

# The Parsons Advocate

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF TUCKER COUNTY SINCE 1896

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## Cake Walk



The Parsons Chapter #91 of the Order of the Eastern Star sponsored a Cake Walk in Parsons on Saturday, July 20th. The event included free hot dogs and drinks. The event was joined by the Tucker County Veterans.

## Parsons Votes to Replace Auvil on Parks and Recreation Board

By: Lydia Crawley  
The Parsons Advocate

The City of Parsons Council voted on July 16th to replace former City Recorder Tim Auvil with City Council Member Seth Rosenau on the Parks and Recreation Board. “We discussed this at the last meeting,” Turner said. “We said that we would bring this forward after discussion with the Mayor.

At the time, I think it was pretty clear what Council's decision was for this. I don't know if he relayed it to all parties.”

The vote came as a result of a motion made by Council Member Tim Turner and seconded by Rosenau. “Tim Auvil had served from the Board on the Parks and Rec and so I am making a motion that we remove

Tim Auvil from the Parks and Rec due to the fact that he is not a Council member,” Turner said.

The vote was carried with four in favor and an opposition by Council Member David Greenlief, Sr. A roll call vote was requested

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by Greenlief that confirmed the vote count. “I request a roll call, please,” Greenlief said.

In a separate motion by Council Member Kathy Di Bacco and seconded by Turner, Rosenau was appointed to be Council Liaison on the Parks and Recreation Board. The motion carried with three in favor, Greenlief opposing and Rosenau abstaining. “He has expressed interest since he was a private individual,” Di Bacco said. “He wanted to be on Parks and Rec and since you are here, you can be Council Liaison.”

## Town of Davis Approves Short Term Rentals

By: Lydia Crawley  
The Parsons Advocate

The Town of Davis has approved the first short term rental business licenses since lifting the moratorium. A total of 13 locations were issued licenses during their regular council meeting July 10th.

Council Member Jennie Helmick said the Town should require proof that a separate State certificate is issued for each location applied for. “Even though their license from the State may not require that they have the name of every short term rental on it, we should require proof that they applied. Cause otherwise, they could have 10 licenses running under here and only paying taxes and stuff under one without proof,” Helmick said. “So, all I'm asking is that we require proof for each one that they have added to the one license.”

Dustin Luzier from Louie's Laundry and Apartments, LLC was present at the meeting. Luzier had applied for a business license for seven short term rental locations in Davis. “For instance, I have EIN,” Luzier said. “Louie's Laundry and Apartments, LLC, that's my main company. Where I engage in the public is 285 Spruce Street, Thomas, I have one for there, 168 5th Street, here, for my store, and 1685th Street for Louie's Links. I have to have one for each one of those.”

Luzier said that separate certificates or licenses were not required for rental properties because he would not have those regularly open to the public and constituted a private transaction. “I do not have to have one for each rental location,” Luzier said. “You do not pay separate taxes on those. That's all to the county as far as what taxes go, but you don't have to have a separate license or application certificate for each rental location because you are not engaging with the public at that location. Residential, even short term rentals, is not engaging with the public,” Luzier said. “So you do not have to have that, I can assure you.”

Luzier said he did not intend to engage in renting short term rentals, but sought the license to protect his assets in the future. Luzier also said he did not trust the future actions of the Council. “In my location, all my locations I put on there, I never plan to rent short term rentals,” Luzier said. “I don't plan to rent any of these out short term, but from the actions of what this Council has done in the past, if another moratorium is put in or zoning is ever in place, I want to ensure the value of my property is going to be as good, if not better, than somebody else's in the long run if its going to be grandfathered in, as was said in the past.”

Helmick said she did not agree with issuing a license to a property that was not going to be

used for the purpose stated. “So you are asking us to issue you a municipal business license for a short term rental when you are not operating as a short term rental,” Helmick said.

Luzier said that a license cannot be denied based solely on the fact that he did not intend to currently short term rent. “You cannot deny because you have to have business license before you can ever get started,” Luzier said. “You cannot deny on the basis of no business or no activity. According to what I know of State code and everything I have read on it, unless there is a certain Town ordinance that says if you don't do business we can pull your license. I don't see how you can say, you're not doing it so we will pull your license.”

Davis Mayor Al Tomson said he agreed with Luzier on the point. “I agree with Dustin,” Tomson said. “We never required that before of anybody.”

Luzier said the decision to apply for the license now as opposed to sometime in the future if he changes his business model, was to be grandfathered in and assure that the option remains open to him in the future. “Its easier now than what it is going to be in the future,” Luzier said. “As long as I pay the business license and I meet all the requirements on that application, I don't know how you can determine a business from opening or starting and if you're saying I have to, I mean if I have to kick people out and rent a weekend, I'll do that if I have to do that. If I have to rent my places out a weekend a year to prove that I am doing that, I can arrange that.”

Helmick said the Town was not like the State and said a license could not be issued for a short term rental if long term renters are in it. “With the Town, we are not like the State,” Helmick said. “We require a business license for every location. If you've got a long term renter in there, we can't issue you a license for short term rental on that property.”

Luzier countered Helmick's statement by asking if the requirement was on any application or Town ordinance. “Is that on the application?” Luzier said. “Is that in any town ordinance anywhere?”

Tomson said the license could be issued, regardless to the current use or renter status. “I believe, basically, that we can issue you a short term license, short term rental license even though you have a full time resident in there,” Tomson said. “We've done licenses to people who were actively renovating their properties, but they were actively working towards making that a rental.”

Tomson went on to say that the Town has never checked or questioned applicants in the past and he saw little reason to begin now. “They say they are going to do a short term

“Obviously that is way short of the amount of money that we would like to have if we were to run two stations 24/7,” Filler said.

## EMS Faces Major Budget Shortfall

The Tucker County Ambulance Authority is facing a huge budget shortfall, according to Board President Dennis Filler. Tucker County is not alone in what is shaping up to be a State-wide crisis of EMS providers shuttering their doors. “We're not alone in the financial difficulties that EMS is having,” Filler said.

According to Filler, stations across the state continue to shut down due to lack of funding with some of those entities contacting Tucker County about purchasing their equipment. “Will the State be making future EMS investments?” Filler said. “Obviously, we have financial difficulties. There are other organizations in the state that are shutting down and continue to shut down.”

According to Filler, EMS is currently running a \$1.126 million budget on working capital of \$830,000 and has been rapidly exhausting a \$221,000 escrow account to make up for the shortfall. According to Filler,

there is a chance of bankruptcy by year's end without drastic changes to the current operational mode. “Obviously that is way short of the amount of money that we would like to have if we were to run two stations 24/7,” Filler said.

Filler said the new configuration would reduce the number of hours both stations are fully staffed and reduce the 24 hour staffing to one station with the other station staffed during peak hours. Filler also said the reduced schedule would not affect the organization's capacity to respond to two calls at once.

Filler said various EMS organizations and providers are in talks with the State. “I did get the announcement that there are meeting with the State and the EMS Coalition, EMS providers and that kind of stuff,” Filler said. “So hopefully within the next two weeks we will get some more information about what's happening at the State level.”

## Simmons New Parsons City Administrator

By: Lydia Crawley  
The Parsons Advocate

Tucker County 911 Director Michael Simmons has been named as the City of Parsons City Administrator. The announcement came in the form of a vote by the City of Parsons Council during their regular meeting Tuesday, July 16th.

Council Member Melissa Jones discussed the hiring process and lauded Simmons as the best choice of candidates. “We had four interviews on July the 11th,” Jones said. “I believe we have chosen the best person to become our new City Administrator.”

Jones said Simmons had excelled as the County 911 Director and feels confident in

the hiring choice. “He comes to us from Tucker County Commission,” Jones said. “He is currently the 911 Director. So, he has done wonders for EMS. I do not think we went wrong with hiring him.”

According to Jones, Simmons tenured his resignation to the County on July 12th and is scheduled to start with the City by the end of July. Jones also said that Simmons has already signed an employment contract with the City in anticipation of his start date. “He turned in his resignation with the County on the 12th. So he should start around the 29th to the first,” Jones said.

A motion to hire was passed unanimously by the Council in a five to zero vote of the Council present.

“I believe we have chosen the best person to become our new City Administrator,” Jones said.

rental, we haven't checked to make sure that they do,” Tomson said. “We haven't said, 'Are you going to start next weekend or six months from now?' We've just given them the license and I don't see why we shouldn't do it now.”

Helmick continued to state that the Town required a copy of the certificate and that they had proof for his three businesses, but there was none for his short term rentals. Luzier replied that the City was asking for the impossible since by State code the short term rentals would be licensed under the LLC name and did not require separate certificates or filings. “There is no such thing,” Luzier said. “You want me to pull something that is not there.”

Luzier said the only reason he had to have a separate certificate for the laundromat in Thomas was because it engages with the public. Luzier also said that all of his units already have short term rental coverage, which is a more expensive insurance policy due to the increased risk of damage from more people being in and out of the units. “I'm scared if I don't do something now to protect my assets and my property, who knows what happens in two months, six months, three years, 10 years, 15 years.”

Tomson summarized the issue to the Council and recommended approving all the applicants, except Craig O'Connor. “To summarize everything, there really isn't anything we should do now to prohibit or stop these short term rentals,” Tomson said. “Regardless of what they are doing, except Craig O'Connor's.”

Tomson said his issue with O'Connor's appli-

cation was that it did not appear that there was any active renovation going on and the building was uninhabitable. “I still have a problem with that because it doesn't have a floor, its dirt, the back is open, there's no active renovation, there's nothing being done to make it habitable,” Tomson said. “My argument with Craig O'Connor was that building was just sitting there. He wasn't renovating it, it was uninhabitable and that was the difference in that one instance.”

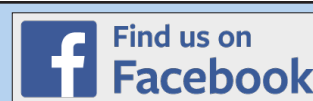
Helmick said that the Town could not deny the request if they had approved properties under renovation in the past. “Who's to say he can't get a business license and get it fixed and rented out, whatever time he sets forth?” Helmick said. “Isn't that kind of what we are doing here? So, you can't deny him either.”

The Council approved the list of short term rentals in full at the meeting with the following business licenses approved:

- \*Red Spruce Rentals, Mark Moody, 645 Henry Avenue
- \*Chad Crowe, 38 Riverwalk Place
- \*Uptown Downtown, Paul Magness, 465 William Avenue
- \*Fairfax Rental, Melissa Har, 657 Fairfax Avenue
- \*Craig O'Connor, 676 Henry Avenue
- \*Fox Aly, LLC, Allie Bodnar, 457 Fox Alley
- Louie's Laundry & Apartments, LLC, Dustin Luzier, 461 Thomas Avenue, 166 5th Street, 64 Turek Drive, 822 7th Street, 875 Henry Avenue, 836 Henry Avenue, 840 Henry Avenue (Seven Locations).



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# News of Record

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

- MH & EF LLC, Fairfax District, Lots 24 and 25 to Vivian Diane Vester, \$100,000.
- Siomone T. Alsberry, Dry Fork District, Interest in Unit A3 Week 10, Land of Canaan Vacation Resort Inc. to Land of Canaan Home Owners Association Inc., \$533.50.
- Dawn Lynn Parsons, Hambleton Corporation, Part of Lots 43 and 44 to Timothy Sypolt and Debra Rhoades,

\$45,000.

- Russell A. Wolfe, Thomas Corporation, Lot B to Benjamin Rau, \$200,000.
- Susan P. Moore, Davis Corporation, Lot E, William Ave. to David Brown and Erica Brown, \$325,000.
- Aspen Development LLC, Dry Fork District, Lot 39 Aspen village to Mathieu A. Greenwood and Gunita Singh, \$519,000.
- Garry W. Harper and Eda S. Harper, Dry Fork District, Interest in Unit B1 Week 2 Land of Canaan Vacation Resort, Inc. to

land of Canaan Home Owners Association, Inc., \$6,000.

- Marjorie F. Golightly and Jean Golightly, St. George District, 7.37 acres, Map attached to the deed, to Robert B. Golightly and Margaret Golightly, \$50,000.

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

- Corey Dallas Underwood to Kateria Chardonnay Brown on Friday, July 12, 2024.

## Davis Health System and Mon Health System Hospitals Team Up to Make an Impact for Kids Hygiene Drive

Elkins, WV (July 15, 2024) – Vandalia Health's Davis Health System and Mon Health System hospitals are teaming up to collect donations for the Tygart Valley United Way's United for Kids Hygiene Drive.

Broaddus Hospital, Davis Medical Center, and Mon Health Marion Neighborhood Hospital are each collecting hygiene items to help young people in the Marion, Randolph, Taylor, Barbour, and Tucker Counties have what they need to face their day with dignity.

Not all students have necessary hygiene or personal items available at home, so the United for Kids Hygiene Drive is held annually to support students and ensure they stay healthy, happy, and ready to learn. Donations are being collected through Friday, August 9.

"Our Davis Health System employees and volunteers are truly committed to bringing better health to life, and good health begins with hygiene and self-care," said Michael Bell, Executive Director of Davis Health System Foundation. "We're pleased to join Mon Health System and partner with the Tygart Valley United Way to provide an opportunity for our community to join us in helping meet this very real need for our area students."

Those interested in donating can drop off hygiene items at either Broaddus Hospital, Davis Medical Center, or Mon Health Marion Neighborhood Hospital. All donations will be delivered to the Tygart Valley United Way upon completion of the drive. For a full list of items eligible for donation, visit [TVUnitedWay.org/UnitedForKids](http://TVUnitedWay.org/UnitedForKids).

"Partnering with our Vandalia Health counterparts at Davis Health System will certainly grow the impact we

will have on the communities we serve," said Luella Gunter, Executive Director of Philanthropy at Mon Health System. "We look forward to seeing how this collaboration makes a difference in the lives of kids in need."

*About Mon Health System: Mon Health System, part of Vandalia Health, is an integrated network of physician clinics, outpatient centers and hospitals in North Central West Virginia that works together to make healthcare more accessible and affordable to the communities it serves. It includes six hospitals – its flagship, Mon Health Medical Center in Morgantown; Mon Health Preston Memorial Hospital in Kingwood; Mon Health Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital in Weston; Mon Health Marion Neighborhood Hospital in White Hall; affiliate, Grafton City Hospital in Grafton; affiliate, Highland-Clarksburg Hospital in Clarksburg; and The Village at Heritage Point. Mon Health System is also part of many Joint Ventures such as Mon Health – DASCO Home Medical Equipment in Morgantown and Weston, Select Specialty Hospital, Monongalia EMS, Intermed Labs, Encompass, Healthworks, and the Mon Health Center for Outpatient Surgery to preserve choice, improve access and ensure the highest quality of care. For more information, visit [monhealth.com](http://monhealth.com).*

*About Davis Health System: Davis Health System represents a broad array of critical health care services in the Potomac Highlands region of West Virginia. An acute care hospital and two critical access hospitals anchor the system's suite of other specialized care including cancer, surgical, behavioral and women's health, long-term care*



Make a child's day with a donation to the United for Kids Hygiene Drive. Items can be dropped into bins like this one located at the Davis Medical Center MarketPlace in Elkins.

and others. Davis Health System's mission is To Bring Better Health to Life.

## 1 contractor killed, 3 WVDOT workers injured in work zones this construction season: Secretary Wriston says, "Slow down!" in work zones



CHARLESTON, WV – In the wake of the fourth worker being struck this year in the Mountain State's highway work zones, West Virginia Transportation Secretary Jimmy Wriston, P.E., is imploring motorists to pay attention and drive safely in work zones.

"Imagine, if you will, we're sitting here in my office working away, answering emails, taking care of documents and that kind of thing, and a semi-truck goes through this office at 70 miles an hour," Wriston said. "That's exactly what our workers are experiencing each and every day."

"When you go through these work zone, you have GOT to slow down."

**MEDIA:** For interview with Transportation Secretary Jimmy Wriston, [CLICK HERE](#).

On Wednesday, July 10, 2024, a West Virginia Division of Highways (WVDOT) mower operator and the driver of a pickup truck were seriously injured when the truck collided with the mower in the Interstate 79 median near Stonewood.

On Thursday, April 4, 2024, a woman working flag operations at a work zone on Route 340 South in Jefferson County was killed after another woman allegedly drove around a vehicle that had stopped in the work zone and ran over her.

On Thursday, March 14, 2024, WVDOT worker Jordan Swiger was setting up traffic cones near Clarksburg when he was hit by an impaired driver traveling too fast through the work zone.

"She hit me, and evidently I had at least a 60-foot flight path, according to different people," Swiger said following the incident. In addition to multiple broken bones and injuries, Swiger's skull was fractured in three places, leading to a three-week hospital stay.

Another WVDOT worker was treated and released from the hospital after being hit by a car while patching potholes on

Interstate 79 in Braxton County on Friday, March 29, 2024. The WVDOT District 7 worker was patching potholes on I-79 when a driver ran through the work zone, drove through the pothole that was being patched and struck the worker on the arm.

"We have some of our lowest-paid individuals holding those flags and directing traffic, and they're responsible for every life, every soul, in that work zone," Wriston said. "It's serious, serious business."

"How could you possibly think it's okay to stick a key in the ignition, start your vehicle up, and drive through this office?" Wriston asked. "That's exactly what you're doing when you go through a work zone. You can't tell me you don't see those work zones, because they're EVERYWHERE."

Wriston said nearly all work zone crashes are due to driver error – speeding, distracted driving, or cell phone use. "This has got to be something that we address at our values level, our West Virginia values level," Wriston said. "We've got to show that we care about our fellow citizens."

Wriston said the WVDOT is actively trying to build safety into the design of every single highway project. "But the really critical part here, and this is critical, is the driver behavior."

Wriston said the WVDOT plans to partner with the state education system to emphasize safe driving.

"We're going to start training our citizens how to drive at a real early age. So that when you get to be of age to go get that driver's license it's ingrained in you. When you operate a vehicle, you've got to make good decisions."

With work continuing in all 55 counties across the state, the West Virginia Division of Highways and the West Virginia Department of Transportation remind the public of the importance of keeping everyone safe in work zones by keeping "Heads up; phones down!"

# The Parsons Advocate

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TO THE VALLEYS  
YOUR HOMETOWN  
OR YOUR SECOND HOME

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Tucker County every week.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## The Parsons Advocate

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## Introducing the Newest Member of the UHC Medical Staff: Nathan A. Hicks, MD

Bridgeport, WV—Joining the Family Medicine Clinic at Medpointe is Nathan A. Hicks, MD.

Most recently the Kentucky native was a resident physician in Family Medicine at United Hospital Center, where he was awarded the 2024 Resident Teacher Award from the residency program and the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STEM). Dr. Hicks received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Kentucky and went on to earn a Doctor of Medicine degree from Ross University School of Medicine, Bridgetown, Barbados.

He continued at Ross by becoming a junior faculty member and medical simulation teaching assistant, instructing more than 600 medical students in an Internal Medicine Foundation course in conjunction with Cleveland Clinic Florida. He had numerous other duties, including guiding medical students to help them improve critical thinking and clinical reasoning skills. Dr. Hicks also had a leading role in helping with the shift to a new virtual format.

Earlier experience includes working as a pharmacy technician, filling prescriptions and interacting with customers, answering their questions.

He is certified in several areas including advanced cardiac life support, pediatric



Nathan A. Hicks, MD  
Medpointe

advanced life support, and neonatal resuscitation program. Dr. Hicks is a member of the American Academy of Family Physicians, American Medical Association, American Society for Colposcopy, and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecology.

Dr. Hicks can be reached at Medpointe, located at 469 Emily Drive, Clarksburg. For more information, please call 304.423.5180.



(l-r) Shelly Crites, M. Ed., Administrative Director for South Branch CTC, Morgan Armentrout, Hospitality & Tourism Management Program Specialist for Eastern WVCTC, and Debra Frank, Hospitality & Tourism Program Coordinator for Eastern WVCTC.

## Eastern WVCTC Partners with South Branch CTC for Hospitality & Tourism Management Dual Credit Pathway

Petersburg, W.Va. – Eastern West Virginia Community & Technical College and South Branch Career and Technical Center have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to establish a collaborative partnership. This agreement aims to provide high school students with a dual credit pathway opportunity to earn the Hospitality & Tourism Management Certificate from Eastern, before graduating high school. These courses are only transferable for students planning to attend Eastern College.

"Having the opportunity to collaborate with South Branch Career and Technical Center and allow additional students to work towards their certificate in Hospitality and Tourism Management is pivotal," said Morgan Armentrout, Hospitality &

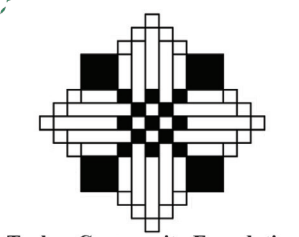
Tourism Management Program Specialist at Eastern, "By combining our resources and expertise, we can ensure our graduates are prepared to meet the dynamic demands of the hospitality and tourism industry. Together, we can help drive economic growth in our region and create a pipeline of skilled professionals ready to dive into the management side of the industry."

For more information, contact Shelly Crites, M. Ed., administrative director, South Branch Career and Technical Center, at [scrites@k12.wv.us](mailto:scrites@k12.wv.us) or Morgan Armentrout, Hospitality & Tourism Management program specialist, Eastern WVCTC, at [morgan.armentrout@easternwv.edu](mailto:morgan.armentrout@easternwv.edu). Learn more about the Hospitality & Tourism Management Program at <https://easternwv.edu/hospitality-tourism/>.

## Gov. Justice appoints Carl "Bill" Roop to the 44th District in House of Delegates

CHARLESTON, WV — Gov. Jim Justice has appointed Carl "Bill" Roop to the West Virginia House of Delegates for the 44th

District representing Raleigh County. Roop fills the vacancy left by Todd Kirby, who was appointed as a circuit judge earlier this month.



Tucker Community Foundation

On your mark, get set, go! The Tucker Community Foundation is preparing for its annual Run For It event on September 28 at 11:00 a.m. in Davis, WV. If your non-profit or charitable organization is in Barbour, Grant, Mineral, Pocahontas, Preston, Randolph, and Tucker Counties in West Virginia or Garrett County, Maryland, we want to see you on race day!

Run For It supports non-profit and charitable organizations by raising funds through entry fees, team sponsorships, and race day awards.

Get your team together and prepare for the big day! Individuals and teams can register online at [runsignup.com/Race/WV/Davis/RunForIt](https://runsignup.com/Race/WV/Davis/RunForIt) or by completing the registration forms available on the Foundation's website at [tuckerfoundation.net/run](https://tuckerfoundation.net/run). Registration costs \$12.

Team registration for both in-person and virtual races ends on August 31, while individual registration ends on September 21. In-person registration will also be available at the Davis Fire Hall on September 27 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. and on September 28 from 8:00-9:30 a.m. For more information, email [runforit@tuckerfoundation.net](mailto:runforit@tuckerfoundation.net) or call (304) 478-2930.

## West Virginia 211 Reaches 150,000 Calls: A Testament to Community Trust and Support

[Charleston, WV 7/8/24] — West Virginia 211, the state's premier helpline connecting residents with essential services and resources, proudly announces a significant achievement: receiving its 150,000th call. Since answering its first call in March 2019, West Virginia 211 has been steadfast in its mission to provide critical assistance and support to individuals and families across the state.

Established through the collaborative efforts of many United Ways across the state, West Virginia 211 has become a lifeline for thousands of residents. The helpline assists with housing, utilities, food, healthcare, and more. Each call received represents a person or family navigating challenges and seeking pathways to stability and resilience.


"Our 150,000th call is not just a number; it symbolizes the trust and reliance that the people of West Virginia place in our services," said April Knight, State Director of West Virginia 211. "We are honored to have reached this milestone and remain committed to being a beacon of hope and assistance for every caller."

West Virginia 211 operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, connecting callers to a comprehensive network of community resources tailored to their specific needs. Whether it's providing information on disaster relief during emergencies or offering guidance on accessing social services, West Virginia 211 stands ready to assist.

"We are deeply grateful to our dedicated staff, partners, and other stakeholders whose unwavering support has enabled us to achieve this milestone," added Knight. "Together, we will continue to strengthen our communities by ensuring that help is always just a phone call away."

As West Virginia 211 celebrates this milestone, the organization reaffirms its commitment to continually improving services and enhancing accessibility. Our goal is to meet the evolving needs of the community and ensure every resident knows that help is always available.

For more information about West Virginia 211 or to access their services, please visit <https://wv211.org>. WV 211 can also be reached by dialing 211 or 833-848-9905.



**Your community.  
Your healthcare.**

*Good Luck!*

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



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

[stgeorgeclinic.org](https://stgeorgeclinic.org)

# OBITUARIES

## Dennis “Denny” Reid Pifer

Dennis “Denny” Reid Pifer, 85, a resident of Parsons, and more recently of WV Caring in Elkins, passed from this life Wednesday, July 17, 2024, after a long illness.

Denny was the first son of the late Walter Reid Pifer and Leona Louise Smith Pifer. He was born at their home on Location Road on Thursday, June 1, 1939. Denny graduated from Parsons High School in 1957. In 1960, he met the love of his life, Jane Bever of Rowlesburg, while she was working at Millstone Restaurant on Route 50 near Aurora. One week later, Denny broke his back in a log truck accident. A lesser man might have taken this as a bad omen, but not Denny. He knew how special Jane was and he was not discouraged by this act of misfortune. Denny and Jane were married in Oakland, MD on May 12, 1962. They lived on Stemple Ridge until 1968 when they moved to their current home in St. George.

In 1965, Denny went to work at the Parsons Tannery where he worked for nearly ten years. In 1973, Denny and Jane took over Sturm’s Grocery in St. George which they operated for over twelve years. He then went back to the woods, which he loved, working as a timber cutter and later as a dozer and loader operator for Stoney Hill Corporation until he retired in 2009. Denny was an avid outdoorsman, a passionate hunter and an excellent shot. He was usually hunting whatever was in season, and sometimes when it wasn’t. He loved guns and he loved to shoot. He would never turn down an opportunity to go to a shooting match, accept a challenge from an aspiring shooter, or just to burn up



lead for fun. Denny also had a passion for gardening, and grew several varieties of heirloom tomatoes, which people would come from miles around to buy from a stand in his front yard. He was a diehard fan of the Mountaineers, Steelers and Pirates and would watch them every chance he got. Denny was very well read, reading anything he could get his hands on. He was also very eager to pass on the knowledge he gained from those books, or from life in general, to friends, family or innocent bystanders. Denny was very proud of his family and was respected throughout the community. He loved to brag about his children and grandchildren. He was also involved in the community doing work at the school, church and park, and would help out his friends and neighbors with just about anything. Denny left a legacy of friends, family, accomplishments, stories and maybe even a tall tale for those he left behind to cherish for years.

Left to cherish Denny’s memory is his wife of sixty-two years, Gladys Jane (Bever) Pifer of St. George; three sons, Roy Kevin Pifer (Carolyn), of St. George, Franklin Reid Pifer (Kelly) of Canal Winchester, OH, and Don Alan Pifer (Linda) of Elkins; a daughter Angela Denise Jennings of Par-

sons, nine grandchildren; Wyatt Alan Pifer (Stephanie) of St. George, Jessy Nicole Vandevender (Justin), Molly Kathryn Pifer of Canal Winchester, OH, Emily Denise Pifer (Joey Cohen) of River Heights, UT, Erica Elizabeth Phillips (Kolbi) of Morgantown, Lindsey Leah Shelton (Brian) of Jane Lew, Isaac Tazwell Pifer (Alexa) of Carroll, OH, Cassandra Grace Jennings of St. George, and Madalyn Rose Jennings of Parsons, eight great-grandchildren; Wesley Ryan Pifer, Sydney Paige Vandevender, Ivy Grace Vandevender, Mackenzie Jade Vandevender, Jack Alan Phillips, Noa Ann Pifer Cohen, Laine Grace Pifer, and Walker Reid Shelton, two sisters; Linda Beverly Hockman of Parsons, and Janet Clair Cook (Kenneth) of Rixeyville, one brother; Melvin Neil Pifer (Sandy) of Spotsylvania, VA, two uncles; Keith Pifer and Dean Smith, one aunt; Phyllis Castello, and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Denny was preceded in death by his parents, a sister Myrna Dawn Pifer, a brother-in-law, Albert Jack Hockman, and his son-in-law Matthew Jennings.

Visitation will be held at the Hostetler Funeral Home on Monday from 5pm until 7pm. Funeral services will be held from the funeral home chapel on Tuesday, July 23, 2024, at 1PM. Rev. Brad Barton will officiate, and interment will follow in Dumire Pifer Cemetery on Location Road, St. George. The Hostetler Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements for Dennis “Denny” Reid Pifer. Send online condolences to the family at: [www.hostetler-funeralhome.com](http://www.hostetler-funeralhome.com).

## James Dale “Jim” Parsons

James Dale “Jim” Parsons, age 78 years, a resident of Parsons, WV, departed this life early Monday morning, July 15, 2024 at Elkins Rehabilitation & Care Center. He had been in declining health for the past several years.

He was born May 4, 1946 at Parsons, WV, the youngest son of the late Junior W. Parsons and Ruth E. Hedrick Parsons Rizer who preceded him in death. On April 25, 1967 he was married to the former Bonnie Jeanne Shiflet in Basel, Switzerland who survives. They celebrated fifty-seven years of marriage. Also surviving are three daughters, Sherry Parsons Ramsey of Morgantown, WV, Donna Parsons Hardy and husband Jeff of Hurricane, WV and Brenda Ruth Parsons Overstreet and husband Dwight of Morgantown, WV; six grandchildren, Haley Ramsey Johnson and husband Candon of Morgantown, WV, Jayden Ramsey of Morgantown, WV, Codi Hardy of Barboursville, WV, Christian Hardy of Hurricane, WV, Reese and Riley Overstreet of Morgantown, WV; one brother, Roger Lynn (Joe) Parsons and wife Alice of Parsons, WV; sister-in-law Yvonne Parsons of Parsons, WV; brothers-in-law, Robert Shiflet and wife Debra of Littleton, CO and Jeffrey Shiflet and wife Cindy of Bristow, VA; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Ernest Lee Parsons and wife Peggy and Jerry Glenn Parsons; and son-in-law, Terry Ramsey.

Jim was a graduate of Parsons High School with the class of 1964 of which he was well known for his athletic ability in football, basketball and baseball. He enjoyed keeping in touch with his



classmates and attending class reunions over the years. Upon graduation he served the United States Army in Mannheim, Germany for two years and played on an Army brigade baseball team. Upon returning home he worked for Dorman Mills, Kingsford Charcoal, Parsons City Police, Hinchcliff Lumber Company and retired from Elkins Iron and Metal where he was an office manager. Jim volunteered with little league baseball and football. He regularly umpired games as well as played on both slow pitch and fast pitch men’s softball teams. For several decades he was a WVU Football season ticket holder. He was also a fan of the Pirates and Steelers. One of his favorite pastimes was watching Tucker County High School sports. He also enjoyed attending the WV High School State Basketball Tournament yearly. Jim loved spending time with his family and long time friends. Those who knew him, knew how generous he was with his time and resources for his friends, family and those in need. Jim was a true animal lover and had many pets during his lifetime. He enjoyed car rides with his wife and dog, Buddy, who preceded him in death. He was an

active member of the Parsons Nazarene Church. Following retirement he spent his time doing yard work, relaxing in his pavilion, collecting brass and caring for a feral cat colony near his home.

Jim was passionate about animals. In lieu of flowers the family strongly encourages donations to the Tucker County Animal Shelter. They helped trap, spay/neuter and provide health care for over 20 cats and kittens when Jim could no longer care for the feral colony due to his illness. Below is a link to donate or you can drop off cat food to the Lohr & Barb Funeral Home on Saturday, July 20, 2024 from 11:00am - 1:00pm. <https://tucker-countyanimalshelter.com/>

The family would like to extend a special thank you to Elkins Rehabilitation & Care Center and Mountain Memories for their tender loving care.

The family will receive friends at the Lohr & Barb Funeral Home of Parsons on Saturday, July 20, 2024 from 11:00AM to 1:00PM. Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, July 20, 2024 at 1:00PM. Pastor Steve Morrow will officiate and interment will follow at the Bethel Cemetery at Holly Meadows where full military honors will be accorded by members of the WV Army National Guard Honor Guard Program, the Tucker County Veterans Association and the Tygarts Valley Post # 3647, Veterans of Foreign Wars. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements for James Dale “Jim” Parsons. Condolences may be expressed to the family at [www.lohrbarb-funeralhome.com](http://www.lohrbarb-funeralhome.com)

## Thayer, first Garrett College Board chair, dies

### Believed creation of local college ‘imperative’ for community

Grantsville, MD – Diane Thayer, the first chair of the Garrett Community College Board of Trustees, passed away Saturday at Goodwill Retirement Community. Thayer – whose husband, the late Frederick A Thayer III, was a distinguished Garrett County jurist – was 90 years old.

“I thought it was imperative for a community college to be established in Garrett County,” said Thayer in an interview celebrating the College’s 50th anniversary in 2022. “I thought the technical programs were of prime importance to help the children of Garrett County earn a living in Garrett County. I’m a big fan of our community college in Garrett County and in the community college concept.”

Thayer said the original Board of Trustees had a specific reason for selecting the site of the college’s main campus in McHenry.

“That site was selected because it was equally accessible to the northern end and southern end of Garrett County,” said Thayer, noting the location of the college has made it a central focus of county activity.

Thayer was appointed by the Garrett County Board of Education – the original controlling entity for the College – to be the first chair of the Board of Trustees. She is the longest-serving board chair in College history, serving in that role from 1969 to 1979, and retired from the Board in 1984.

“Chair Thayer played a critical role in both the establishment and suc-



cessful launch of what was then Garrett Community College,” said Dr. Richard Midcap, Garrett College’s president. “Our entire College community is saddened by her recent passing.”

Thayer died just 12 days after another major figure in the College’s history – Dr. Stephen J. Herman, GC’s longest-serving president (1986-2006) – passed away. “It’s been a sad month for the College,” said Midcap. “Our hearts go out to the Thayer and Hermann families.”

One of Thayer’s most cherished College memories was of the Class of 1973, which was the first graduating class.

“I can remember that first graduation,” said Thayer during the 50th anniversary interview, noting it took place in the old gymnasium that was renovated

and expanded to become the Performing Arts Center at Garrett College in 2022. “I congratulated the citizens of Garrett County for having the foresight to establish the community college. It was just an overwhelming emotion.”

Thayer was a longtime parishioner of St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church of Oakland and a volunteer at the Nearly New Shop and the nearby Transportation Museum. She was also an avid gardener and Pittsburgh Steelers fan.

Thayer graduated from the College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio, where she met and married the future Judge Thayer. She taught elementary school in North Carolina while her husband studied law at Duke University School of Law. The couple eventually moved to Oakland to start their family.

## Larry Eugene Knicley

Larry Eugene Knicley, age 89 years, a resident of Parsons, WV, departed this life Sunday morning, July 21, 2024, at Mountain Memories Assisted Living & Retirement Center, with his family by his side and under the care of West Virginia Caring Hospice.

He was born Wednesday, March 27, 1935, in Tucker County, on Clover at St. George, WV, a son of the late Flora Elizabeth Whetzel Knicley. On May 2, 1958, at Oakland, MD, he was married to the former Betty Ruth Moreland Knicley, who survives.

Also surviving are one daughter, Sondra Jean Pingley and husband Victor of Dailey, WV; two grandchildren, Andrea Guy and husband Jonathan and Joshua Pingley and companion Alisha; four grandchildren, Lily Pingley, Harlow Guy, Harper Gray Guy and Henry Guy.

He was the last surviving member of his immediate family, having been preceded in death by, five brothers, Charlie Knicley, Philip Knicley, Willie D. Knicley, Gilbert Knicley and Warren B. Knicley; one sister, Lessie Stark; two half-brothers, Ernest Howdershell and Edgar Knicley; and three half-sisters, Goldie Lehman, Beulah Phillips and Lottie Knicley.

He attended Parsons High School. He was a Veteran of the United States Army. He traveled to Ohio for construction work, building scaffolding and then on to Washington, DC to do drywall, which he was an excellent drywaller. Larry returned to Parsons and worked construction for Arlie Davis at A & A Construction. He was a former employee of the Tucker County Board of Education as a School Bus Driver, and alongside his wife, they owned and operated the Main Street Furniture and Appliance until the Flood of 1985 came. During his



spare time, he enjoyed fishing, hunting and working in his little woodworking shop. He was a member of the Parsons Church of the Nazarene and attended the St. Johns United Methodist Church at Parsons, WV.

The family will receive friends at the Lohr & Barb

Funeral Home of Parsons, WV on Wednesday, July 24, 2024, from 10 AM until 12 PM. Final rites will be conducted at the funeral home on Wednesday, at 12 Noon. The Reverend Neil Parsons will officiate and interment will follow at the Parsons City Cemetery at Parsons, WV, where full military honors will be accorded by members of the WV Army National Guard Honor Guard Program, the Tucker County Veterans Association and the Tygarts Valley Post # 3647, Veterans of Foreign Wars. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements for Larry Eugene Knicley. Condolences may be expressed to the family at; [www.lohrbarb-funeralhome.com](http://www.lohrbarb-funeralhome.com).

## START YOUR WEEK AT WORSHIP

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

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DEADLINE 3PM FRIDAY

## 50TH Simmons Reunion

The descendants of Calvin and Sarah Simmons held their 50th annual family reunion at the Flanagan Hill Community Center on July 14, 2024. Donna Eye welcomed everyone to the 50th Simmons Reunion; the first reunion was held in 1974 at Blackwater Falls State Park. Anne Sims gave

the blessing.

Food and fellowship was shared by Jean Pennington, Autumn Love, Glenda Bright, Margaret Kaucher, Jason and Nicole Whitford from Pennsylvania. Those attending from Virginia were Kevin, Tina, Jacob and Brenna Simmons and Kaye Bonner Mallow. Jeff Simmons, Florida. Attending from West Virginia were Calvin and Lynda Simmons, Anne and Randy Sims, and Suzanne and Mark Simmons, Frank Simmons, Ron and Brenda Wolford, Jim and Shirley Wolfe, Jenna Wolfe, Michael, Elijah and Logan Wolfe, Don and Tammy Wolford, Larry and Cathy Rummel, Travis, Sarah, Olivia, Margaret and Grant Rummel, Kenneth and Mildred Martin, Leonard and Brenda Arnold, Donna Eye and Frank Eye, and Travis and Michelle Eye.

The youngest attendee was Grant Rummel, age 4. Door prizes and mementos commemorating the 50th reunion were distributed including several handmade items by Lynda Simmons.



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**CONTINUOUS GUTTER NOW IN STOCK ON A MOBILE UNIT.** Adkins Home Center, Parsons. 304-

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### GARAGE SALE

**Moving/Garage Sale - 9 a.m. - ? Thursday, July 25, Friday 26, Saturday 27, Gay Roth residence, north of Thomas.** Battery scooter, furniture, kitchen items, linens, lamps, pictures, tools, clothing, electrical supplies, lots and lots to choose from.

DEADLINE 3PM FRIDAY

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## LOST DOGS

Female German Shorthair Pointer named Lacy and male Chocolate Lab named Bear Bear. If found please call 443-422-7110.

LARGE REWARD OFFERED FOR RETURN.

## HELP WANTED:

The Tucker County Commission is accepting applications for a part-time, unbenefited position for the maintenance department. The job consists of any and all work required to maintain all County facilities, which to, janitor duties, mowing, weed eating, snow removal, painting, and all other duties as required and assigned. Please mail your resume' to 211 First Street, Suite 307, Parsons, WV 26287. Resumes' will be accepted up to July 29, 2024.

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# AAA: Gas Prices Jump in West Virginia

The average price for gasoline across Northern West Virginia is eight cents higher this week at \$3.509 per gallon, according to AAA East Central's Gas Price Report.

This week's average prices: Northern WV Average \$3.509

Average price during the week of July 8, 2024 \$3.420

Average price during the week of July 17, 2023 \$3.358

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

\$3.599	Bridgeport
\$3.584	Clarksburg
\$3.448	Huntington
\$3.532	Martinsburg

\$3.538	Morgantown
\$3.375	Parkersburg
\$3.471	Weirton
\$3.526	Wheeling

Trend Analysis:

The national average for a gallon of gas rose two cents over the past week to \$3.52. The slight increase came as Hurricane Beryl hit the coast of Texas, a record number of Americans traveled by car over the July 4th holiday, and oil costs continue to hover above \$80 per barrel. Today's national average is seven 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 dipped from 9.42 million barrels per day to 9.39 last week. Meanwhile, total domestic gasoline stocks fell from 231.7 to 229.7

million barrels, while gasoline production increased last week, averaging 10.3 million barrels daily.

At the close of Wednesday's formal trading session, West Texas Intermediate rose 69 cents to settle at \$82.10 a barrel. The EIA reports that crude oil inventories decreased by 3.4 million barrels from the previous week. At 445.1 million barrels, U.S. crude oil inventories are about 4% below the five-year average for this time of year.

Motorists can find current gas prices nationwide, statewide, and countywide at [gasprices.aaa.com](https://www.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://www.news.eastcentral.aaa.com). Follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

## LEGAL

### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS CANAAN VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT TUCKER COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA PROPOSED

#### TRANSMISSION OF ZONE B SANITARY SEWER FLOWS TO ZONE D WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY

##### General Notice

Canaan Valley Public Service District (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Project:

**Proposed Transmission of Zone B Sanitary Sewer Flows to Zone D Wastewater Treatment Facility 020-01130**

Bids for the construction of the Project will be received at the **Canaan Valley Public Service District** located at **6563 Appalachian Highway, Davis, Tucker County, West Virginia 26260**, until **Tuesday, August 20, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.** local time. At that time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read.

The Project includes the following Work:

Installation of two (2) pump stations, 11 simplex grinder pump stations, 2,450 LF 8" gravity sewer line, 1,550 LF 3" force main sewer line, 3,550 LF 4" force main, 13,400 6" force main, 500 LF 4" force main installed via horizontal directional drill, 400 LF 6" force main installed via horizontal directional drill, 730 LF 1.5" service line, 3,300 LF 1.25" service line, 80 LF 4" service lateral, 17 manholes, and all related appurtenances. Bids are requested for the following Contract: **Proposed Transmission of Zone B Sanitary Sewer Flows to Zone D Wastewater Treatment Facility**

The Work will be substantially completed within 210 calendar days after the date when the Contract Times commence to run, and completed and ready for final payment within 270 days after the date when the Contract Times commence to run. Liquidated damages shall be \$1,000 per day.

##### Obtaining the Bidding Documents

Information and Bidding Documents for the Project can be found at the following designated website:

<https://tinyurl.com/zu5z8553>

OR

[www.thrashergroup.com](http://www.thrashergroup.com)

Bidding Documents may be downloaded from the designated website. Prospective Bidders are urged to register with the designated website as a plan holder, even if Bidding Documents are obtained from a plan room or source other than the designated website in either electronic or paper format. The designated website will be updated periodically with addenda, lists of registered plan holders, reports, and other information relevant to submitting a Bid for the Project. All official notifications, addenda, and other Bidding Documents will be offered only through the designated website. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the designated website through the Issuing Office.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is:

**The Thrasher Group, Inc.**  
**600 White Oaks Boulevard**  
**Bridgeport, WV 26330**

Prospective Bidders may obtain or examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Monday through Friday between the hours of **8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**, and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office via paper or through the designated website.

Printed copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Issuing Office by paying the amount of each set listed below.

Bidding Documents may be purchased from the Issuing Office during the hours indicated above. Cost does not include shipping charges. Upon Issuing Office's receipt of payment, printed Bidding Documents or electronic documents will be transmitted to the prospective Bidder. The shipping charge amount will depend on the shipping method requested. Bidding Documents are available for purchase in the following formats:

- Bidding Documents issued as hard copy full-size drawings and hard copy specifications, are available for **\$125.00** per set.
- Bidding Documents issued as digital drawings and digital specifications, are available for **\$40.00** per set via the following link:  
<https://tinyurl.com/zu5z8553>

Bidding Documents also may be examined at

Canaan Valley Public Service District  
6563 Appalachian Highway  
Davis, WV 26260

The Thrasher Group Inc.  
600 White Oaks Boulevard  
Bridgeport, WV 26330

Contractor's Association of WV  
2114 Kanawha Boulevard East  
Charleston, WV 25311

A two envelope system will be used.

Envelope No. 1 must have the following information presented on the front:

Name and address of Bidder  
Bid on Contract - Proposed Transmission of Zone B Sanitary Sewer Flows to Zone D Wastewater Treatment Facility  
Received by the Canaan Valley Public Service District  
Envelope No. 2 labeled "Bid Proposal" shall also be placed inside of Envelope #1.

Envelope No. 1 will be opened first and the Bid Opening Requirement items checked for compliance as outlined on the Bid Opening Checklist on page BOR - 1 of these contract documents. If such documents are found to be in order, Envelope No. 2 "Bid Proposal," will then be opened and will be publicly read aloud. If the documents required to be contained in Envelope No. 1 are not in order, Envelope No. 2 "Bid Proposal" will not be opened and the Bid will be considered non-responsive and will be returned to the Bidder.

A bidder may not withdraw his bid for a period of ninety (90) days after the date set for the opening of bids. Bids shall be accompanied by a certified check or bid bond payable to Canaan Valley Public Service District in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the base bid.

**Nondiscrimination in Employment** - Bidders on this work will be required to comply with the President's Executive Order Number 1 1246 and the provisions of Executive Order No. 10925 as included therein. The requirements for bidders and contractors under this order are explained in the specifications.

**Suspension and Debarment** - Recipient shall not entertain the use of businesses that are listed on the "System for Award Management" (SAM) at [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov) in accordance with 2 CFR Part 1532 and Subpart B and C of 2 CFR Part 180.

Prospective Bidders should note that this Contract will include the following critical requirements as identified in the Contract Documents.

1. Affirmative Action Program Requirements and Goals
2. Certificate of Non-Segregated Facilities
3. Specific Labor Standard Provisions
4. WV Contract Licensing Act - All bidders are required to have a WV Contractor's License per Section 30-42-12 of the WV Code.
5. American Iron and Steel Requirement - P.L. 113-76, Section 436.

**American Iron and Steel Requirement** - P.L. 113-76 Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (ACT), includes an "American Iron and Steel" (AIS) requirement in section 436 that requires Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF) and Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF) assistance recipients to use iron and steel products that are produced in the United States for projects for the construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of a public water system or treatment works.

**DBE Requirements** - Each Bidder must fully Comply with the Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, and Affirmative Action Requirements, as identified in the contract documents.

The Bidder agrees to make "positive efforts" to subcontract a portion of the total value of the contract to Disadvantaged Business Enterprises. This shall be done in compliance with the six (6) affirmative steps as outlined in 40 CFR 33.240. Failure to demonstrate positive efforts to do so may lead to rejection of bids. For this program, the term "subcontract" includes all construction, modification, and service work contracted for by the bidder in the execution of the work under this contract.

**Notice of Federal Wage Requirements** - Contractors are required to comply with all laws pertaining to federal wage rates as issued in accordance with the Davis Bacon Act. The contractor will be required to pay the federal wage rates appropriate for each worker classification.

**WV Alcohol and Drug Free Workplace Act** - West Virginia Code 21-1 D-5 provides that any solicitation for a public improvement construction contract requires each vendor that submits a bid for the work to submit at the same time an affidavit of compliance with the bid. The enclosed drug-free workplace affidavit must be signed and submitted in the first envelope as evidence of the vendor's compliance with the provisions of Article 1D, Chapter 21 of the West Virginia code. Failure to submit the signed drug-free workplace affidavit in the first envelope shall result in disqualification of such bid.

All Bidders are required to have a West Virginia Contractor's License per Section 530-42-12 of the West Virginia Code.

Any contract or contracts awarded under this invitation for bids are expected to be funded in part by grants and loans from: the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection State Revolving Fund. Neither the United States, the State of West Virginia nor any of their departments, agencies or employees are or will be a party to this invitation to bid or any resulting contract.

The contractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin or sex in the performance of this contract. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 40 CFR Part 33 in the award and administration of contracts awarded under EPA financial assistance agreements. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract which may result in the termination of this contract or other legally available remedies.

Bids received after the scheduled closing time for the reception of bids will be returned unopened to the bidders. Bids received by Contractors that did not attend the Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be returned unopened to the Bidders.

The Canaan Valley Public Service District reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

##### Pre-bid Conference

A mandatory pre-bid conference for the Project will be held on **Wednesday, July 24, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.** at **Canaan Valley Public Service District, located at 6563 Appalachian Highway, Davis, Tucker County, West Virginia 26260**. Bids will not be accepted from Bidders that do not attend the mandatory pre-bid conference.

##### Instructions to Bidders.

For all further requirements regarding bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents.

##### This Advertisement is issued by:

Owner: **Canaan Valley Public Service District**  
By: **Robert Metzger**  
Title: **Chairman**  
Date: **Wednesday, July 17, 2024 and**  
**Wednesday, July 24, 2024**

## THANK YOU FOR READING THE PARSONS ADVOCATE

*Serving the people of Tucker county  
since 1896*

## LEGAL

### STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION OF WATER AND WASTE MANAGEMENT PUBLIC NOTICE

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE, 601 57TH STREET, CHARLESTON SE, WEST VIRGINIA 25304-2345

TELEPHONE: (304) 926-0440.

APPLICATION FOR A WEST VIRGINIA NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE

ELIMINATION SYSTEM WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PERMIT MODIFICATION

Public Notice No.: L-88-24 Public Notice Date: July 24, 2024

Paper: *Parsons Advocate*

The following has applied for a WV NPDES Water Pollution Control Permit Modification for this facility or activity:

Appl. No.: WV0024848

Applicant: DAVIS, TOWN OF

PO BOX 207

DAVIS, WV 26260

DAVIS, TUCKER COUNTY

Latitude: 39:07:30 Longitude: 79:28:00

Receiving Stream: BLACKWATER RIVER

Activity:

To acquire, construct, install, operate and maintain a wastewater collection system improvement project involving the separation and replacement of sanitary and storm sewers, and the rehabilitation of sanitary sewers throughout the Town of Davis. "Town of Davis Wastewater System Improvement, Collection System Rehab & Replacement Project," approved on July 10, 2024, and prepared by Rummel, Klepper & Kahl, LLP, 159 Plaza Drive, Keyser, WV 26726, CWSRF No. C-544726 and IJDC No. 2021S-2022.

Business conducted:

Municipality

Implementation:

N/A

On the basis of review of the application, the "Water Pollution Control Act (Chapter 22, Article 11-8(a)) and the "West Virginia Legislative Rules," the State of West Virginia will act on the above application.

Any interested person may submit written comments on the draft permit modification and may request a public hearing by addressing such to the Director of the Division of Water and Waste Management within 30 days of the date of the public notice. Such comments or requests should be addressed to:

Director, Division of Water and Waste Management, DEP

ATTN: Lori Devereux, Permitting Section

601 57th Street SE

Charleston, WV 25304-2345

The public comment period begins July 24, 2024 and ends August 23, 2024.

Comments received within this period will be considered prior to acting on the permit modification application. Correspondence should include the name, address and the telephone number of the writer and a concise statement of the nature of the issues raised. The Director shall hold a public hearing whenever a finding is made, on the basis of requests, that there is a significant degree of public interest on issues relevant to the Draft Permit Modification(s). Interested persons may contact the public information office to obtain further information.

The application, draft permit modification and any required fact sheet may be inspected, by appointment, at the Division of Water and Waste Management Public Information Office, at 601 57th Street SE, Charleston, WV, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on business days.

## LEGAL

### WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION Division of Highways

#### NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service ([www.bidx.com](http://www.bidx.com)) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia until October 08, 2024 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the constructions of the following project(s):

Call	Contract	State Project	Federal Project	Description
001	2020000975	U342-92-33.32	00 STP-0092(118)D	PEDESTRIAN/BIKE FACILITIES DISTRICT 8 ADA RAMPS LOCAT COUNTY: PENDLETON, TUCKER, POCAHONTAS, RANDOLPH

**DBE GOAL:** 7 % OF CONTRACT BID AMOUNT. BIDDER MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCE OF MEETING GOAL ON FORM IN PROPOSAL.

##### REMARKS:

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

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

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

## LEGAL

### PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA CHARLESTON

CASE NO. 24-0561-MC-C

BLACKWATER OUTDOOR ADVENTURES, LLC,

a limited liability company.

Application for a certificate of convenience and necessity to operate as a common carrier by motor vehicle in the transportation of passengers by specialized limousine in Tucker and Preston Counties.

##### NOTICE

On July 1, 2024, the Applicant, Blackwater Outdoor Adventures, LLC, filed an application for a certificate of convenience and necessity to operate as a common carrier by motor vehicle in the transportation of passengers by specialized limousine in Tucker and Preston Counties. The certificate would read as follows:

1. To operate as a common carrier by motor vehicle in the transportation of passengers by specialized limousine in Tucker and Preston Counties.

2. Rates:

**Standard Shuttle Times and Locations**

\$10 one person

\$20 one person with a single canoe

\$40 up to two people with a double occupant kayak or canoe

**Non-Standard Shuttle Times and/or Locations**

\$150 To include up to the maximum number of people allowed by the number of seats and seatbelts within the vehicle and up to as many boats as can safely be secured to a single trailer as determined by Blackwater Outdoor Adventures, LLC staff. If either boats or people exceed these limits, further shuttles shall be required.

On July 16, 2024, Commission Staff filed a Final Joint Staff Memorandum recommending the application be approved, if there are no protests, after proper publication.

Anyone desiring to protest or intervene should file a written protest or notice of intervention within ten days following the date of this publication unless otherwise modified by Commission order. If no protests are received, the Commission may waive formal hearing and render its decision on the application based on the evidence submitted with the application and the Commission's review thereof. Requests to intervene must comply with the Commission's rules on intervention set forth in the Commission's **Rules of Practice and Procedure**. All protests and interventions should be addressed to Karen Buckley, Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323.

BLACKWATER OUTDOOR ADVENTURES, LLC

# Garrett College students complete CCMA program

## Latest cohort tests out new hybrid course delivery module for College

McHenry, MD – Five students recently completed the classroom portion of the Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA) program at Garrett College. They are now working to complete their final externship hours before sitting for the CCMA national certification.

The CCMA program – which takes nearly a year to complete – consists of 426 hours of classroom and lab time, followed by 120 hours of externship. During the externship, students work with experienced medical assistants and phlebotomists in the field.

After externship completion, students are eligible to earn three national certifications through the National Healthcareer Association. They do so by sitting for the Certified Phlebotomy Technician (CPT), Certified Medical Administrative Assistant (CMAA), and Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA) exams.

“We’re very proud of our first-attempt certification pass rates,” said Program Coordinator Doug Beitzel. “We continue to maintain 95 percent pass rates over the last nine years we have offered this program, while the national average is 84 percent.”

Beitzel said the College is adjusting its program format to reduce the amount of time students are required to be on campus to one day a week. The other two sessions most weeks will be on Zoom and can be done from home, according to Beitzel.

“We tested that format this year, and it seems to work well,” Beitzel said. “We plan to fully implement this for the next class beginning in the fall.”

Certified Clinical Medical Assistants are versatile healthcare professionals who are engaged in a variety of tasks in a medical office or hospital. Certified Medical Assistants can be found in a number of healthcare settings, including nursing homes, medical centers, laboratories, and hospitals.

“These professionals are involved in the clinical and administrative aspects of a hospital or practice,” explained Beitzel. “Clinical medical assistants help



Five students recently completed the classroom portion of the Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA) program at Garrett College. Pictured, left to right, are (seated) Brittany Burns (Oakland), Hanna Yutzy (Friendsville), Wisteria Uber (Swanton), (standing) Instructor Lindaly Stewart, Brianna Wilt (Grantsville), Rebecca Younkin (Friendsville), and Instructor Bridgette Friend.

doctors and nurses by preparing examination rooms, taking and monitoring patient vital signs, interviewing patients for medical histories, preparing patients for X-rays, and assisting in medical procedures such as the administration of electrocardiograms.”

Clinical medical assistants are allowed to perform more advanced duties such as drawing blood, administering injections and medications, and properly disposing of biohazards, added Beitzel.

Scholarship money is now available, and orienta-

tion dates are being set up for the fall program starting in September. Registrations are currently being accepted with limited space available.

Classes are slated to run Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings from 6 to 9:15 p.m. with Mondays being in person at Garrett College’s Beitzel Career Technology Training Center in Accident.

Interested individuals should contact Program Coordinator Doug Beitzel at 301-387-3772 or [doug.beitzel@garrettcollege.edu](mailto:doug.beitzel@garrettcollege.edu).

# Tucker Community Foundation honors scholarship recipients



2024 Tucker Community Foundation Scholarship Recipients from all counties.

PARSONS – The Tucker Community Foundation awarded \$109,950 in scholarships from over 45 different scholarship funds for high school and college students in Barbour, Grant, Mineral, Preston, Pocahontas, Randolph and Tucker counties, WV and Garrett County, MD. Scholarship awards ranged from \$400 to \$8,000 with most in the \$1,000 to \$2,000 range.

The Foundation is excited to announce four new scholarships given out this year for the very first time. The John & Beulah “Bob” Bartlett Scholarship goes to a Randolph or Tucker County student attending college. The DeVilder Family Scholarship goes to a Tucker County High School graduate that will be attending a West Virginia college and majoring in Engineering, a STEM field, Pre-Law, Business or Agricultural/Veterinary related fields. The Kelley Family Scholarship goes to a Philip Barbour High School graduate with a GPA of 3.0 or above and planning to pursue a 4-year degree in Engineering, Education or Dental Hygiene. The Myers Family Scholarship goes to a Tucker or Preston County student preferably attending Potomac State College going into the Mental Health and Addiction Studies program.

The Foundation hosted a reception for all the scholarship recipients and their families, TCF Board of Directors, and Scholarship Fund Advisors in the Senate Commons on the campus of Davis & Elkins College on June 15, 2024. “We have had the reception at Canaan Valley Resort the last couple of years and it was such a success that we decided to relocate the event from county to county in our coverage area so that all counties have the oppor-

tunity to host the reception,” said Michael Moore, CFO of the Foundation. “The idea behind the event was for the students and their families to be able to meet the TCF Board of Directors, which decides who gets the scholarships, and the Scholarship Fund Advisors that actually had the vision to create the funds and give the money that pays for the scholarships. The event was such a success that next year’s event is already being planned.”

This year’s event started with some social time, so everyone could mingle and get to know each other, drinks and appetizers were provided. First, the students got to play a game where they had a chance to win money. “We received feedback from last year’s recipients on ways to improve the event, so this year the Foundation also did drawings for 10 very nice prizes throughout the day, plus a grand prize of an Apple MacBook computer. All the students received a gift bag from the Foundation with their scholarship check. A photographer was present to take photos of the students, families and the Fund advisors,” said Moore.

This year the Foundation gave 38 scholarships to current and previous Tucker County High School Graduates, they included Melissa Tauscher, Paige Shaffer, Avery Colebank, Karley Kyle, Jeremy Liller, Zada Carr, Emma Snyder, Angela Myers, Braden Mullenax, Clay Poling, Macy Helmick, Kristen Hicks, Mason Kisamore, Jacob Moore, Eliseo Wotring, Luke Poling, Aedan Kirk, Mason Powell, Jayden Moore, Hannah Cussins, Katelyn Hicks, Laney Burns, Tessa Jolly, Addison Hicks, Jacob Lower, Nevaeh Nichols, Karlee Smith, Kristin Coleman, Lacey Walker, David Kines,



Tucker County Foundation Scholarship Reception 2024.

Caitlyn McCrum, Ethan McCrum, Ethan Rosenau, Emily Lewis, Kaylee Jennings, Rachel Felton, Tabitha Adams and Avery Smith.

“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 a student does not qualify for one scholarship does not mean they would not qualify for another. We review all of the scholarship applicants and determine the student’s eligibility for each different scholarship fund.”

High school seniors, college students, students attending technical schools, home schooled students 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. TCF will be accepting scholarship applications again in January and February of 2025.

The Tucker Community Foundation manages more than 140 endowed funds providing annual scholarships and grants to nonprofits and charitable causes throughout the eight-county service area. Inspired by the flood of 1985, the mission of the Foundation is to create 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](http://www.tuckerfoundation.net).

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



# DMC Food Farmacy Combats Food Insecurity

Elkins, WV – Davis Medical Center's population health program is preparing to launch its third Food Farmacy cohort, a program aimed at addressing food insecurity and improving health outcomes for patients with diabetes. It is designed to provide patients with access to nutritious food, and resources to better manage their condition and enhance overall well-being.

"Through our population health program data, we know that food insecurity negatively affects the health of residents in our service area, especially those with diabetes," said Dr. Catherine "Mindy" Chua, DO, MS, FFAFP, FNMN, CPE,

FAAPL. "The food farmacy bridges the gap between patients struggling to afford nutritious foods, and successfully controlling blood sugar levels and preventing complications."

The 12-month program includes 6 months of interactive nutrition and health education, healthy meal planning and preparation, and monitoring of vital health statistics. During the second half of the program patients use new skills and education to build sustainable lifestyle changes.

"Patient outcomes were varied during our 2021 pilot program," said Dr. Chua.

"We tracked weight, blood pressure, hemoglobin A1C levels and quality of life metrics at specific intervals throughout the 12-month period and came away with learnings that have helped improve the program for the current cohort."

"Transportation, illiteracy, and personal motivation were patient barriers," said Chua. "We're working to overcome these challenges through the development of video "classes" and picture recipe cards."

The cost to operate the pilot program was roughly \$7,500. With the program doubling in size, Dr. Chua said they are working to offset the cost through grants,

volunteers, and community partners.

Community support and partnership for the Davis Medical Center Food Farmacy has been received from Citizens Bank of WV, Davis Health System Foundation, and Vandalia Health.

"As a community hospital, it's our role to improve the health and well-being of our population," Chua added. "The Food Farmacy is an innovative program supporting patients in achieving their best possible health outcomes. We look forward to watching it grow and change lives."

## Former Laker wrestler thriving at Coker Korenoski was GC district champ and Academic All-American

Hartsville, SC – Noah Korenoski's original plan didn't include college.

And then the plan changed.

"I was actually enrolled to be a linesman on electrical lines," recalled Korenoski, who graduated from Westmont Hilltop (PA) High in 2020 after 111 high school wrestling wins. "Then in April or May, [Garrett College assistant coach] Tanner Cahill called me wondering why I wasn't going to be wrestling in college."

Eventually, Cahill and then-GC head coach John Chambers convinced Korenoski to wrestle at Garrett. That decision led Korenoski to two NJCAA national tournament berths, a Gulf Atlantic 157-pound district championship, and an opportunity to continue his wrestling career at Coker (SC) University.

Chambers emphasized Korenoski needed to take advantage of the athletic

and academic opportunities available to him at Garrett.

"He [Chambers] made a spreadsheet when I came in for my first advising meeting that listed out all the classes I'd take – it was just laid out in front of me," recalled Korenoski, who was a two-time NJCAA Academic All-American while with the Lakers. "He said, 'Noah, if you follow this plan you won't have a problem.'" I recently told him, 'Coach, I still have that spreadsheet.'"

Korenoski, who already has an undergraduate degree from Coker, will be wrestling this year as a fifth-year COVID senior in a master's degree program in administration and leadership. He helped the Cobras to a 9-5 record last season, including 4-5 in the Conference Carolinas.

"I can't describe the feeling," said Chambers, who resigned as wrestling

coach after the 2022-23 season but remains an academic advisor at the College. "Here's a kid who wasn't even going to go to college who has already obtained a four-year degree and is now in a master's program."

Korenoski won the 157-pound Gulf Atlantic district title to earn his second consecutive national tournament berth in 2022. That individual crown helped the Lakers earn a share of the team title.

Korenoski – who earned a fifth-place finish at 157 pounds in the 2024 NCAA Division II Super Regional – was named to the Conference Carolinas Winter/Spring Academic All-Conference team in March with a 3.58 grade-point average (GPA). He cited Garrett College with pointing him in the right direction.

"It was just a tremendous starting place for me," said Korenoski. "It ultimately led me to my success today."

Korenoski said studying and competing at a southern institution became a goal for him.

"I've always wanted to go down south," he said. "To call it home now is even more special. I've met people here who will be in my life forever."

Korenoski credited Chambers with helping him achieve his dream.

"Coach Chambers has been a big part of my success," said Korenoski, who asked Chambers to be one of his references in his master's program application.

"It was an honor and a privilege for me to write a recommendation letter for Noah," said Chambers.

"It's crazy to think that I wasn't going to be a college student or athlete and here I am going into my fifth year of collegiate wrestling and going for a master's degree," said Korenoski, adding, "It's a journey – that's for sure!"

## WV Department of Arts, Culture and History to Host the Governor's Arts Caravan Across the State

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – The Governor's Arts Caravan is coming to a town near you. The West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History (WVDACH) and the State Arts Office will host an upcoming arts caravan consisting of a series of five grant workshops around the state to discuss grant programs with artists and arts organizations.

Each session will last approximately two and a half hours and consist of an

overview of available grants and services provided by the WVDACH. The director of arts, grant coordinators, and Cabinet Secretary Randall Reid-Smith will be on-site to lead the workshops and answer any questions. All workshops are free and open to the public. Registration is not required. Locations and times are as follows:

Monday, August 5, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.: Bloomfield Richwood (Richwood, Nicholas County)

Tuesday, August 6, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.: Arthurdale Heritage (Arthurdale, Preston County)

Wednesday, August 7, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.: Weirton Madonna High School (Weirton, Hancock County)

Thursday, August 8, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.: Main Street Point Pleasant (Point Pleasant, Mason County)

Friday, August 9, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.: Southern WV Community & Technical College (Logan, Logan

County)

Funding for these grants is provided by the National Endowment for the Arts and the West Virginia State Legislature. To learn more about the grant workshops, contact the arts office staff at (304) 558-0240. Sample grant application packages, including eligible project expenses and evaluation criteria, are available for review at <https://wvculture.org/agencies/arts/grants/> or by contacting the arts office.

## Humanities Council Seeks Grant Proposals

Charleston – The West Virginia Humanities Council is seeking proposals for its upcoming September 1 grant deadline. Four grant categories will be offered to nonprofit organizations that support educational humanities programming. Applicants may request up to \$20,000, and must allow 12 weeks between the September 1 deadline and the start of the project. A description of each category follows:

**Major grants.** This category supports public humanities programs including, but not limited to, lectures, school projects, symposia, panel discussions, reading and discussion series, exhibits, reenactments, and conferences.

**Media grants.** This category supports the planning, scripting, and production of audio or video materials, websites, or a newspaper series addressing humanities topics.

**Publication grants.** This category supports the production phase of completed manuscripts on West Virginia topics in the humanities, or manuscripts by West Virginia authors on any subject in the humanities. Only recognized nonprofit and aca-

demical presses are eligible to apply.

**Teacher Institute grants.** This category is available to colleges, universities, and the West Virginia Department of Education to develop summer seminars on humanities topics suited to the teaching needs of elementary or secondary teachers.

For more information about the West Virginia Humanities Council grants program, contact grants administrator Erin Riebe at (304) 346-8500 or via email at [riebe@wvhumanities.org](mailto:riebe@wvhumanities.org). Grant guidelines and applications are available on the Humanities Council website, [wvhumanities.org](http://wvhumanities.org).

The West Virginia Humanities Council, an independent nonpartisan nonprofit, is the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The Council is supported by the NEH, the State of West Virginia, and contributions from the private sector. The purposes of the West Virginia Humanities Council are educational, and its mission is to support a vigorous program in the humanities statewide in West Virginia.

## NRCS announces CSP application cutoff August 16, 2024

MORGANTOWN, W.Va., July 16, 2024, – The first batching deadline for the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) applications to be considered for fiscal year 2025 funding is August 16, 2024. Through CSP, USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) helps farmers, ranchers and forest landowners earn payments for expanding conservation activities while maintaining agricultural production on their land. CSP also encourages adoption of new technologies and management techniques. "CSP continues to be a very effective tool for private landowners working to achieve their conservation and management goals," said Jon Bourdon, NRCS state conservationist in West Virginia. "It is the largest conservation program in the United States with more than 70 million acres of productive agricultural and forest land enrolled."

CSP is offered in West Virginia through continuous signups. The pro-

gram offers an opportunity for both agricultural and forest managers to enhance their operations while adopting conservation activities that will refine work already completed. Practices and enhancements are available to improve resource concerns such as soil health, water quality, wildlife habitat, or reduce soil erosion. Whether you are looking to improve forest stands, plant cover crops, install pollinator habitat, establish riparian buffers, or incorporate enhanced grazing management activities, we can custom design a plan to help you meet those goals.

While applications are accepted throughout the year, interested producers should submit applications to their local NRCS office by the deadline to ensure their applications are considered for 2025 funding. For additional information about CSP, contact your local service center or visit our website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov>.

TURNER'S TIDBITS

### The Blackwater Hotel

G. F. PELL, PROPRIETOR  
DAVIS, W. VA.

*Davis W. Va.  
March 5<sup>th</sup> 1921*

This is a sheet of stationery from The Blackwater Hotel of Davis. The letterhead reads: The Blackwater Hotel, G. F. Pell, proprietor, Davis, W. VA. The letter on the stationery is dated March 5, 1921. The writer reported that the snow is all gone, the weather is mild, but the water is very high, and he cannot do anything as far as work goes. Ideas, comments, suggestions or items to share contact Tim Turner (304) 478-3389.

THANK YOU FOR  
READING

THE PARSONS  
ADVOCATE

DEADLINE  
3PM FRIDAY

# Barbour County Welcomes RecycleBalls to Belington Industrial Park



BELINGTON, WV — The Barbour County Development Authority (BCDA) is happy to announce that RecycleBalls, a national initiative to recycle and reuse tennis balls, has officially relocated to the Belington Industrial Park. A grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on Friday, July 12 to celebrate the opening of their new recycling facility.

Relocating from Vermont to West Virginia was a strategic decision for RecycleBalls, driven by two factors. First, 44% of the U.S. population is within 500 miles of Belington, making operations more cost-effective and environmentally sustainable. Second, Barbour County offered an espe-

cially warm welcome, taking the time to understand RecycleBalls' needs and providing invaluable solutions, including an affordable space and access to a skilled workforce with a can-do attitude.

"We're excited to welcome RecycleBalls to our community," said Cheryl Wolfe, Executive Director of BCDA. "Their mission aligns perfectly with our own goals of promoting job retention, creation, growth, and entrepreneurship for the benefit of Barbour County residents."

RecycleBalls has taken a unique approach to solving the environmental issue posed by the approximately 125 million used tennis balls that end

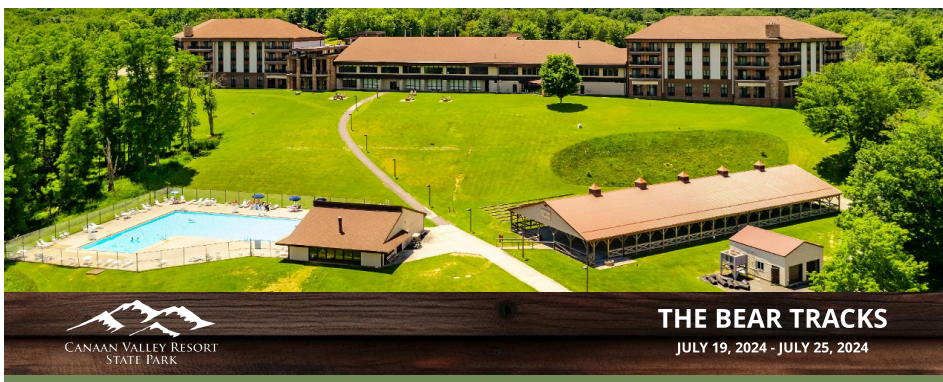
up in America's landfills each year. By establishing a scalable collection process with convenient courtside bins and prepaid UPS shipping labels, RecycleBalls makes it easy for tennis players nationwide to participate in recycling initiatives. Once collected, the tennis balls are processed into GREEN GOLD, a crumb rubber product used in various applications such as tennis court construction and horse footing, with future plans for R&D into more green products. Additionally, some tennis balls are reused as dog toys.

Amber Higgins, Resource Specialist at BCDA, expressed her enthusiasm for the new partnership. "We view

this as a win-win situation," she said. "RecycleBalls' presence in our county not only addresses an environmental concern but also stimulates our local economy by creating jobs and fostering innovation."

For more information about RecycleBalls, visit their website at recycleballs.org, or follow their social media on Facebook or Instagram.

About Barbour County Development Authority: Established in 1981, the Barbour County Development Authority promotes Barbour County, WV by conducting activities that encourage job retention, creation, growth, and entrepreneurship for the benefit of the community and the county.



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

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

**How will the children's clothing be purchased?**

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

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

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