gallon of gas is \$3.35, nine cents higher than it was one week ago. Historically, March and April bring higher gas prices as travelers start heading out of town for Spring Break and demand increases. Today's national average is 24 cents more than a month ago but four cents less than a year ago.

According to new data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA), gas demand increased from 8.2 to 8.47 million barrels per day last week. Meanwhile, total domestic gasoline stocks declined by 2.8 million barrels to 244.2 million barrels. Growing demand amid tighter supply has contributed to the increase in pump prices.

At the close of Wednesday's formal trading session, West Texas Intermediate decreased by 33 cents to settle at \$78.54. Oil prices fell after the EIA's weekly report showed that total domestic commercial crude stocks increased by 4.2 million barrels to 447.2 million barrels last week. The supply increase could signal that crude demand is loosening, contributing to a reduction in oil prices.

Motorists can find current gas prices nationwide, statewide, and countywide at [gasprices.aaa.com](https://gasprices.aaa.com).

AAA East Central is a not-for-profit association with 70 local offices in Kentucky, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia serving 2.7 million members. News releases are available at [news.eastcentral.aaa.com](https://news.eastcentral.aaa.com). Follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

## U.S. Sen. Capito, colleagues introduce CRA to overturn new regulation threatening 27 million American independent contractors

WASHINGTON, D.C. —U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.), Ranking Member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS), joined 31 of her Senate Republican colleagues to introduce a Congressional Review Act (CRA) resolution to overturn the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) final worker classification rule. Specifically, the rule threatens the gig economy and jeopardizes the ability of 27 million Americans to work as independent contractors.

This effort was led U.S. Senator Bill Cassidy, M.D. (R-La.), Ranking Member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee, after the DOL's final rule was released earlier this year.

"This rule from the Biden administration places unnecessary burdens on freelancers and makes it harder for them to work in a way that best fits their individual needs and schedules. Overturning this rule would take power away from bureaucrats in Washington and give individuals the freedom to work on their own terms," Ranking Member Capito said.

**BACKGROUND:**

Independent contractors, or freelancers, make their own hours to fit their schedule and decide where and how they want to work. The Biden administration rule attempts to restrict the ability of American workers to be an independent contractor and take advantage of the flexibility it provides.

The rule creates a non-exhaustive, six-factor lit-


mus test for unelected bureaucrats to interpret and decide who is and who is not classified as an independent contractor. It also casts as large a net as possible and gives less legal certainty to independent contractors impacted by the regulation.

There is also a growing number of organizations opposed to the new policy, including the American Trucking Associations (ATA), the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC), the Coalition for Workforce Innovation (CWI), the Independent Women's Forum (IWF), the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), TechNet, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

U.S. Rep. Kevin Kiley (R-Calif.-03) introduced the companion CRA resolution in the U.S. House of Representatives.

# EASTER

the KING is COMING



Join us in worship at our 2024 Easter Contata March 23 at 7:00 P.M.

## Riverview Chapel Church

Rt. 219 South, Parsons, WV

## WVGOP Leaders Applaud Effort to Honor Woody Williams

Legislators recently voted to give Woody Williams, the West Virginian who was America's last World War II Medal of Honor recipient, a longstanding place of honor in the U.S. Capitol. The resolution honors Williams in the National Statuary Hall collection, which consists of 100 statues contributed by the 50 states. WVGOP leaders, including Chairman Herridge, are thrilled by this measure. Herridge said, "Woody Williams' service to our state and country, coupled with his work later in life to serve and honor our Gold Star



families, could never be adequately honored, but the U.S. Capitol is a great place to start. Thank you to our legislators for getting behind this project,

and thank you to Tony Hodge for advocating so effectively for this and many projects that pay respects to our great veterans."