

The Parsons Advocate

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF TUCKER COUNTY SINCE 1896

Volume 129 No. 35

Wednesday, August 28, 2024

\$1.00 (tax incl.)



City of Parsons Designates Week of September 1st Five Rivers Library Week

The City of Parsons has designated the week of September 1st to the 8th to be Five Rivers Library Week. The proclamation passed and signed August 20th by Parsons Mayor Bruce Kolsun and the City of Parsons Council came in recognition of the library's 50th Anniversary. Five Rivers Public Library Board President Dennis Filler, pictured right with City of Parsons Mayor Bruce Kolsun, left, was on hand for the proclamation.

Landfill Fire Sparks Battery Discussion

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

A small landfill fire sparked a discussion among the board regarding the safety of lithium ion batteries and the disposal of the batteries by the general public. The fire, according to Tucker County Solid Waste Authority Presiding Chair Mark Holstine was small and occurred over a month prior to the August 19th meeting. "We did have a fire," Holstine said. "Just to kind of let you know how lithium ion batteries are a problem, especially for us in the waste industry," Holstine said.

Holstine acknowledged that the batteries were not definitely determined to be the cause of the fire and that any correlation was pure speculation without further investigation. "We don't know that, that is what happened," Holstine said. "But we can almost bet that it was that started the fire in the field. Its just a problem."

Holstine said he knew that customers place lithium ion batteries into the trash. Once in the landfill, Holstine said, the batteries are subject to the same process as the rest of the refuse such as the tracks of the compacter. "People throw them away," Holstine said. "You crack them, you run over them, we all run a compacter over them, so most likely they will get cracked, they will get exposed to water all that."

Tucker County Solid Waste Authority Vice Chair Dennis Filler said that the batteries did not combust due to exposure to water, as many people think. "So contrary to popular belief," Filler said, "a lithium battery does not catch fire by getting wet. Raw lithium metal does catch fire that way because that's how the chemistry works,"

Filler said. "But these are not only lithium ion."

Filler said he learned the science behind the batteries when he was Director of Research for the FAA. "Where I learned all this stuff is I used to be the Director of Research for the FAA. So I dealt with this airplane, lithium ion thing catching fire," Filler said

According to Filler, water is how the fires are extinguished. "Water is generally how you put it out because it cools. It also smothers the thing, Filler said. "That's the misnomer. Guys, that's the only way of putting it out. Its what we do whenever they catch fire on aircraft."

Filler said the fire is caused by damage to the plates and internal components. "What does cause it catch fire is the way the plates are or the substrates are rolled or packaged," Filler said. "When you puncture those things or short them, then it starts spontaneous combustion inside it. It will catch fire."

Filler also said the devices themselves can build up shorts over time that will generate heat and build to combustion. "Like-wise the battery will build internal shorts inside of it," Filler said. "That generates the heat that it takes to generate the process."

Holstine said he was surprised that there weren't more issues at transfer stations from discarded lithium ion batteries. "I'm surprised they don't have more trouble over at the transfer station," Holstine said.

Holstine said the best way to dispose of the batteries is through an approved recycling program. "The best way is through some recycling program," Holstine said.

Parsons Place Devices in Effort to Curb Speed

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

The City of Parsons Police Department has begun placing speed detection devices at key points around the City in an effort to combat speeding in residential areas, according to City of Parsons Police Chief Kevin Keplinger. Keplinger updated the City of Parsons Council during their regular meeting August 20th on the measure his department has undertaken to curb speeding in residential areas with the start of the school year. "Realizing that it is that time of year again, I am adjusting the schedule. I'm going to probably start coming out at six in the morning to start hitting the school zones, the bus areas, the kid pick up areas pretty heavily," Keplinger said.

Keplinger said the Department currently has two signs in use in the Quality Hill area. "I have two of them right now," Keplinger said. "We have them up right now on Quality Street to kind of monitor that situation."

The units are mobile, according to Keplinger, which makes them able to be placed anywhere around the City and moved when deemed necessary. "What we are going to be doing right now is putting them out mobile," Keplinger said.

Keplinger said the units were not conventional speed cameras and do not take pictures, issue or mail citations. According to Keplinger, the units only record speed and log what time and what speed was traveled, not what specific vehicle it was. "I just want to reinforce, they do not take a picture," Keplinger said. "They do not mail a ticket. What they do is



The City of Parsons has begun to place speed detection devices around town in an effort to curb speeding. The efforts come in conjunction with the beginning of the school year and the rise in speeding in residential neighborhoods, according to officials.

they record the speed and record the time in fifteen minute increments."

Keplinger said the units are designed to run 24 hours a day for seven days before needing recharged and placed back on site. During that time, Keplinger said, the units will record traffic patterns. "What it will do for that seven day period is to take a look and

determine when traffic, the speed that traffic is flowing and sometimes you can get some anomalies," Keplinger said. "We've had it out on Webbers Lane before and recorded some rather extreme speeds and then go back to 911 and then realize that was an ambulance."

There was no word on when the initiative would conclude.

City of Thomas Lifts Boil Order

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

The City of Thomas has lifted its long standing boil order. The order, which has been in effect since late June, was lifted effective August 23rd at 11:30 a.m., according to a notice provided to the Parsons Advocate by Thomas Mayor Jody Flanagan.

In the statement, Flanagan writes, "The City of Thomas is pleased to announce that the boil water advisory issued on 06/29/2024 has been lifted effective immediately 8/23/2024 at 11:30 a.m."

The announcement follows extensive testing by the City, according to the statement. "Following extensive water quality testing, the District Health Department in Fairmont, W.V. has confirmed the water supply now meets all safety and regulatory standards," the statement reads.

According to the statement, the water in Thomas is now safe for the residents and businesses to resume normal use. "Residents and businesses in the affected areas can now resume normal use of tap water for drinking, cooking, and other purposes without the need for boiling," the statement reads.

The statement concludes by thanking the residents, businesses and public for their support and patience during the crisis and the City assurance that the safety of the City is of utmost importance. "We would like to thank all residents for their patience and cooperation during this time. The safety and health of our community remain our top priorities, and we appreciate your understanding as we worked to resolve this issue."

The City of Thomas concluded the statement by requesting that any questions or concerns be directed to the City at 304-463-4360.

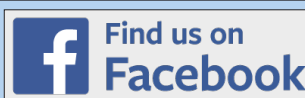
SBA makes drought relief funds available in WV including Tucker County

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has declared Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) available for businesses and organizations affected by the severe drought that began on

July 16, 2024. This declaration, under SBA Disaster Declaration WV-20007, impacts several counties across West Virginia including Tucker County as well as neighboring states.



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News of Record

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

- **Joshua David Poling**, was charged with a felony of Possession of Child Sexual Abuse Material < 50 images. The complaint states that on Feb. 21, 2023 Sr. Trooper C.D. Harper of the West Virginia State Police was assigned Cyber Tip #151796180 from the National Center for missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). Said tip alleged that juvenile complaint with the initials of SJ reported that, “A man claimed to be 20 but admitted to being 32 is sending me sexually graphic images and messages and he claims that some of the pictures are of a 15 year old girl. He also tells me he has a 13 year old son whom he can show me nude photos of. Please help.” He told NCMEC that this man’s first name was “Josh” and he had an Instagram account.
- He also told NCMEC that, “This man is named Josh or Joshua and he lives in West Virginia, he has been consistently asking me for nude photos and I have proof and pictures of the messages he sent. He has been very cautious by not showing me what he looks like, telling me his last name or exact location, but I have reason to believe he resides near Parsons, WV.
- On Feb. 22, 2023 Harper obtained one administrative subpoena from the Magistrate Court of Braxton County for the Instagram username used in these correspondents. On this same date Harper served same to Meta Platforms, Inc.
- On March, 31, 2023 Harper obtained the results of said subpoena from Meta Platforms/Instagram. This account was created on Sept. 16, 2021 and linked to an email address.
- Harper was able to locate a WV Driver’s license for a Mr. Joshua David Poling, suspect, but He was unable to locate Poling at address on license.
- On Aug. 24, 2023 Harper obtained an administrative subpoena for the Google Email address that was used to create the suspect Instagram account. On same date Harper served same to Google, Inc.
- On Sept. 9, 2023 Harper obtained the results of said subpoena. Google Inc. records indicated that the account belonged to Josh Poling of Elkins. Said account had multiple current credit/debit

cards linked to the account. On the same date Harper spoke with WV DHHR and obtained a current address for Poling.

- On Sept 19, 2023 Harper along with STPR EW Clark and Trp. Hawkins went to the address to speak with Poling. Harper spoke with Poling about the complaint and allegations. He asked Poling if he had a mobile application Instagram and Poling responded that he did not. Harper asked him if he has ever had an Instagram account and Poling stated, “Not in years.” Poling showed his phone that the mobile application was not installed on the phone. Harper also obtained Poling’s email address.
- Harper explained the Instagram account from NCMEC account to Poling and he stated that the last time he used his Instagram account it acted like it had been hacked.
- Trp. Clark asked Poling about his “trash” gallery and Poling said that there was just deleted “Porn.” Clark asked Poling if he was into Child Porn and Poling stated “nope.” Poling scrolled through his trash folder but neither officer was able to view the contents due to sunlight glare. At this time Poling appeared to become nervous.
- Due to the allegations mentioned above Harper did seize the cell phone as evidence with the intent to seek a search warrant for the phone.
- On Oct. 2, 2023 Harper obtained two search warrants from the Magistrate Court of Tucker County for the cell phone seized from Poling and for the Instagram username. He served said warrant to Meta/Instagram but Meta was unable to produce anything in relation to said account.
- Harper delivered the cell phone to the West Virginia State Police Forensic Lab located in Morgantown.
- On March 28, 2024 Harper obtained a WVSP forensic Lab Report for Poling’s cell phone and said analysis discovered thirty four (34) images of child sexual abuse material on Poling’s phone.
- The issuance of an arrest warrant is being requested from the Tucker County Magistrate Office.
- **Audley John Riley**, of Davis, was charged with one count of Aggravated DUI. On Saturday, Aug.

17 Trp. G.P. Hahn was dispatched by Tucker 911 for a vehicle in the caller’s yard. The caller stated they believed the driver to be intoxicated, spinning his tires while being hung up in the yard. Upon arrival Hahn observed the vehicle in the caller’s yard. He made contact with the driver, later identified as Audley John Riley. The officer observed the suspect to have slurred speech and could detect the overwhelming odor of an alcoholic beverage emitting from the vehicle and the accused’s person. He also observed several open beer cans inside the vehicle. Once the accused exited the vehicle he had to lean on his car and was unable to maintain his balance. He then had to use the officer’s marked state police cruiser to hold himself up. The accused allegedly stated he had 5 or 6 beers. Hahn asked the accused to submit to field sobriety tests to which he refused. Hahn placed the suspect under arrest and transported him to the Parsons Police Department to be read his West Virginia Implied Consent and the suspect was instructed to submit to an approved secondary chemical breath test to determine his blood alcohol content. Upon completion of said test it was determined that the accused’s blood alcohol content was .343, with the legal limit being .08.

The above crimes occurred in Tucker County and all individuals are presumed innocent until proven otherwise in a court of law.

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

- David August Skoog, Dry Fork District, 1.5 acres to Sheena Marie Williams, \$50,000.
- John S. Davis, Justin K. Davis, Jacey R. Davis and Liam H. Davis by Mother – Heather Harper, Black Fork District, 2.44 acres to Carrie Anne Langley and Damian L. Langley, \$85,000.
- Karen D. Basham and Janice D. Lantz, Dry Fork District, Lot 192, 5.39 acres to Noah Properties, LLC, \$575,000.
- Sue S. Farnsworth and Justin B. Seibert, Dry Fork District, Parcel B-2 Cedar Place Subdivision – 4,826 square feet to Aaron Stowers and Christina Stowers, \$327,000.

Five Rivers Public Library to Celebrate 50 years with Sept. 8 Open House

BY Angela Johnson and Lisa Gothelf

It started as a dream 50 years ago this month, back when you still signed a little paper card to check out a library book, the first portable computer was the size of a suitcase, and the internet was still just a baby. Today, that dream has become the Five Rivers Public Library in Parsons, a lively community hub in a modern facility with a wide range of books, magazines, audiobooks and e-readers, along with an impressive array of popular programs and services throughout the year.

It all began in April 1973, when the Parsons City Council appointed five library board members (H. Dale Ridgeway, Francis “Fritz” Wagner, Mrs. Mary Shiflet, Edward McDonald, and Stanley Hehle) and asked them to secure a site for a new library.

The following April, after much hard work and determination, a ground breaking took place for the new 1200-square-foot “carousel” library on the corner of Third and Walnut Street in Parson. The new library was named Five Rivers Public Library after Tucker County’s five rivers: Cheat, Black Fork, Shavers Fork, Dry Fork, and Blackwater.

The distinctive, eight-sided, 1,200-square-foot building, which suggests the fun of a carousel, was part of the West Virginia Library Commission’s “instant” library program, which placed small, prefabricated library buildings in select rural communities with limited access to library services.

The Commission encouraged communities to find sites and secure annual funding, in return providing the building, furnishings, library materials, professional assistance, and state funding to help support operations. By 1996, there were 39 instant libraries across West Virginia.

The Parsons building, the state’s second instant library

after one in Logan County, was completed in July 1974 and officially opened in September. Helen Gilmore was the first director, overseeing an initial inventory of 10,000 books. Jane Leard was director from 1991 until 1993, when the current director, Nancy Moore, assumed the role.

In 1984, a building fund was established, adding an additional 850-square feet to the back of the existing carousel and expanding the total footage of the library to 2,050 square feet.

Sadly, only five short months after opening in November, 1985, the devastating flood of Parsons inundated the library with more than six feet of water, leaving only three books and a few pieces of furniture salvageable. Volunteers, the Library Board, and staff pulled together to clean up. After an incredible amount of hard work during an extremely difficult period in the county’s history, the library was once again back open for use.

In October 2011, Five Rivers added an additional 1600 square feet, including an ADA-accessible meeting room.

Today, Five Rivers Public Library is grown to meet the vision of its organizers 50 years ago. It provides a range of services, including Pre-School Story Time Class/Toddler time (starting in the fall through the spring), teen programs, the Summer Reading Program for children (up to 5th grade), VITA (free tax assistance for the public), wireless internet access, internet access computers, online data bases, DVDs, audio books, exchange books, Kindle Paperwhites, inter-library loans, meeting/conference room available for public use, movie days, craft sessions, faxes, copies, laminating, Accu-cut, and more.

Five Rivers Public Library will celebrate its 50th Anniversary by hosting an open house and reception for the public on Sunday, September 8, 2024, from 2-4 p.m. at the

library. Come and meet the staff and see what the library has to offer!

The Parsons
Advocate

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OR YOUR SECOND HOME

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Forest Service Seeks Feedback on Tea Creek Bridge Replacement Project

Marlinton, W.Va., August 20, 2024 – Monongahela National Forest is seeking feedback on the Tea Creek Bridge Replacement Project on the Marlinton Ranger District in Pocahontas County. This project is in the beginning stages of development and is located at the intersection of Forest Road 86 (Williams River Road) and Forest Road 135 where it crosses the Williams River, 11 miles northwest of Marlinton.

The project will replace the existing bridge with a new structure that will better meet access needs and ensure continued safe public access to Tea Creek Campground and nearby trails. Construction associated with this work will occur over 1-2 years, between July and October 2025 and 2026 (during the low-water season). During construction the campground might experience short term closures for work crew efficiency and public safety. Information on the closure(s) will be

posted under Alerts and Warnings on the Monongahela National Forest’s webpage linked here: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/mnf/>.

Additional project information, including a map and photos, can be found on the project website at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/mnf/?project=63889>. Submit written comments to adrienne.nottingham@usda.gov with the subject line “Tea Creek Bridge Replacement”, during the comment period ending September 4, 2024. Comments can also be mailed to the following address: Marlinton Ranger District, Attn: Jason Hattersley, 1627 Cemetery Road, Marlinton, WV 24954.

Information received from the public during the comment period will be used to help develop the project proposal. For more information contact Adrienne Nottingham at adrienne.nottingham@usda.gov or call (304) 799-4334.

PARSONS ADVOCATE LETTERS TO EDITOR POLICY

The Parsons Advocate encourages letters to the editor. Letters can be mailed to P.O. Box 345, Parsons, WV 26287 (envelopes must show a return address), faxed to 304-478-1086, e-mailed to mikie@parsonsadvocate.com or dropped off at our office at 219 Central Ave.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Parsons Advocate

Editor and Publisher Michael Showell
Associate Publisher Lydia Crawley
Office Manager Teri Cayton
Production Layout Natasha Dyer

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



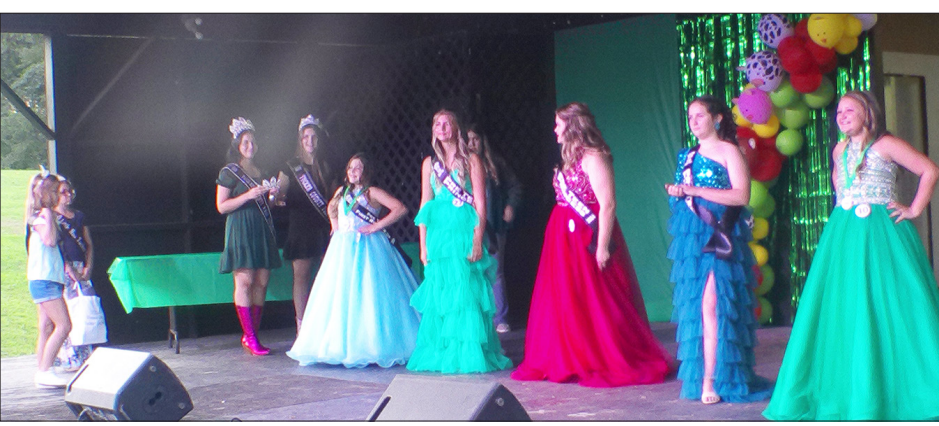
The 2024 Tucker County Fair Pageant

The 2024 Tucker County Fair kicked off with the crowning of this year's Fair Queens. This year's Queens were:

- Baby Miss: Adley Bryson
- Tiny Miss: Delia Moats
- Little Miss: Maggie Murray

- Junior Miss: Harper Starr
- Fan Favorite: Brayleigh Moore
- Preteen: Allison Bailey
- Teen: Gwynnie Walters
- Queen: Coraymalis Martinez

Other events throughout the fair included the mud bog, carnival, pet show, concerts, livestock and cake auctions, celebrity goat milking, car and tractor cruise in, livestock shows and bingo, among many others. The fair was at Camp Kidd from August 19th to the 24th.



OBITUARIES

Sharon June Oxley

Sharon June Oxley, 79, of Parkersburg, WV, formerly of Davis, WV passed away Sunday, August 11, 2024. She was preceded in death by her husband of 55 years, Hallie M. Oxley, Sr. and is survived by their son, Hallie M. "Monty" Oxley, Jr. and his wife, Maria; grandsons, Armando, Marcus, D'Anthony, Alexander and Matthew; granddaughter, Arian; 16



great-grandchildren; two sisters, Deloris Sisler of

Mogantown WV, Connie Whitehair of Davis, WV; two brothers, Larry Barnes of Poka, WV, and Jeff Barnes of Davis, WV; nieces; nephews; and many family members and friends. Mrs. Oxley was a proud homemaker and spent many years baking and crafting. She will be laid to rest next to her husband at Virginia Veterans Cemetery at Amelia.

Luke Ray Knotts, Jr.

Luke Ray Knotts, Jr., age 73 years, a resident of Littlestown, PA departed this life Tuesday morning, August 20, 2024 at West Penn Hospital at Pittsburgh, PA with his loving wife by his side. Death was unexpected.



He was born Monday, August 20, 1951 at Parsons, WV a son of the late Luke Ray Knotts, Sr., and Elizabeth Jean "Betty" Grow Knotts. On October 30, 2023, he was married to his longtime companion, the former Ruth Ann Reagan, who survives. Also surviving are one daughter, Candice Elizabeth Reagan and husband Michael Gladfelter; one grandson, Dustin Reagan, and one granddaughter, Amaya Gladfelter, all of Littlestown, PA. He attended the schools

of Tucker County, WV and was a graduate of Catonsville High School at Catonsville, MD. He had previously worked for First Winthrop Properties in supervision and management of Maintenance of an 800 unit complex. He later worked as a HUD Housing Enforcement Officer for Baltimore County, MD, retiring on October 16,

2015 and later worked as a Code Enforcement officer for the borough of Littlestown, PA. He enjoyed antique cars especially from the 1950's to 1990's era and was a member of the Antique Automobile Club of America. He loved animals very much and all animals gravitated to him. He was formerly a member of the Potomac Golden Retrievers Club and showed them for several years. Private Graveside Services were held at the Rose Hill Cemetery at Thomas, WV. A Celebration of Life is being planned for a later date. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements for Luke Ray Knotts, Jr. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.lohr-barbfuneralhome.com

Kenneth Willard Hardy

Kenneth Willard Hardy, age 85 years, a resident of the Bull Run Community, St. George, WV departed this life Friday morning, August 16, 2024, at his home. He had been in declining health.



Mathew Ramsey; and several nieces and nephews.

He was born Friday, December 9, 1938, at Pheasant Run, Kerens, WV, a son of the late George W. Hardy and Flora Mildred Nestor Hardy. He was previously married to Kitty Vandevender.

Surviving are two daughters, Vickie Hamrick and companion Kevin Daniels of Elkins, WV and Tammy Jean LaFleur and husband Kevin of Georgia; one brother, Delmas W. Hardy of Parsons; one sister, Lorraine Shahan of Parsons; three grandchildren, James "Dink" Oldaker and companion Kayla of Audra, WV, Christian Ramsey and companion Felecia of Georgia and Ryan LaFleur and companion Ashley of Georgia; two great grandchildren, EmmaLee and

Preceding him in death are two brothers, Ernest Dempsey Hardy and Alfred L. Hardy; and four sisters, Betty Bolinger, Lucille Hebb, Phyllis "Polly" Davis, and Helen Weese.

He attended the one room school at Pheasant Run and had worked for Pete Frazee and Bill Minear Sawmills. He was a former employee of the Kingsford Charcoal Company, the Parsons Shoe Factory, the Woolen Mill and retired from Hincheliff

Lumber Company. He attended Sycamore Grove Church at Bull Run. He was very active and an avid outdoorsman, had a passion for coon hunting dogs, and loved hunting in general. He enjoyed farming, and raised cattle, hogs, goats and chickens and always raised a nice large garden. Kenny loved his family very much.

The family will receive friends at the Lohr & Barb Funeral Home of Parsons from 4 PM to 7 PM on Tuesday. Final Rites will be conducted at the funeral home on Wednesday, August 21, 2024, at 10 AM. The Reverend Bill Hardy will officiate and interment will follow at the Parsons

Family Cemetery at Shavers Fork, WV. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements for Kenneth Willard Hardy. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.lohr-barbfuneralhome.com.

Lola Mae Stover Plumley

Lola Mae Stover Plumley, age 93 years, a resident of Parsons, WV departed this life late Saturday evening, August 24, 2024 at the Davis Medical Center

at Elkins, WV with her loving family at her side.

Funeral Arrangements are incomplete and are under the direction of the Lohr & Barb Funeral

Home for Lola Mae Stover Plumley. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com

Bonner Reunion

The annual Martin VanBuren Bonner reunion was held on Saturday, August 17, 2024 at the Flanagan Hill Community Building in Red Creek with 48 in attendance. Those attending were Estin and Sue Bonner, Glenda Bright, Joe and Barbara Billett, Debbie Groves, Linda Adams, Ryan, Lindsay, Audrey and Allison Clark, Kermit, Kerstin and Elijah Bonner, Bob and Tammy Davis,

Christy, Maddie, Mikenley, Maci and Cameron Bonner, Bill and Chris Bonner, Travis, Michelle and Mason Eye, Frank and Donna Eye, Warren, Brittany, Kylie and Lennox Mallow, Kaye Bonner Mallow, Jim and Betty Bonner, Richard, Michael and Michelle Lipscomb, Anthony and Tina Bonner, Kim and Milton Waybright, Margaret Kaucher, Eddie Cooper, and Matthew and Carrie Bonner.

Gov. Justice, DoHS announce increase in provider waiver rates and IDD waiver expansion

CHARLESTON, WV — Gov. Jim Justice and the West Virginia Department of Human Services (DoHS) announced today that providers have been notified that the Bureau for Medical Services (BMS) will increase provider waiver rates by 15% on October 1, 2024, the amount as recommended in the service cost and rate review conducted by Myers and Stauffer LC and released on December 8, 2023.

The Governor discussed the expansion during his weekly administration briefing.

A waiver rate increase will also occur for family support, as well as personal care rates on October 1. In addition to rate increases, BMS will remove an additional 50 Intellectual/Developmental Disability (IDD) members off the waitlist. This is in addition to the 99 members who were removed from the waitlist on July 1, 2024. The total cost to remove 50 members from the waitlist is \$3.9 million per year.

"Ensuring that our providers are compensated fairly and that more West Virginians can access the services they need is a top priority," said Cindy Beane, DoHS Bureau for Medical Services Commissioner. "An October 1 start date will allow the Bureau for Medical Services to notify federal partners and make adjustments needed in our technology systems to ensure a smooth implementation of these important changes."

In 2023, BMS engaged Myers and Stauffer LC to review service rates and make recommendations for rate revisions provided on the Intellectual/Developmental Disability (IDD) Waiver, following the direc-

tives of West Virginia Senate Bill (WV SB) 617. BMS expanded the review to include the Aged and Disabled (AD) Waiver, the Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Waiver, and the personal care (PC) state plan service. The project responds to WV SB 617, which provides a directive to determine recommended levels of reimbursement for home and community-based services (HCBS) providers serving individuals with IDD. The rate review and recommendation process included a provider cost survey, significant stakeholder engagement, geographic review, and peer state research.

Issues raised by waiver and state plan service providers have included workforce pressures, staffing shortages, turnover, and reimbursement levels. The expansion of this rate rebase initiative to include the AD and TBI waivers and PC service allowed BMS the opportunity to review rates for a larger population of service recipients, examine the alignment of rates for similar services across waivers, and provide consistent rate change recommendations that do not create an imbalance that may lead to workers favoring employment in one type of services over another due to provider ability to fund wages.

BMS will monitor the impact of increased rates on member access to services as well as worker pay and turnover rates to determine if the increased rates are having the desired effect on workforce availability and tenure.

To view and apply for career opportunities that support West Virginia families, visit dhrs.wv.gov/Pages/Career-Opportunities.aspx.

START YOUR WEEK AT WORSHIP

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

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Friends of Blackwater Applauds Senator Joe Manchin for Securing Historic Deal to Protect 10,000-Acre Blackwater Canyon

Thomas, WV — Judy Rodd, Executive Director of Friends of Blackwater, today expressed heartfelt gratitude to Senator Joe Manchin for his critical role in securing a landmark agreement that will protect the 10,000-acre Blackwater Canyon in Tucker County. This achievement culminates nearly two decades of effort by Senator Manchin, who first began this work in 2005 as Governor of West Virginia.

The agreement, brokered by Senator Manchin, provides for the United States Forest Service to purchase the remaining 2,700 privately-owned acres in Blackwater Canyon, bringing the entire canyon under public control. This vital step ensures that this breathtaking landscape will be preserved and accessible for future generations.

"The historic agreement with the Crites family, expertly brokered by Senator Manchin, continues the legacy of conservation that began with Governor Cecil Underwood's purchase of iconic Lindy Point and was furthered by Governor Bob Wise's acquisition of additional riverfront land for Blackwater Falls State Park," said Rodd. "Senator Manchin's dedication has been unwavering, and his leadership has made this remarkable outcome possible."

Rodd also acknowledged the support and assistance of

Senator Shelley Moore Capito in this effort, noting the bipartisan collaboration that has been essential to this victory for West Virginia's natural heritage.

"We are reminded of Senator Robert C. Byrd's words when he called Blackwater Canyon 'West Virginia's Crown Jewel,'" Rodd continued. "This sentiment was echoed by West Virginians themselves when they chose Blackwater Canyon as 'West Virginia's Most Special Place' in a contest conducted by Governor Bob Wise."

The Blackwater Canyon is more than just a natural wonder; it is an artery of abundant life, linking the highest Tucker County mountains to the rich lowlands. With this new protection, the canyon will be open to all, both residents and visitors alike, offering world-class recreational opportunities that appeal to diverse ages and interests.

Friends of Blackwater extends its deepest thanks to Senator Manchin for his unfailing support in protecting Blackwater Canyon and for the hard work of his dedicated staff. This is a victory for all who treasure West Virginia's wild places, and it will stand as a testament to the power of committed leadership and shared purpose. Blackwater Canyon will be an enduring part of Senator Manchin's legacy of love and support for West Virginia.

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM

THANK YOU FOR READING

What's? Happening

St. George Academy Homecoming

The 2nd Annual Homecoming will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 1 at the Academy, 1 Academy Lane, St George. Bring a covered dish & some memories to share. Did you teach, attend or visit the academy? Join Us!

Hedrick Reunion

The Bill and Viola Hedrick family will hold their reunion on Sunday, Sept. 1 at the Red Creek Community Building beginning at 11:30 a.m. Lunch will be at 12:30 p.m. and everyone is welcome.

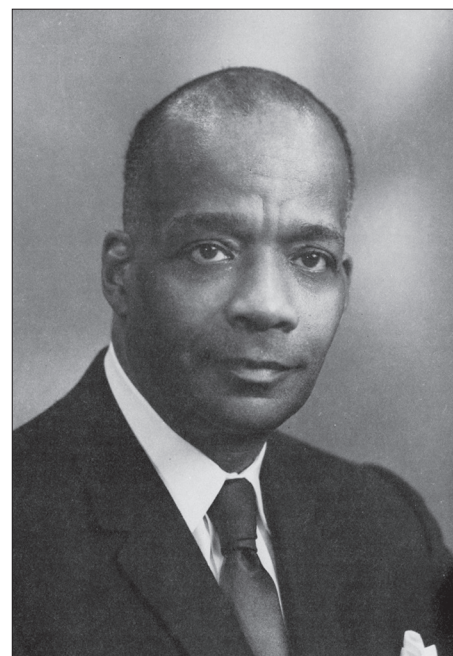


The West Virginia Encyclopedia

www.wvencyclopedia.org



Sept. 1, 1921: By this date during the Battle of Blair Mountain, miners had captured half of the 25-mile mountain ridge and were ready to descend upon Logan. President Warren Harding placed the strike zone under martial law, and ordered federal troops and a squadron of bomber aircraft into the state.



Aug. 28, 1900: Harrison H. Ferrell Jr. was born in Chicago. Known as "the Dean" to generations of students, he was professor of German, 1928-66, at West Virginia State College (now University) and served as dean and in other capacities from 1930 until 1970.

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

Aug. 29, 1952: A groundbreaking ceremony was held in Mercer County to mark the beginning of construction of the West Virginia Turnpike. Initially, most of the turnpike was just two lanes because officials believed revenues would be too low to finance four lanes.

Aug. 30, 1862: Confederate raiders under the command of General Albert G. Jenkins attacked and

occupied Buckhannon, where they captured 20 prisoners and 5,000 stands of small arms.

Aug. 31, 1945: The USS West Virginia led American battleships into Tokyo Bay two days before the formal surrender of Japan on September 2, 1945.

Sept. 1, 1777: Fort Henry, located at what is now Wheeling, was attacked by Indians for the first time during the Revolutionary War. Nearly half the militia were lured outside the post and killed.

Sept. 1, 1907: Walter Phillips Reuther was born to German immigrant parents in Wheeling. Reuther was a founder of the modern labor movement and a long-time president of the United Auto Workers.

Sept. 2, 1722: Frontiersman William Crawford was born in present Jefferson County. He was a farmer, soldier, surveyor and the land agent of George Washington.

Sept. 3, 1890: West Virginia Wesleyan College opened in Buckhannon as the West Virginia Conference Seminary. In that first year, 201 men and women undertook a largely preparatory school curriculum. Gradually the school added college-level studies and awarded its first five degrees in 1905.

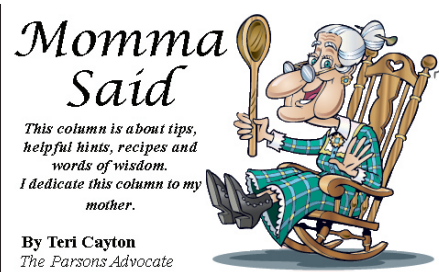
Sept. 3, 1966: President Lyndon B. Johnson dedicated the Summersville Dam and Lake. Summersville Lake (now State Park), located on the Gauley River in Nicholas County. It is West Virginia's largest lake, with 2,790 surface acres at summer pool stage and 60 miles of shoreline.

By Teri Cayton
The Parsons Advocate

Wow, the third week in August and the night time temperatures have dropped into the low 40's. Not ready yet for fall but not much I can do about it. **Momma Said**, "Time waits for no man (or woman)." It is good in the mornings to take the dog for a walk. I don't mind fall so much but for people with allergies it is a tough time. Mom would always get choked up and my brother is really bad with sinus problems. I'm okay until I get around moldy or musty things.

The coming days are warming back up and I am fine with that. Winter just holds no appeal for me I don't like being cold and the weather is not what is used to be. If the ground would freeze and stay frozen it would not be so bad but that doesn't happen anymore. All I have is mud, mud and mud.

We are having a lot of water problems here in this part of West Virginia because of the drought.



The rivers are low or dry and some towns are really hurting for water. **Momma Said**, "It is a precious commodity and you won't miss it until it is gone." I try not to waste water anytime because when it is gone it is gone. I don't let the water run excessively when brushing my teeth or washing the dishes.

I don't like to waste anything no matter what it is. I squeeze all the toothpaste out of the tube, use my slivers of soap and make everything stretch as far as possible. I need to get every last drop of everything because money is scarce and prices are way too high for everything. **Momma Said**, "Waste not, want not."

Mixed Berry Cobbler with Cake Mix

Ingredients

Berry Filling

- 6 ½ cups mixed frozen berries
- ½ cup granulated sugar
- ¼ cup water
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Zest and juice of 1 small lemon

Cobbler Topping

- 1 box Yellow Cake Mix
- ½ cup butter, melted

Instructions

- Preheat the oven to 350°F (180°C). Lightly butter a 9×13-inch baking dish and set aside.
- To Make the Berry Filling
 - In a large bowl, combine the frozen berries, sugar, water, cornstarch, vanilla extract, juice and zest of the lemon until well coated, then spread evenly into the prepared baking dish.
- To Make the Cobbler Topping
 - In a medium bowl, combine the cake mix with the melted butter until it clumps together. Crumble this over the berries.
 - Bake for 40-45 minutes, or until the topping

is golden brown and the berries are bubbling thickly.

- Let cool for about 10 minutes before serving while still warm with a big scoop of vanilla ice cream.
- This is best the day it is made but you can store leftovers covered in the refrigerator for up to 2 days. Reheat in the microwave or in a 300°F oven for about 10 minutes.

Recipe Notes

- You can use fresh berries instead of frozen berries for this recipe, but we recommend this only if the berries are in season. Otherwise, frozen berries will give you the best flavor.
- You can make this with a single berry (instead of mixed) if you wish.
- Make sure the berries are bubbling before you remove the cobbler from the oven; otherwise, it will not set properly.
- If the topping gets too brown before the berries are cooked, cover the cobbler with foil for the remainder of the baking time.
- This cake mix cobbler would be delicious with a dollop of whipped cream or Vanilla ice cream!

Super Crossword THE ROD SQUAD

- | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 55 1950s-70s defense gp. | 93 Guitar's cousin, for short | 2 Caesar's "vidi," in English | 35 Pooch barks | 74 Gawk |
| 1 It's removed from skim | 56 Weapon in a boxing ring | 94 Actress Brigitte playing a Bohemian dancer? | 3 Certain building brick | 36 — gras (goose-liver paste) | 77 — Haute |
| 8 Guitar's cousin | 58 MGM motto | 96 "NFL Live" aier | 4 1980s Chrysler | 37 Singer — Del Rey | 79 Links (with) |
| 16 Nautical mop | 59 Deliver, as a verdict | 98 Disconnect | 5 Unnerve | 38 Keats' — Autumn | 81 Higher than |
| 20 Be cautious | 60 Politico Hatch Top, e.g. | 99 Sailor's "Roger!" | 6 Jackie's hubby #2 | 39 Soak up | 82 Country rocker Lovett |
| 21 Conditionally free, in a way | 62 "Sure thing, guv'nor!" | 100 16-ounce drink from a Starbucks singer of Venetian gondoliers' songs? | 7 Choir male | 41 Test centers | 84 "I did it!" |
| 22 Rock's ZZ | 64 "Sommersby" star Richard | 65 Cleo's snake | 8 Irate crowds | 44 Shoot again, as a gun | 85 "This is not —" (warning label) |
| 23 Building full of periodicals for soldiers? | 66 World's best singer of Venetian gondoliers' songs? | 68 World's best singer of Venetian gondoliers' songs? | 9 Ortiz of "Kristin" | 45 Mother of Bart Simpson | 86 Head, in Nice |
| 25 Outer edges | 72 Born, in Brest | 73 South African Dutch | 10 "Ask Me Another" aier | 46 Capital of Kyrgyzstan | 88 — ho (keen) |
| 26 Cursed | 75 First name of Dr. Oz | 76 Cereal grass disease | 11 Risk-taking types | 48 Witty Nash | 89 Raced |
| 27 Takes too much, in brief | 77 Born, in Brest | 78 Quick on the uptake | 12 Toothbrush brand | 49 — Khan ("The Jungle Book" tiger) | 91 Blind as — |
| 28 Moose cousin | 79 First name of Dr. Oz | 80 Many eras | 13 Actress Sondra | 50 "If — falls in the forest ..." | 95 "Sauer" topping |
| 29 Fries lightly | 81 — Seltzer | 82 Suggest | 14 Type | 53 Author Sheehy | 97 Vanished, informally |
| 31 Unit of work | 83 Suggest | 87 Sticking the singer of "White Christmas" with a fishhook? | 15 Moniker of a loch monster | 54 Incorrect | 98 Villains' looks |
| 32 Body of water on which there are frequent haircutters' cruises? | 87 Sticking the singer of "White Christmas" with a fishhook? | 88 Many eras | 16 Having a hard time | 57 Restrained | 100 Two-legged beast |
| 35 Not sinking | 88 Many eras | 89 Suggest | 17 Judges' orders | 61 Noodle soup | 101 Love a lot |
| 40 Smart — (wisecracks) | 89 Suggest | 87 Sticking the singer of "White Christmas" with a fishhook? | 18 Singer Mann — nova | 62 Turn sour | 102 Of an ancient alphabet |
| 42 Safecracker, informally | 87 Sticking the singer of "White Christmas" with a fishhook? | 88 Many eras | 19 Artist Degas | 63 Capital of Albania | 103 Ranch rope |
| 43 Hailstorm on the highway? | 88 Many eras | 89 Suggest | 30 "Gemini Man" director | 65 Addis — (capital of Ethiopia) | 104 Made believe |
| 45 Deg. from MIT Sloan | 89 Suggest | 87 Sticking the singer of "White Christmas" with a fishhook? | 31 Capts.' guesses | 66 "What a pity!" | 106 Amp (up) |
| 47 "Anaconda" director Luis | 87 Sticking the singer of "White Christmas" with a fishhook? | 88 Many eras | 32 Sired, biblical-style | 67 — Canada (oil brand) | 109 Main idea |
| 51 Savoir faire | 88 Many eras | 89 Suggest | 33 Aspire PC company | 69 Love, to Luigi | 110 Curing stuff |
| 52 Dumbbell selling for half off? | 89 Suggest | 87 Sticking the singer of "White Christmas" with a fishhook? | 34 "French Kiss" co-star Meg | 70 City near Lake Tahoe | 111 Trampled |
| | | | | 71 Become silver-haired | 112 Mythical ship |
| | | | | | 113 Donkey or Hong follower |
| | | | | | 114 Some sheep |
| | | | | | 117 "Norma —" |
| | | | | | 118 Put a tear in |
| | | | | | 119 — noir |
| | | | | | 120 Ghostly cry |

Weather Totals

August 13 - August 20, 2024

Nursery Bottom
Parsons

Temperature

Max 86° F
Min 48° F

Precipitation

Week 1.71"
August 5.08"
2024 36.57"

Snowfall

New Snow 0"
Snow on ground 0"
Winter Total 28.75"

U.S. Forest Service

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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		8		6			3		
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	1				3				9

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Puzzle answers page 6A

The Parsons Advocate

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

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

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Available

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

DEADLINE 3PM FRIDAY

HELP WANTED

The Tucker County Commission is accepting applications for a part-time worker at Tucker County Animal Shelter. This is an entry-level, part-time position.

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to feeding and caring for shelter animals, laundry, cleaning of pens and shelter areas, walking and exercising animals, assisting volunteers and patrons of the Animal Shelter, and any other tasks as assigned.

Employee will work under the direct supervision of the Shelter Director. A full job description is available upon request.

Please mail your resume to
211 First Street, Suite 307,
Parsons, WV 26287

Resumes will be accepted
up to September 4, 2024.

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DEADLINE 3PM FRIDAY

NOTICE

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Harry's Blacktop Paving and Sealcoating; driveways, parking lots, garage floors, etc. Senior and Veteran's discounts, over 35 years' experience. Licensed and insured, all work guaranteed. Free estimates. 304-384-1768

YARD SALE

Huge Inside Yard Sale - 9 a.m. - ?; Monday, Sept 2 through Saturday, Sept 8, six miles from St. George, 5857 Location Rd. Tool boxes, tools, hardware, crocks, jugs, milk cans, rocking chairs, some furniture, steamer trunks, glassware, patio table and chairs, dolls, much, much, much more. For more information call Becky 304-478-3813 or 404-642-8885.

HELP WANTED

The Tucker County Commission is accepting applications for a part-time E-911 dispatcher. This is an entry-level, part-time position.

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to receiving, assessing, assisting, and disbursing all enhanced emergency and non-emergency calls for service to the appropriate public safety agency.

A full job description is available upon request.

Please mail your resume' to
211 First Street, Suite 307,
Parsons, WV 26287

Resumes will be accepted
up to September 4, 2024.

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LEGAL

The Town of Davis is seeking a Part Time Code Enforcement Officer. This job will require the applicant to enforcement of ordinances, building codes, and etc. that the Town has set forth. Pay will be discussed at the time of interview based on qualifications and experience. Preferred experience is welcome but not necessary, the Town of Davis will have you trained. For information on this, call the Town of Davis at 304-259-5302 and ask for Joni. She will be able to help you with any inquiries that you may have. Applications will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on August 30, 2024.

LEGAL

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

Deceased	Personal Representative(s)
Hub Nace Bechtol	Sally Strickland
1st publication 8/21/24	210 Lavaca St.
2nd publication 8/28/24	Austin, TX 78701
	And
	Michele Turnquist
	7808 Brightman Ln.
	Austin, TX 78733
	Carol Helmick
	PO Box 161
	Thomas, WV 26292
	Sandy Holland
	5807 Railroad Ave.
	White Marsh, MD 21162

Walter S. Helmick, Jr.
1st publication 8/21/24
2nd publication 8/28/24

Glen Helmick
1st publication 8/21/24
2nd publication 8/28/24

Claims against any estate must be filed within sixty days of the date of first publication. Any person seeking to impeach or establish a will must make a complaint to the Tucker County Commission, Tucker County Clerk, 211 First St., Suite 205, Parsons, WV. Any person objecting to the qualifications of the personal representative or the venue or jurisdiction of the court must be filed with County Commission within sixty days after the date of first publication or thirty days of service of the notice, whichever is later.

ATTEST: SHERRY SIMMONS, TUCKER COUNTY CLERK

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PORTABLE OXYGEN CONCENTRATOR May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 833-274-3943	JOBS	SAFE STEP. NORTH AMERICAS #1 WALK-IN TUB. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-844-803-1282
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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 SE, CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25304-2345 TELEPHONE: (304) 926-0440.

APPLICATION FOR COVERAGE UNDER THE GENERAL WEST VIRGINIA NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PERMIT NO. WV0115924

Public Notice No.: SM-82-2024 Public Notice Date: August 28, 2024

Paper: The Parsons Advocate

The following has applied for coverage under the General WV/NPDES Water Pollution Control Permit No. WV0115924 for this facility or activity:

Appl. No.: WVR112674
Applicant: WV DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
1900 KANAWHA BLVD, E
BUILDING 5, ROOM 820
CHARLESTON, WV 25301

Location: HAMBLETON, TUCKER COUNTY
Latitude: 39:06:34 Longitude: 79:37:21

Receiving Stream: UNT, Roaring Rn./Cheat Rv.

Activity: 48.04 acres of earth disturbance for the installation of the proposed Roaring Run Bridge as part of the planned extension of the Appalachian Corridor H between Parsons and Davis, West Virginia.

Business conducted: Discharge of treated stormwater into several unnamed tributaries of Roaring Run discharging into Roaring Run discharging into the Cheat River discharging into the Monongahela River.

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 site registration permit application 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 Management, DEP
ATTN: Sharon Mullins, Permitting Section
601 57th Street SE
Charleston, WV 25304-2345

The public comment period begins August 28, 2024 and ends September 27, 2024.

Comments received within this period will be considered prior to acting on the permit 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 site registration permit application and this facility’s coverage under the General Permit. Interested persons may contact the Public Information Office to obtain further information.

The application 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. Copies of the application and the General Permit and Fact Sheet may be obtained from the Division at a nominal cost. Individuals requiring Telecommunication Device (TDD) may contact our agency by calling (304) 926-0493. Calls must be made 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

LEGAL

TARIFF FORM NO. 12
PUBLIC NOTICE OF WATER RATES OF
THE TOWN OF DAVIS

NOTICE is hereby given that the TOWN OF DAVIS (the “Town”) enacted an ordinance on August 14, 2024 containing increased rates and charges for furnishing water service to 448 customers at Davis and vicinity, in Tucker County, West Virginia.

The proposed rates and charges will become effective as provided in the ordinance unless otherwise ordered by the Public Service Commission, and will produce the following additional revenue annually:

	(\$) Revenue Increase	(%) Revenue Increase
Phase 1 - Effective 45 Days After Enactment	\$2.25	20%
Phase 2 - Effective Upon Substantial Completion of a Waterworks System Improvement Project or Six Months Prior to Initiation of the Debt Service Associated with the Waterworks System Improvement Project	\$2.20	17%

The average monthly bill for the various classes of customers will change as follows:
Phase 1 - Effective 45 Days After Enactment

	Present Rates	Phase 1 Rate	(\$) Rate Increase	(%) Rate Increase
Residential (3,400 gallons)	\$37.40	\$45.05	\$7.65	20%
Commercial (3,400 gallons)	\$37.40	\$45.05	\$7.65	20%

Phase 2 - Effective Upon Substantial Completion of a Waterworks System Improvement Project or Six Months Prior to Initiation of the Debt Service Associated with the Waterworks System Improvement Project

	Phase 1 Rates	Phase 2 Rates	(\$) Rate Increase	(%) Rate Increase
Residential (3,400 gallons)	\$45.05	\$52.53	\$7.48	17%
Commercial (3,400 gallons)	\$45.05	\$52.53	\$7.48	17%

The Town has no resale customers.

The increases shown are based on averages of all customers in the indicated class. Individual customers may receive increases that are greater or less than average. Furthermore, the requested rates and charges are only a proposal and are subject to change (increases or decreases) by the Public Service Commission in its review of this filing. The Public Service Commission shall review and approve or modify the increased rates only upon the filing of a petition within thirty (30) days of the adoption of the ordinance changing said rates and charges by:

- Any customer aggrieved by the changed rates or charges who presents to the Commission a petition signed by not less than twenty-five percent of the customers served by such municipally operated public utility; or
- Any customer who is served by a municipally operated natural gas public utility and who resides outside the corporate limits and who is affected by the change in said rates or charges and who presents to the Commission a petition alleging discrimination between customers within and without the municipal boundaries. Said petition shall be accompanied by evidence of discrimination; or
- Any customer or group of customers of a municipally operated natural gas utility who are affected by said change in rates who reside within the municipal boundaries and who present a petition to the Commission alleging discrimination between said customer or group of customers and other customers of the municipal utility. Said petition shall be accompanied by evidence of discrimination.

All petitions should be addressed to the Executive Secretary, Public Service Commission of West Virginia, 201 Brooks Street, Post Office Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323.

A complete copy of the proposed rates, as well as a representative of the utility to provide any information requested concerning it, is available to all customers, prospective customers, or their agents at the Recorder’s Office at the Town Hall, 505 William Avenue, Davis, West Virginia.

A copy of the proposed rates is available for public inspection at the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Public Service Commission at 201 Brooks Street, Post Office Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323.

TOWN OF DAVIS

LEGAL

TRUSTEE’S SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE

The undersigned Substitute Trustee, by virtue of the authority vested in him by that certain Deed of Trust, dated November 30, 2020, and duly recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Tucker County, West Virginia, in Document No. 155592, in Book No. 301, at Page 454, Jonathan T. Phillips and Paige Phillips did convey unto Jonathan Robeson, Trustee(s), certain real property described in said Deed of Trust; and the beneficiary has elected to appoint Seneca Trustees, Inc., as Substitute Trustee; and default having been made under the aforementioned Deed of Trust, and the undersigned Substitute Trustee having been instructed by The Huntington National Bank to foreclose thereunder, will offer for sale at public auction at the front door of the Tucker County Courthouse in Parsons, West Virginia, on

October 2, 2024 at 1:30 PM

the following described real estate, together with its improvements, easements and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate in 10 - Parsons District, Tucker County, West Virginia, and more particularly described as follows:

All that certain lot or parcel of land lying and being situate in Tucker County, West Virginia being more particularly described as:

Beginning at a concrete monument, said monument being a common corner to the property of Monongahela Power Company and Roger L. Carr, et. ux., N/F; thence with line of Monongahela Power Company, S. 54 47 E. 201.1 feet to a 1/2” copper rod; thence S. 23 03 W. 118.52 feet to a concrete monument corner to Zelan D. Sherman, et. ux., N/F; thence with line of Sherman, N. 54 00 W. 200.8 feet to an axle, a common corner to the properties of Sherman and Carr; thence with line of Carr, N. 23 3 E. 116.0 feet to the place of beginning, containing 0.53 acre, more or less.

At the time of the execution of the Deed of Trust, this property was reported to have an address of: 56 Hampton Dr., Parsons, WV 26287.

The referenced real estate will be conveyed with no covenants of warranty, and subject to all covenants, restrictions, easements, rights of way and reservations which may be a matter of record in the aforesaid Clerk’s Office or visible upon the ground, all prior liens and encumbrances including, without limitation, liens for real estate taxes, incinerator, sanitary and sewer charges. The purchasers at the sale shall be responsible for paying the recording costs and also the tax on the privilege of transferring real property (the cost of the tax stamp to be affixed to the deed). The purchasers shall be responsible for payment of all real estate taxes.

The subject property will be sold in “AS IS” condition. The Substitute Trustee shall be under no duty to cause any existing tenant or person occupying the subject property to vacate said property.

TERMS: \$9000.00 in cash and/or certified funds as deposit at the time of sale with the balance due and payable within 30 days of the day of sale.

FEDERAL TAX LIEN: In the event that there are Federal Tax Liens against the property, the United States would have the right to redeem the property within a period of 120 days from the date of such sale or the period allowable for redemption under local law, whichever is long

Pursuant to the Deed of Trust, the Trustee may postpone the sale by public announcement at the time and place designated or by posting a notice of the same, and act by agent in the execution of the sale. The parties secured by the Deed of Trust reserve the right to purchase the property at such sale.

SENECA TRUSTEES, INC.
5000 Coombs Farm Drive, Suite 104
Morgantown, WV 26508
(304) 413-0044
(304) 292-2918
Toll free: (888) 534-3132
Reference File No. 88509

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT

Notice is hereby given that METTIKI COAL (WV), LLC, 1146 MONARCH ST, STE 350, LEXINGTON, KY 40513 has a permit on file with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for the surface mining of approximately 307.05 acres and has submitted an application to the DEP, 47 School Street, Suite 301, Philippi, WV 26416-1600, for renewal of Article 3 Permit Number U200104 to mine coal underground and operate ancillary facilities in the Freeport seam of coal.

The operation is discharging into Beaver Creek of the Blackwater River, of the Black Fork River of the Cheat River and Elk Run and Little Buffalo Creek, of the North Branch of the Potomac River of the Monongahela and Potomac Rivers and is located 5.5 miles northeast of Davis in Davis and Union District of Tucker and Grant Counties, Longitude 79° 22’ 54” and Latitude 39° 11’ 14” (Coordinates from USGS Topographic Map).

Surface of the area associated herewith is owned by:

NAME	ADDRESS
Western Pocahontas Properties, LP	5260 Irwin Road, Huntington, WV 25705
Mettiki Coal (WV), LLC	293 Table Rock Road, Oakland, MD 21550
Shoben Grant County, LLC	4320 Pergate Lane, Fairfax, VA 22033
Laurel Run Mining	1000 Concol Energy Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317
Abromitis James M & Cecelia L	28 Park Circle Road, Middletown, PA 17057
Vindex Energy Corp	One City Place Drive, Suite 300, Saint Louis, MO 63146
Gloftely Carole A & Johnson Jennie L Et al	137 North 4th Street, Oakland, MD 21550
Coastal Forest Resources Company	P.O. Box 709, Buchannon, WV 26201
Kelley Bonnie Kay & Evans Carolyn Sue	P.O. Box 2137, Mt. Lake Park, MD 21550
Bailey Christopher R 7 Carolyn R 2/3 Et al 1/3	689 Jacob Road, Xenia, OH 45385
King Michael S	5110 Chinook Avenue, Pensacola, FL 3205
Jones James E & Mark W	110 Lakeside Drive, Stephens City, VA 22655
McCalley Farms, LLC	11 Dogwood Drive, Petersburg, WV 26847
Mt Storm Acquisition Co, LLC	700 Universe Blvd., North Palm Beach, FL 33408
Camp Beaver, LLC	39124 Hughesville Road, Leesburg, VA 20175
Layman Curtis B & Jannette C	P.O. Box 97, Oakland, MD 21550
Booth Linda	P.O. Box 53, Gorman, WV 26720
Heinrich Richard W & Donna S	716 Bayard Cemetery Road, Gorman, WV 26720
Foley Linwood & Rosita R Life	10169 George Washington Highway, Gorman, WV 26720
Messenger Limited Partnership LLLP	442 South 8th Street, Oakland, MD 21550
West Virginia DOH	P.O. Box 99, Burlington, WV 26710
Mountain Top PSD	P.O. Box 237, Mt. Storm, WV 26739

*and the mineral associated herewith is owned by:

NAME	ADDRESS
Western Pocahontas Properties, LP	5260 Irwin Road, Huntington, WV 25705
Alliance Properties, LLC	1146 Monarch Street, Suite 350, Lexington, KY 40513
Laurel Run Mining	1000 Consol Energy Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317
Coastal Forest Resources Company	P.O. Box 709, Buchannon, WV 26201
Mettiki Coal (WV), LLC	293 Table Rock Road, Oakland, MD 21550
CDS Family Trust, LLC	122 North Oak Street, Clarksburg, WV 26301
Huffman Gerald W and Myra L	3330 Franklin Pike, Petersburg, WV 26847
McGinnis Tommy A and Sandra K	29 Peacock Avenue, Gorman, WV 26720
Miller Frances Marie	96 Mountaineer Road, Mathias, WV 26812
Mt. Storm Hunting Club, Inc.	P.O. Box 132, Millwood, VA 22646
Bailey Christopher R & Carolyn 2/3 et al 1/3	689 Jacob Road, Xenia, Ohio 45385
Moomau George B et al Trust	1045 North Fork Highway, Petersburg, WV 26847

*and the mineral within 100 feet of the permit area is owned by:

NAME	ADDRESS
Western Pocahontas Properties, LP	5260 Irwin Road, Huntington, WV 25705
Alliance Properties, LLC	1146 Monarch Street, Suite 350, Lexington, KY 40513
Helmick Bruce M & Joey Et Al	966 East High Street, Oakland, MD 21550

Surface of the area within 100 feet of the permit area is owned by:

NAME	ADDRESS
Barr Donnie G Sr & Teresa A	2077 Welton Orchard Road, Petersburg, WV 26847
Martin Douglas K	P.O. Box 162, Davis, WV 26260
Smith James Benjamin Jr	3895 Poor House Road, Martinsburg, WV 25403
Slagle Norma J	P.O. Box 305, Bayard, WV 26707
Wolfe Randy L & Annette L	3129 Fairway Drive, Morgantown, WV 26508
Riggelman Randall E & Peggy A	P.O. Box 235, Bayard, WV 26707
Dingess James & Heather	P.O. Box 76, Bayard, WV 26707
Combs Linden Duane	13945 George Washington Hwy, Mt. Storm, WV 26739
Slagle Ronald L & Norma J	P.O. Box 305, Bayard, WV 26707
Miller Frances Marie	96 Mountaineer Road, Mathias, WV 26812
Pratt John V & Frank H	1135 Cold Spring Road, Moorefield, WV 26836
Shroeder Linda M	329 Hillcoove Pointe, Wellford, SC 29385
Zeis Marlin & Jodi Frank	10178 Hades Church Road, Greencastle, PA 17225
O’Dell Samp Jr Life	10887 George Washington Highway, Gorman, WV 26720
Marple Richard A Sr	83 Allen Marple Drive, Oakland, MD 21550
Mann, Richard & Angela	P.O. Box 6, Gorman, WV 26720
CDS Family Trust, LLC	122 North Oak St., Clarksburg, WV 26301

Written comments and/or requests for an informal conference of the permit renewal application shall identify the applicant and application number and will be received by the Permit Supervisor at the DEP address above until 9/27/24, or thirty (30) days from the date of final publication. A copy of the application will be available or review until 9/27/24, or thirty (30) days from the date of final publication in the DEP Regional Office located at the address above and is available at:

http://apps.dep.wv.gov/WebApp/_dep/Search/ePermitting/ePermittingApplicationSearchPage.cfm.

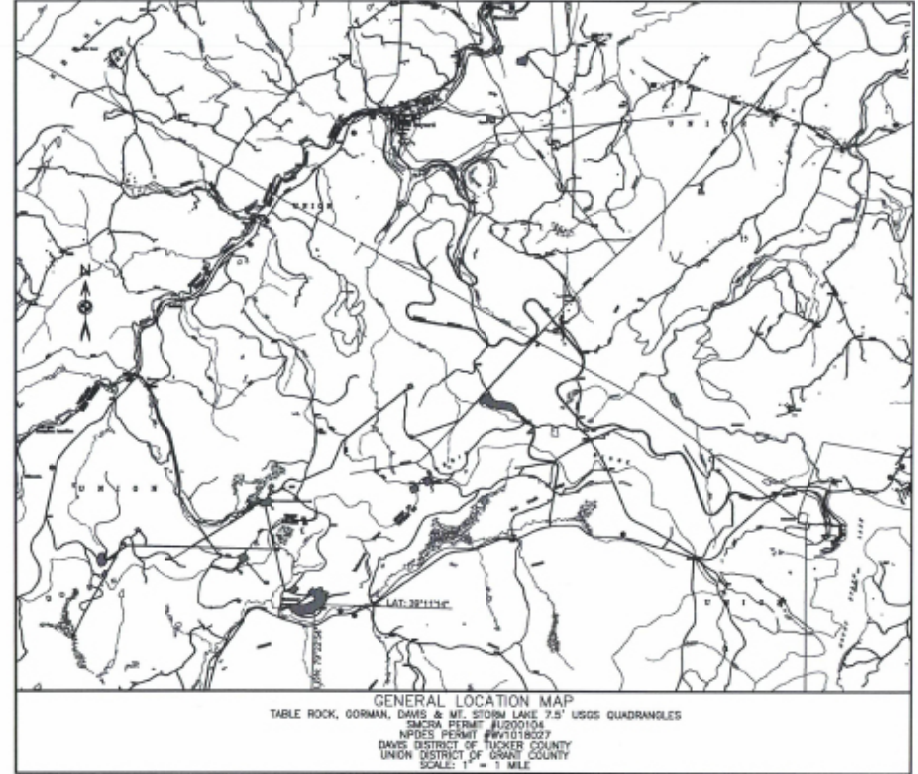
The above link can be accessed from a computer at all West Virginia public libraries.

DEP Telephone Number: 304-457-3219

Permit Number: U200104

*These items are to be completed only for operations involving mineral removal.

Include location map in accordance with 38-2-3.2(b)(2)



LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CHANGE IN RATES BY NON-LRR MUNI UTILITY

NOTICE is hereby given that the City of Thomas has adopted by ordinance on August 13, 2024, a tariff containing increased rates, tolls and charges for furnishing water service to approximately 389 customers within the City of Thomas, Tucker County, West Virginia.

The proposed Step-1 increased rates and charges will become effective September 27, 2024, unless otherwise ordered by the Public Service Commission and will produce approximately \$115,778 annually in additional revenue, an increase of 47.99%. The average monthly bill for the various classes of customers will be changed as follows:

	(\$) INCREASE	INCREASE (%)
Residential	\$ 15.17	47.98%
Commercial	\$ 60.12	47.97%
Board of Education of Tucker County	\$ 605.42	47.99%

The proposed Step-2 increased rates and charges will become effective for service rendered 90 days prior to the date the initial installment is due on the bonds issued for the Phase I water Project or upon substantial completion of the Phase I Water Project, whichever occurs first, unless otherwise ordered by the Public Service Commission and will produce approximately \$67,169 annually in additional revenue, an increase of 18.81 % over Step-1 rates. The average monthly bill for the various classes of customers will be changed as follows:

	(\$) INCREASE	INCREASE (%)
Residential	\$ 8.80	18.82%
Commercial	\$ 34.92	18.83%
Board of Education of Tucker County	\$ 351.27	18.81%

The City of Thomas does not have any resale customers.

The increases shown are based on averages of all customers in the indicated class. Individual customers may receive increases that are greater or less than average. Furthermore, the requested rates and charges are only a proposal and are subject to change (increases or decreases) by the Public Service

Commission in its review of this filing. The Commission shall review and approve or modify the increased rates only upon filing of a petition within thirty (30) days of the adoption of the ordinance changing said rates or charges by any customer aggrieved by the changed rates or charges who presents to the Commission a petition signed by not less than twenty-five percent of the customers served by such municipally operated public utility.

All petitions should be addressed to the Executive Secretary, Public Service Commission of West Virginia, 201 Brooks Street, PO. Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323.

A complete copy of the proposed rates, as well as a representative of the utility to provide any information requested concerning it, is available to all customers, prospective customers, or their agents at the following office of the utility:

City of Thomas
307 Spruce Street,
Thomas, 26292

A copy of the proposed rates is available for public inspection at the office of the Executive Secretary of the Public Service Commission at 201 Brooks Street, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, WV 25323.

LEGAL

**WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Division of Highways
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS**

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service (www.bidx.com) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia, until 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
005 2023470015	S347-32-11.80 00	NHPP-0032(047)D	ContWrkTYP CANAAN HEIGHTS - DAVIS Starting Point of Project COUNTY: TUCKER

DBE GOAL: 4% OF CONTRACT BID AMOUNT. BIDDER MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCE OF MEETING GOAL ON FORM IN PROPOSAL.

REMARKS:

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

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

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

LEGAL

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

Deceased	Personal Representative(s)
Chad W. Smith	Sharon M. Smith
1st publication 8/28/24	87 School House Run
2nd publication 9/4/24	Hambleton, WV 26269

Claims against any estate must be filed within sixty days of the date of first publication. Any person seeking to impeach or establish a will must make a complaint to the Tucker County Commission, Tucker County Clerk, 211 First St., Suite 205, Parsons, WV. Any person objecting to the qualifications of the personal representative or the venue or jurisdiction of the court must be filed with County Commission within sixty days after the date of first publication or thirty days of service of the notice, whichever is later.

ATTEST: SHERRY SIMMONS, TUCKER COUNTY CLERK

LEGAL

The 2023 Form 990-EZ Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax for the Northpoint Property Owners Association is available for inspection at the offices of Mountaintop Realty LLC at 6379 Appalachian Hwy, Davis, WV 26260 by appointment during regular business hours.

LEGAL

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
TOWN OF DAVIS**

**WASTEWATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
CONTRACT 1 - COLLECTION SYSTEM REHABILITATION AND REPLACEMENT
CONTRACT 2 - SCADA and PUMP STATION IMPROVEMENTS**

Town of Davis (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Projects:

**Contract 1 - Collection System Rehabilitation and Replacement
Contract 2 - SCADA and Pump Station Improvements**

Bids for the construction of the Project will be received at the **Davis Town Hall** located at **505 William Avenue, Davis WV 26260** at the following date and times Bids received will be "publicly" opened and read aloud:

CONTRACT	DATE	TIME
Contract 1 - Collection System Rehabilitation and Replacement	October 3, 2024	1:00 p.m.
Contract 2 - SCADA and Pump Station Improvements	October 3, 2024	1:30 p.m.

The Project includes the following Work:

Contract 1 - Collection System Rehabilitation and Replacement

Bids are for furnishing all labor, materials, equipment, and performance of work for construction of the separation and replacement of sanitary and storm sewers and rehabilitation of sanitary sewer throughout the Town of Davis. Major items include 8" PVC sewer, 4' diameter manhole, 6" PVC lateral, sewer cleanout, 18" HDPE storm sewer, asphalt trench repair, and all other appurtenances and incidentals to complete the work as more fully shown in the Plans and Specifications prepared by Rummel, Klepper & Kahl, LLP.

Contract 2 - SCADA and Pump Station Improvements

Bids are for furnishing all labor, materials, equipment, an performance of work for improvements to both the Town's Main Pump Station and the Industrial Park Pump Station along with the installation of a SCADA as more fully shown in the Plans and Specifications prepared by Rummel, Klepper & Kahl, LLP. The Project has an expected duration:

CONTRACT #	SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION	FINAL PAYMENT	LIQUIDATED DAMAGES
CONTRACT 1	365 Days	395 Days	\$1,000.00
CONTRACT 2	365 Days	395 Days	\$1,000.00

This Project will use the two-envelope system for each Contract in the bidding process.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is:

RK&K, LLP
159 Plaza Drive
Keyser, WV 26726

Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Monday through Friday between the hours of **9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.**, and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents 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.

Digital copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS will be available via a link upon request free of charge. Should the Contractor wish to have printed copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS, they can be obtained from the office of the Engineer, Rummel, Klepper & Kahl, LLP, 159 Plaza Drive, Keyser, WV 26726, Phone (304) 788-3370, **upon a non-refundable payment:**

CONTRACT	AMOUNT
Contract 1 - Collection System Rehabilitation and Replacement	\$ 350.00
Contract 2 - SCADA and Pump Station Improvements	\$ 350.00

Purchase cost **does not** include shipping charges. Upon Issuing Office's receipt of payment, printed Bidding Documents and electronic documents on thumb drive will be sent via the prospective Bidder's delivery service. The shipping charge amount will depend on the shipping method chosen by the Bidder. A **mandatory** pre-bid conference for the Project will be held at Davis Town Hall, 505 William Avenue, Davis, WV 26260 on:

CONTRACT	DATE	TIME
Contract 1 - Collection System Rehabilitation and Replacement	September 11, 2024	1:00 p.m.
Contract 2 - SCADA and Pump Station Improvements	September 11, 2024	1:30 p.m.

Attendance at the pre-bid conference is mandatory. Bidders that do not attend will be ineligible to bid.

The CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be **examined** at the following locations:

Town of Davis 505 William Avenue Davis, WV 26260	Dodge Data and Analytics 2860 S State Hwy 161, Suite 160 #501 Grand Prairie, TX 75052-7361
--	--

RK&K, LLP
159 Plaza Drive
Keyser, WV 26726

Altoona Builders Exchange
1927 Union Avenue
Altoona, PA 16601

Contractors Association of West Virginia
2114 Kanawha Blvd., East
Charleston, WV 25311

Construct Connect
30 Technology Parkway, Suite 100
Norcross, GA 30092

Construction Employers Association
2611 Fairmont Avenue
Fairmont, WV 26554

Pennsylvania Builders Exchange
1813 N. Franklin Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15233

A five percent (5%) Bid Bond or certified cashier's check must accompany all Bids. Prospective Bidders are advised that the contract awarded under this Advertisement for Bids is to be funded by West Virginia Infrastructure and Jobs Development Council.

All Bidders are required to have a West Virginia Contractor's License per Section §30-42-12 of the West Virginia Code.

No Bidder may withdraw his bid within 90 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT

Bidders on this work will be required to comply with the president's Executive Order No. 1 1246. The requirements for bidders and contractors under this order are explained in the specifications.

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.

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 in accordance with 2 CFR Part 1532 and Subpart B and C of 2 CFR Part 180.

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.

CONTRACTORS LICENSE

All Bidders are required to have a West Virginia Contractor's License per Section §30-42-12 of the West Virginia Code. Per the requirements of the Section §30-42-12 of the Code of the State of West Virginia, any Contractor submitting a Bid on this project hereby certifies, indicates, and acknowledges that he/she has a Contractor's license from the State of West Virginia and meets all the qualifications required by the statutes of the state and location in which the Work is to be performed.

CONTRACTOR'S SALES TAX EXEMPTION

The Town of Davis is exempt from West Virginia Sales Taxes and, by West Virginia Code §11-15-8d, can now extend this tax exemption to Contractors supplying goods on their behalf. The Contractor shall coordinate with the Town of Davis the filing of any and all applications to the State of West Virginia, exempting the purchase of the specified Goods from West Virginia Sales Tax and hereby agrees to include the savings from such sales tax exemption in its total base bid.

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.

BUILD AMERICA, BUY AMERICA REQUIREMENT

PL 117-58, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs (IIJA) Act, 2021 (Act), includes a "Build America, Buy America Act (BABAA)" requirement in Sections 70911 through 70917 that requires Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF) and Drinking Water state Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF) assistance recipients to use iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials that are produced in the United States for projects for the construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of a public water system or treatment works.

The following waivers apply to this Contract:
BABAA De Minimis, Small Grants, Minor Components and Previously Planned Project.

This Advertisement is issued by:

Owner: **Town of Davis**
Date: **August 28, 2024**
Project Engineer:
RK&K, LLP
159 Plaza Drive
Keyser, WV 26726

TURNER'S TIDBITS



This is the starting line up for the 1933 Parsons High School Football Team. The coach of the team was Forrest Clark and assistant coach was Merle Kepner. The starters are identified as (back row, left to right) Lux Vachon, Elmer Shrout, Joe Gilmore, Ralph Smith (front row, left to right) Robert Lucke, Boyd Lutz, Allan Minear, Louis Williams, not identified, Blain Stokes, Kenneth Vannoy. Ideas, comments, suggestions, or items to share contact Tim Turner (304) 478-3389.

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

Manchin Applauds Forest Service Agreement to Purchase Blackwater Canyon Property

Charleston, WV- Yesterday, Senator Joe Manchin (I-WV), Chairman of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and Co-chair of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, applauded an agreement between John Crites and his family and the U.S. Forest Service to move forward with the sale of approximately 2,700 acres of land owned by the Crites family along the Blackwater River in Tucker County to the Forest Service for addition to the Monongahela National Forest.

"This is a huge win for the Mountain State and the nation as people are able to enjoy more of the true treasures of Wild and Wonderful West Virginia," said Chairman Manchin. "John Crites and his family have been wonderful stewards of their land in Blackwater Canyon for many years. I thank the Crites family for their willingness to allow this spectacular area to be permanently available to the public and thank my colleague and friend Senator Capito for her ongoing support of this effort."

"When this deal is complete, it will provide wonderful outdoor recreation opportunities, which will strengthen opportunities for tourism, job creation and economic growth in the region," Chairman Manchin continued. "I am

proud to have worked with both the Crites family and the Forest Service to help make this agreement possible, and look forward to continuing working to improve public outdoor recreational access."

Acquisition of the Blackwater Canyon parcel will bring into public ownership one of the most scenic areas in West Virginia and will provide public access and outdoor recreational opportunities along a key 5-mile stretch of the Blackwater River that runs through Blackwater Canyon and includes a portion of the Blackwater Canyon Trail.

The land to be acquired is bordered by Blackwater Falls State Park and the Monongahela National Forest. The parcel will be acquired using funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). Chairman Manchin previously sponsored the law that permanently authorized the LWCF, and later authored the Great American Outdoors Act, which provides dedicated funding for LWCF land acquisition projects each year. Based on a recently completed Forest Service appraisal, the purchase price is expected to be about \$14 million.

The Forest Service's acquisition of the property is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

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Mental Health Awareness for Back-To-School

As children in West Virginia head back to school, mental health is a top concern for parents and educators. The beginning of a new school year is a time when many children feel increased anxiety, and many teachers notice behavioral issues. According to the American Psychological Association, one in six children between the ages of 3 and 17 in the United States experience a mental health disorder each year. These disorders can significantly impact a child's life, including their academic performance, social relationships, and overall well-being.

In West Virginia, the Children's Crisis and Referral Line offers 24/7 access to trained professionals who can locate resources for those concerned about

their child's mental health. They refer to community-based support and treatment. They can arrange an intervention from a Children's Mobile Crisis Team if a child is in severe distress. Ann Hammond, Program Director for the line, says many parents and social service professionals are unaware of the array of services the line can offer. She said, "We often hear from people who have spent a lot of time searching for resources for children, not realizing that with one call, we can connect them with several resources."

If you are concerned about your child's mental health, call or text 1-844-HELP-4WV or chat online at HELP4WV.com.

Children's Crisis & Referral Line



Permits Available for the 2024 Ginseng Season on Monongahela National Forest

ELKINS, W.Va., August 19, 2024 – Monongahela National Forest will begin selling ginseng permits for the 2024 harvest season on Monday, August 26. In addition to following all state laws, a Forest Service permit is required to dig ginseng on National Forest System lands.

You can purchase a permit at the ranger stations in Parsons, Petersburg, Richwood, Bartow, Marlinton or White Sulphur Springs, or the Supervisor's Office in

Elkins, Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Monongahela National Forest ginseng permits cost \$20 each. A separate permit is required for each district on the Forest. This year, you may only buy one permit per district at a time. Each permit allows you to collect up to 95 plants from one ranger district during the West Virginia ginseng season, Sept. 1 through Nov. 30. You can purchase an additional permit for the same district

after you return each completed permit, as supplies allow.

Ginseng plants must have three or more prongs and have produced fruit this year to be legal for harvest. When harvesting, plant the fruit on-site and then keep the rest of the plant intact. Harvest no more than 24 plants per day and have no more than 24 plants in your possession while on national forest land.

USDA Offers Disaster Assistance to Agricultural Producers in West Virginia Impacted by Drought

MORGANTOWN, W.Va., August 21, 2024, Agricultural operations in West Virginia have been significantly impacted by recent drought. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has technical and financial assistance available to help farmers and livestock producers recover from these adverse weather events. Impacted producers should contact their local USDA Service Center to report losses and learn more about program options available to assist in their recovery from crop, land, infrastructure, and livestock losses and damages.

USDA Disaster Assistance

Livestock producers who suffered grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought on privately owned or cash leased land may be eligible for the 2024 Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP). To participate in LFP producers must own, cash lease, or contract grow eligible livestock, provide pasture or grazing land to eligible livestock on the beginning date of the qualifying drought, certify that they suffered a grazing loss due to drought, and submit an acreage report to the Farm Service Agency (FSA) for all grazing land for which a grazing loss is being claimed. FSA maintains a list of counties eligible for LFP and makes updates each Thursday.

Meanwhile, the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) provides eligible producers with compensation for above normal costs of hauling water and feed to livestock as well as transporting livestock to forage or other grazing acres. For ELAP, producers are required to complete a notice of loss and a payment application to their local FSA office no later than the annual program application deadline, Jan. 30, 2025, for 2024 calendar year losses.

Additionally, eligible orchardists and nursery tree growers may be eligible for cost-share assistance through the Tree Assistance Program (TAP) to replant or rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes or vines. TAP complements the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) or crop insurance coverage, which covers the crop but not the plants or trees in all cases. For TAP, a program application must be filed within 90 days of the disaster event or the date when the loss of the trees, bushes or vines is apparent.

"Once you are able to evaluate the drought impact on your operation, be sure to contact your local FSA county office to timely report all crop and livestock damages and losses," said John Perdue, State Executive Director for FSA in West Virginia. "To expedite FSA disaster assistance, you will likely need to provide documents, such as farm records, herd inventory, receipts and pictures of damages or losses."

FSA also offers a variety of direct and guaranteed farm loans, including operating and emergency farm loans, to producers unable to secure commercial financing. Producers in counties with a primary or contiguous disaster designation may be eligible for low interest emergency loans to help them recover from production and physical losses. Loans can help producers replace essential property, purchase inputs like livestock, equipment, feed and seed, cover family living expenses or refinance farm-related debts and other needs.

Additionally, FSA offers several loan servicing options available for borrowers who are unable to make scheduled payments on their farm loan programs debt to the agency because of reasons beyond their control.

Risk Management

Producers who have risk protection through Federal Crop Insurance or FSA's NAP should report crop damage to their crop insurance agent or FSA office. If they have crop insurance, producers should provide a notice of loss to their agent within 72 hours of initial discovery of damage and follow up in writing within 15 days.

For NAP covered crops, a Notice of Loss (CCC-576) must be filed within 15 days of the loss becoming apparent, except for hand-harvested crops, which should be reported within 72 hours.

"Crop insurance and other USDA risk management options are offered to help producers manage risk because we never know what nature has in store for the future," said Alexander Sereno, Director of USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) Regional Office that covers West Virginia. "Times of disaster can be a trying time for producers, and they should stay in close contact with their crop insurance agent. Producers can be assured that the Approved Insurance Providers, loss adjusters and agents are experienced and well-trained in handling these types of events."

Conservation

FSA's Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) and Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP) can assist landowners and forest stewards with finan-

cial and technical assistance to implement emergency water conservation measures, restore fencing, remove debris, replace damaged irrigation system, land leveling and more.

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) can help farmers make their operation more resilient in the face of drought in future years. Through conservation planning and practices that will improve soil health and water conservation, farmers can reduce future crop loss due to drought and enhance resiliency to changing climatic conditions. Financial help for implementing conservation practices may be available through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program.

Long-term damage from drought can include forage production loss in pastures and fields and decreased crop yields on fields not protected with soil health practices. Producers can visit their local USDA Service Center to learn more about these impacts, potential recovery tactics and how to take steps to make their land more resilient to drought in the future.

"The Natural Resources Conservation Service can be a very valuable partner to help landowners with their recovery and resiliency efforts," said Jon Bourdon, NRCS State Conservationist in West Virginia. "Our staff will work one-on-one with landowners to make assessments of the damages and develop approaches that focus on effective recovery of the land."

More Information

Additional USDA disaster assistance information can be found on farmers.gov, including USDA resources specifically for producers impacted by drought. Those resources include the Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool, Disaster-at-a-Glance fact sheet, Loan Assistance Tool, and Natural Disasters and Crop Insurance fact sheet. Additionally, Farm-Raise offers an FSA educational hub with LIP and ELAP decision tools as well as farm loan resource videos. For FSA and NRCS programs, producers should contact their local USDA Service Center. For assistance with a crop insurance claim, producers and landowners should contact their crop insurance agent.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. Under the Biden-Harris administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit usda.gov.

A Special Thank you

The family of Denny Pifer would like to thank their friends and family for their support during the time of Denny's passing. We thank you for the good food that was brought to out home, the neighbors who stopped by to visit, the local Church of God for a wonderful Sunday meal, and the St. George Community Church for a great funeral dinner. Thanks to everyone for the beautiful flowers and thoughtful cards. A special thank you to Rev. Brad Barton for the service and the Hosteller Funeral Home for everything.

Thank you to everyone for your kindness to our family.
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES!!!

James Lambert is turning 85 years old this week and if you would like to send him a card to wish him Happy Birthday the address is 121 Rampy Hollow Road Hendricks WV 26271.

Homecoming

The 2nd Annual Homecoming will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 1 at the Academy, 1 Academy Lane, St George. Bring a covered dish & some memories to share!

Did you teach, attend or visit the academy? Join Us!

What young athletes can do to reduce injury risk

Exercise is great for the body. Scholastic and recreational sports is one of the primary ways children and adolescents get the exercise they need. Even though sports participation is relatively safe, there's no guarantee athletes won't suffer an injury. However, there are ways for student athletes to reduce their risk of getting hurt while playing the games they love.

¥ Maintain flexibility. Mount Sinai says it is extremely important for athletes to perform dynamic stretches

before starting any activity. Cold muscles are vulnerable to injury, so it's best to do some sort of physical warm-up, including jumping jacks, butt kicks, running in place, or arm circles.

¥ Practice proper technique. Athletes should learn and implement the proper techniques for whatever sport they are playing to lower their injury risk.

¥ Don't push through pain. Pain is one way the body communicates that something isn't right. At the first sign of pain, an athlete should take a break



There are ways for student athletes to reduce their risk of getting hurt while playing the games they love.

and be assessed by a medical professional. Playing through pain can make an injury worse and sideline athletes for longer than expected.

¥ Wear the right gear. Johns Hopkins Medicine emphasizes using proper, well-fitting gear. Certain gear may be cumbersome and athletes may be tempted to forego it, but that can result in greater injury risk.

¥ Get a sports physical. Most programs mandate an updated sports physical examination. This pre-participation physical allows for the screening, prevention and treatment of any conditions that can affect play and contribute to injury.

¥ Gradually increase training intensity. The American Orthopedic Society for Sports Medicine indicates athletes should always build up their training gradually. One way to do so is to follow the 10 percent rule, which advises against increasing training activity, weight, mileage, or pace by more than 10 percent per week.

¥ Rest and take breaks. Athletes who play sports year-round have a greater tendency than others to suffer overuse injuries because their bodies are not given an opportunity to rest and recover. Athletes should take at least one season off per year.

¥ Play different sports. By participating in different sports, an athlete can avoid using the same muscle groups all the time. For example, the muscles used for swimming may be different from those used for playing field hockey. Utilizing different muscles reduces the risk for overuse injuries.

¥ Strengthen the core. Mount Sinai notes a strong core, which is the abdominal area of the body, can help athletes avoid injuries. Exercises that strengthen the core can improve balance, stability and strength.

Student athletes may want to get ahead in the sports they play, but it should never be at the expense of putting their bodies at a greater risk for injury.



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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!

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

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

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