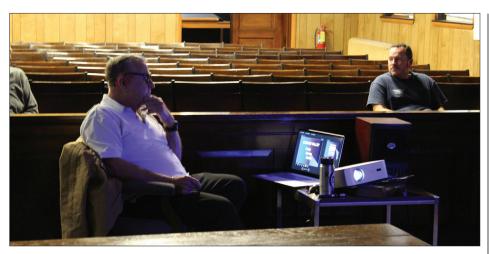
SERVING THE PEOPLE OF TUCKER COUNTY SINCE 1896

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Robert Metzger of Canaan Valley PSD gives a status update to the Tucker County Commission on the PSD and its latest developments December 11th.

Canaan Valley PSD Update Commission

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Robert Metzger of the Canaan Valley Public Service District presented an update on the status of the PSD and its latest developments to the Tucker County Commission December 11th. The update came as part of the Commission's regular meeting.

Metzger began his presentation by outlining the history of the PSD. According the Metzger, the PSD was established by the Tucker County Commission in 2006 to consolodate the sewage treatment of the cluster of communities in Canaan Valley. "So, what we tried to do was set up, we got grants, we got two state of the art sewage treatment plants put in," Metzger said. "We went online in 2011. We had five customers. And it was great. It was great to be a board member."

Metzger said the five customers were the communities themselves, instead of the individual homeowners. "Our five customers were Beaver Ridge, North Pointe, Black Bear Resort, North Lake Home Owners Association and Timberline," Metzger said. "What we did was we'd send a bill for sewage treatment to each one of those organizations and then they would pay."

Metzger said a change in payments began in 2018 with the previous owners of Timberline. "Everything went along really fine until about 2018 and I think you can remember what started happening in about 2018 and it all started with Timberline," Metzger said. "Timberline started getting late in paying their bills...Timberline started getting late. Then they stopped paying."

According to Metzger, the individual collection systems were not owned by the PSD and any issues that would need to be addressed would be covered by the customers. "Now see, the Public Service District, we didn't own their collection systems," Metzger said. "All we did was process the sewage. So if there was a leak somewhere, the Home Owners Association or Timberline had to fix it."

Timberline ran up a large amount of debt and were taken to court by the PSD on two separate occasions, Metzger said. "And we got into probably \$500,000 in debt," Metzger said. "And we took them to Court on two occasions and they were told to bring their account current, which they never really did."

Then came the death spiral of the non payment of electric, Metzger said. "And then of course in 2018, they stopped paying their electric bill and it was a death spiral for Timberline," Metzger said. "If you remember the storm that happened as far as the boil water notice, all the real estate agencies were up in arms. Nobody wanted to come up here."

The electric could not be shut off because of the water system, Metzger said. "Everybody was losing money because the electric company could not shut off their water system because Timberline provided water and a sewage collection system for sewage lines and they would not shut off the water, it was against the law because Timberline has like 450 customers they provide water to," Metzger said.

It was in 2019 that the court ordered that the PSD take over the water service of Timberline, Metzger said. "So finally in March of 2019, through the Circuit Court and the Public Service Commission, they took operational control of Timberline utilities away and chartered us or charged us to take over," Metzger said. "We don't own it, which is unfortunate."

Timberline still owns the water system, but do not have the legal right to operate it, Metzger said. "Of course they went bankrupt," Metzger said. "They sold the ski area. Technically they still own the water system, but we run it, they have no authority to do anything. They get no money. We have been saddled with this thing."

Metzger said they went from five customers to 500 overnight. "We went from five customers to 500 customers overnight," Metzger said

Timberline is the only water utility that the PSD has, Metzger said. "The only water that we do is for what happened with Timberline Four Seasons Utilities," Metzger said. "We took over that water system."

Metzger said that the PSD had no idea how many customers they had due to the state of the files confiscated by the Sheriff's Office. "Now all of a sudden we had to scramble and we didn't even know how many customers and who the customers were," Metzger said. "We had to do a deep dive into files. The files that we got, well, you don't want me to describe the files that we got that the Sheriff confiscated from Timberline. It was a mess and it didn't show us anything."

Metzger said there were some customers that had not paid in two years when they finally straightened out the files. "There had been customers on the system that hadn't paid for two years because they bought a house and nobody every changed over the utilities," Metzger said. "We had to chase all of those down."

It was six months before the PSD knew how many customers they had, Metzger said. "The only saving grace was that they were using a web based billing system that was woefully out of date," Metzger said. "It took us six months to get a handle on just who our customers were because all they were doing was taking money out of the system and putting it into the ski area."

Metzger said the Administrative Law Judge even commented on the situation by the previous owners of Timberline. "Even the Administrative Law Judge in one of his final things said when he petitioned the Circuit Court, he said, 'We have to get their hands out of the cookie jar.' Now when a judge says that, that's pretty serious," Metzger said.

Metzger said he has spent a lot of sleepless nights. "Let's just say its been quite a journey. We've spent many sleepless nights wondering what was going to happen," Metzger said.

Water treatment is critical infrastructure, Metzger said. "When you're talking about water treatment systems, this is critical infrastructure," Metzger said. "Even thought technically its a private system, it provides water for an organization or a place that brings a lot of money into this county."

Metzger said the PSD was in need of a used backhoe when they approached the Commission for assistance. "That's when we came to you all and said if there is any way, there are some things that we need," Metzger said. "Like we needed a backhoe because now we have to fix leaks, water leaks because the system up there is, you'll see what it looks like. Its terribly antiquated. We needed a used backhoe so we could do some of our own repairs without having to contract out and we needed another vehicle."

Besides a backhoe, the PSD was in need of vehicles as well, Metzger said. "When we took over, Timberline utilities had no vehicle," Metzger said. "The two operators, three operators that were there were driving their own personal vehicles to go around and try to read meters and you could see them they were carrying shovels in the back of their pickup trucks. It was pretty sad."

Metzger said the PSD purchased two ram pickups and a used backhoe with Commission money, as well as much needed maintenance to the facility, Metzger said. "We wanted to show you all what you ended up doing for us," Metzger said.

Some of the maintenance completed on the Water Plant included: painting, repairing garage doors so that they would open, cleaning of rust and painting of tanks, replacing valves and changing of medium, according to

Courthouse Christmas Tree



This year's Courthouse Christmas tree was provided by Rex and Peggy Galloway. The Galloways are thrilled to be able to provide this year's Tucker County Courthouse Christmas Tree. The tree was planted by Peggy's dad, Blaine Fike, Sr. on his mother in law's (Pearl Lansberry Hile) original home place in Cannon Settlement near Leadmine. Mrs. Hile taught in Tucker County Schools for 35 years. Her husband Cecil (a bus driver) was the son of Samuel and Laura Hile of Leadmine.

Parsons Approves Increased Christmas Bonuses for Employees



By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

The City of Parsons approved an increase in the amount paid to their employees in the form of a Christmas Bonus at the City Council's December 17th meeting. "Do we want to consider raising that a little bit?" Mayor Bruce Kolsun said.

At the meeting, it was agreed that the amount should be raised with the amount amended in the motion from an original \$150 for full time employees to \$200 and \$150 for part time employees from an original amount in the motion of \$100. The motion was made by Council Member Kathy DiBacco and Seconded by Sam Humphrey.

Also during the discussion on the matter, Recorder Rick Lemons said he wanted his next check from the City to be divided among the City employees as an additional part of their Christmas Bonus. "I know its not going to be much," Lemons said. "But

Metzger. "If you are going to run a system, you have to maintain a system," Metzger said. "No maintenance had been done since this system had been put into effect. Absolutely none. No routine maintenance done."

"Our production rate initially was somewhere between 60 and 75 gallons a minute, production rate," Metzger said. "Which is woefully inadequate. We had to have people, operators pumping 19 hours a day during ski season just to try to keep up because of all the visitors in there using everything."

Following the maintence, Metzger said it went up to 175 gallons a minute which allowed the PSD to keep up with demand and

Metzger said the PSD does not provide water for snow making at Timberline. "We don't provide any water for snow making," Metzger said. "Snow making water comes out of either Spruce Island Lake, the pond that's right there next to Timberline Road, it's Winterset Pond and they also have a snow making pond by the bunkhouses and they have pump systems."

Metzger said that the PSD has a Senate Earmark slated to construct a new water plant. "We do have an Earmark, a Senate Earmark, for an \$8 million water plant," Metzger said. "That's in engineering right now. "I don't see

this happening for at least another two years."

The plant is slated to be located next to the sewage treatment facility on PSD property,

Metzger said. "What we are going to do with

split it between all the employees. I know its not going to be much, but that's what I want to do."

Discussion on the matter centered around the logistics of how it could be done and it was decided it would likely just be an accounting matter for City Treasurer Mistee Griffith. "Its an accounting problem that I think Mike needs to talk to Mistee about," City Attorney Tim Stranko said

Humphrey suggested during the meeting that next year the matter of approving the Christmas Bonus be addressed earlier in the year. Mayor Kolsun suggested that the matter be taken up in November. The matter was met with unanimous agreement. "Next year lets do this December first instead of December 17th," Humphrey said.

The motion on the \$200 bonus for full time employees and \$150 for part time employees was passed unanimously by the Council

that is we are going to locate that water plant on PSD property which is next to the sewage treatment plant," Metzger said. "And I promise we won't mix waters, ok. We got an unlimited water supply down there at the water treatment plant. We have to have fresh water to take care of cleaning and all that. They tried to do a draw down on that well and they could not do it."

The plans for the existing plant will be to be utilized as a backup, Metzger said. "What my plans are, if we can get this system online, then we will shut this system down, but we will use it as a backup," Metzger said.

Metzger thanked the Commission for the allocation of the ARP funding for the project. "It was a good project and we certainly thank the Commission for earmarking some of that ARP funds because it did go to what I would say is critical infrastructure and it really helped that out," Metzger said. "Also in turn, that helps the County out as well because no one wants to bring bottled water for their vaca-

Following the slideshow, Commission President Mike Rosenau commented on the before and after photos of the water treatment plant. "That is what I would want my water supply to look like," Rosenau said. "For me to drink, my grandkids to drink. I would want to know the medium was changed, I would want to know the pumps don't have rust on them or in the system or bacteria. Looks nice, Bob. Thank you, all."



Moore Presented the Leonard Jarrett Award



The Parsons Lions Club met with the Lions Club District 29-I Governor Kim Mason. Members in attendance were Paul Nestor, Keith Lipscomb, Savannah Wilkins, Daniele Pennington and Nancy Moore. DG Kim Mason spoke on the importance of membership and shared encouraging stories regarding service to the community. At the meeting, the District Governor presented Nancy Moore with the Leonard Jarrett Award. Nancy has been a member of the lions club since 2013. She held the office of treasurer for 9 years and secretary for 2 years. If anyone is interested in joining the Parsons Lions Club, they meet monthly at B&J's Family Diner, the 3rd Tuesday of every month. The next meeting will be January 21st at 6 PM.

Eastern College Hosts District Consortium to Highlight Growth, Partnerships, and Future Plans

Moorefield, W.Va. — Eastern West Virginia Community & Technical College hosted its District Consortium on Monday, December 16, 2024, at the main campus, welcoming community leaders from businesses, health centers, high schools, local government, and more. The event began with introductions and a welcome from Dr. Tom Striplin, Eastern's president, and Monica Wilson, vice president of academics and student services. Wilson highlighted Eastern's offerings, including Better Futures, a collaboration with Pilgrim's Pride that provides reduced-rate education for Pilgrim's employees and their dependents. She noted Eastern's 14-degree programs, 12 certificates, and over 30 transfer opportunities, encouraging attendees to join advisory committees to strengthen programs.

The discussion focused on economic development, with Lauren Arbaugh, director of Workforce & Continuing Education, and Dave Miller, Agriculture Innovation program coordinator, emphasizing flexible pathways into technical and agricultural programs. "If we don't have it, and you need it, we can build it," Miller said. Rob Burns, Eastern's director of non-profits and grant management, outlined ongoing grant initiatives, including a major grant for the Heavy Equipment Operator program, which will provide funding for equipment and training. Eastern also plans to offer CDL Class B licensure in 2025.

Dr. Striplin underscored plans to expand the state's Learn and Earn program, already available across multiple fields, and addressed the need for campus growth. "We need more space to provide additional program offerings on both workforce and academic sides," he said. Upcoming developments include a commercial kitchen and a pavilion for on-site events.

Dixie Heavener, Eastern's career counselor, shared details about Career Services, which supports students and community members with job searches, resume building, and interview preparation. She organizes two annual events: a job fair and a career carnival. Morgan Armentrout also introduced the Hospitality & Tourism Management certificate program, offering free enrollment to select students through grant funding.

The event concluded with an open forum for ideas, questions, and feedback. This marks Eastern's first District Consortium, with plans for a second session in Spring 2025. "The District Consortium represents an exciting opportunity to unite diverse community stakeholders to address the educational and workforce needs of our region." said Wilson, "Moving forward, we aim to strengthen this collaboration by identifying resources, sharing insights, and increasing access to academic programs and short-term training. Together, we can ensure Eastern continues to be a vital resource for both students and the broader community. I encourage anyone interested in joining these efforts to reach out to me at monica.wilson@ easternwv.edu."

Gov. Justice announces Monster **Trout Contest winners**

Five lucky anglers who submitted photos with tagged trout will receive prizes



SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. — Gov. Jim Justice announced the winners of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources' (WVDNR) third annual Monster Trout Contest

"Congratulations to these lucky anglers for reeling in some truly incredible catches," said Gov. Justice. "As a lifelong angler, I also want to thank everyone for sharing their monster trout photos during our fall trout stockings and showing the world that West Virginia is a premier fishing destination."

The five lucky anglers each caught a tagged monster trout, which were stocked during the weeks of Oct. 21 and Oct. 28. Those stockings included 35,000 pounds of trophy-size trout and 6,500 pounds of monster trout, 100 of which received a pink tag. Anglers who caught a tagged monster trout had until November 22 to submit a photo of their catch with the tag number to win a prize.

2024 West Virginia Monster Trout Contest Winners

- Steve Davis (Lashmeet, W.Va.) State Park Cabin Stay
- Donavan Miller (Saulsville, W.Va.) Cabela's Prize Package
 - Katie Rice (Morgantown, W.Va.) Cabela's

Prize Package

- Caleb Shelek (Dallas, W.Va.) Cabela's Prize Package
- Kenneth McIntosh (Crown Point, Ind.) Cabela's Prize Package

In addition to these five winners, 38 verified anglers who caught tagged monster trout and uploaded a photo will also receive a WVDNR water bottle and tackle box.

Special Elk River Fall Trout Stockings

Gov. Justice also reminded anglers that the WVDNR stocked trout on the Elk River in Webster County in November as part of a pilot program to evaluate the economic impact of trout stocking in the area. The stocking occurred at the usual stocking locations and included 750 rainbow trout. A second stocking will take place later in December and include another 750 rainbow trout.

2025 Fishing Licenses Now Available

All anglers 15 years and older are required to have a West Virginia fishing license, trout stamp and a valid form of identification while fishing for trout. Anglers who want to get a head start on planning their 2025 fishing adventures are encouraged to renew their license early online at WVfish.com.

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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 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-

telephone number, name and address. This

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.

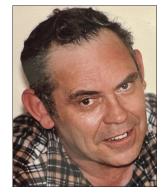
The views expressed in letters are not necessarily the views of the Parsons Advo-

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.

Allen Keith Burns Sr. August 14, 1940 - December 15, 2024

Allen Keith Burns, Sr. was born August 14, 1940 in Parsons, West Virginia to the late Roy W. and Helen Wilhelm Burns. Mr. Burns was a resident of Pasadena and Glen Burnie for the past 32 years. He graduate from Parsons High School in 1958. He was a member of the United Auto Workers and worked for General Motors in Baltimore for 37 years. He briefly served with the U.S. Army in the 1960's. Allen enjoyed time spent at the Pasadena Senior Center



playing Pinnacle. He was an avid coin collector who was always reaching out to help others and he enjoyed his dogs Sassy and Diesel. In addition to his parents Mr. Burns is preceded by 10 brothers and sisters. Left to cherish his memory are his son Allen Keith Burns, Jr. and his wife Darlene Burns of Middle River, daughter Christine Blake of Glen Burnie, cherished grandchildren Christopher and Preston Blake, Kristen Simon, Kelly Howe and Allen K. Burns, 3rd as well as great-grandchildren Quinn Blake, Steven, Jackson, Brayden and Henry Howe and many nieces and nephews. The family will celebrate his life privately.

Ronald Joseph "Ronnie" Wotring

Ronald Joseph "Ronnie" Wotring, age 73 years, a resident of Nestorville, WV departed this life Saturday morning, December 14, 2024, at the Mountain Living Community at Belington, WV with his loving family at his side. He had been in declining health.

He was born Thursday, March 15, 1951, at Eglon, WV, a son of the late Willard Carl and Wanda Marie Davis Wotring. He had never married.

Surviving are one brother, Willard Jackson "Jack" Wotring of Philippi, WV; one nephew, Sherwood Lynn Wotring and wife Alma of Clarksburg; and one great nephew, Franklyn Lynn Wotring and wife Joshelyn; one great niece, Crystal Marie Wotring, one great great niece, Lydia Wotring.

He was a graduate of Philip Barbour High School with the class of 1969. He worked in construction for forty years as a labor haul and was a member of the ALFCIO Labor Union # 984. He was a Methodist by faith. In his younger years he enjoyed hunting. Ronald, along with his brother were dedicated caregivers to their parents.

The family received friends at the Lohr & Barb Funeral Home of Parsons, WV on Wednesday, December 18, 2024, from 4 PM to 6 PM. Final rites were conducted at the funeral home on Thursday, December 19, 2024, at 11 AM. Pastor Donna Bolinger officiated and interment followed at the Bonnifield Cemetery at St. George, WV. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home was honored to be in charge of the arrangements for Ronald Joseph "Ronnie" Wotring. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com

West Virginia Humanities Council History Alive! Program Seeks Proposals for New Characters

Charleston — The West Virginia Humanities Council seeks applications from individuals interested in portraying historical figures for its popular History Alive! program. Historically significant people no longer living, from any period of history, are eligible. Those interested in applying should contact Kyle Warmack at the Humanities Council 304-346-8500 or warmack@wvhumanities. org for more information. History Alive! character application materials are available at wvhumanities.org on the History Alive! program webpage.

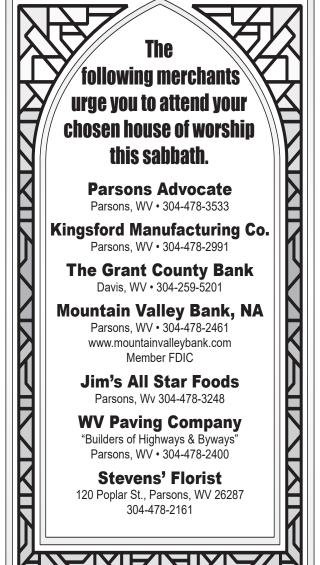
The Humanities Council will accept proposals for portrayals of influential people who have made important contributions to state, national or international history. These could include, but are not limited to, explorers, inventors, musicians, national leaders, artists, authors, educators, military leaders, athletes, scientists, business and labor leaders, activists and others. The roster of characters now includes characters such as Virginia frontiersman Thomas Ingles, first lady Abigail Adams, entertainment pioneer Walt Disney, abolitionist Harriet Tubman, author Pearl S. Buck, West Virginia soldier Colonel Ruby Bradley and more.

History Alive! characters are researched thoroughly by the presenters who portray them. Research among first-person sources—such as letters, journals, speeches, official papers, autobiographies and other archival materials—is required to develop the presentations. History Alive! presentations are given for civic groups and at schools, libraries, senior centers, museums, parks, historical societies, community events, festivals and a wide range of public gatherings across West Virginia.

The application deadline is March 1, 2025. Proposed characters should have statewide name recognition. Legends and mythical figures are not eligible. Composite characters representing a specific figure from West Virginia history, such as a coal miner, suffragist or folklife practitioner, may be considered. Proposals are reviewed by a committee; any selected for further consideration advance to an audition. Presenters who pass the audition will join the History Alive! program beginning immediately after selection, and receive a stipend from the Humanities Council for each program they present.

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

START YOUR WEEK AT WORSHIP



Tucker County Sheriff Report

Month of November 2024

- Felony Arrests (charges or indictments) 2
- Persons Arrested on Felony charges 1
 Misdemeanor arrest (charges or indictments) 3
- Persons arrested on misdemeanor charges 2
- Misdemeanor citations issued 3
- Hazardous moving violations tickets issued 2
 Other traffic violations tickets issued 5
- Hazardous moving violations warnings issued 35
- Other traffic violations warnings issued 40
- DUI arrest (driving under the influence) 0
- Motorist assists ie. broke down vehicle 32
- Vehicle crashes where a crash report was generated 8Felony cases fielded resulting in a police report 3
- reiony cases fielded resulting in a police report 3
 Misdemeanor cases fielded resulting in a police report 5
- Drugs confiscated in dollar street value amount \$30
- Other contraband confiscated \$65Domestic violence petitions served 2
- Job tasks completed 202
- Calls for service either through 911 or walk ins resulting in Police action 132
- Mileage report (total miles traveled by department patrolling) 5,258 miles

Additional Notes: None

This monthly report has been prepared by Sheriff "Jake"

THANK YOU FOR READING THE PARSONS ADVOCATE

Thank You

Kopec for educating the public as to how their tax dollars

are being put to use at the Tucker County Sheriff Office.

The family of Billy Carr would like to thank everyone for being there for us when he passed away. To our family who has supported us, we love you all, to our friends who mean the world to us you are just like family, our neighbors who have helped us and been there for us you are like family as well.

Kevin, we send sincere thanks to you for the service and to the pallbearers, we send everlastings thanks, to the Church of God we thank you and the great cooks who prepared the food for everyone. We send thanks of gratitude to everyone who sent flowers,

brought food and stopped by.
To the members of H.W. Daniels Post #29, The American Legion Tygarts Valley Post #3647, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Tucker County Veterans Association and The WV Honor Guard we thank you for your service to our country and for the service for my Dad.

To all our Military heroes we appreciate and love you all. To all the nurses, especially Chrissy, we thank you and appreciate all you did for Dad. And we would like to send a special thank you to Clifford, who came and prayed with Dad in the hospital. We Love You All.

the hospital. We Love You *i* Faye, Madeline and Scott

As we celebrate the birth of the Child King, let us pray for wisdom, understanding and love among all nations. A blessed, Merry Christmas to all



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REGULAR PICKUP	RESCHEDULED PICKUP			
Monday, January 20, 2025	Tuesday, January 21, 2025			
Monday, February 17, 2025	Tuesday, February 18, 2025			
Friday, April 18, 2025	Thursday, April 17, 2025			
Monday, May 26, 2025	Tuesday, May 27, 2025			
Wednesday, June18, 2025	Tuesday, June 17, 2025			
Friday, June 20, 2025	Wednesday, June 18, 2025			
Friday, July 4, 2025	Thursday, July 3, 2025			
Monday, September 1, 2025	Tuesday, September 2, 2025			
Monday, October 13, 2025	Tuesday, October 14, 2025			
Wednesday, November 26, 2025	Tuesday, November 25, 2025			
Friday, November 28, 2025	Wednesday, November 26, 2025			
Wednesday, December 24, 2025	Tuesday, December 23, 2025			
Wednesday, December 31, 2025	Tuesday, December 30, 2025			

CITY OF PARSONS

2025 HOLIDAY GARBAGE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

The City of Parsons reserves the right to change this schedule in the event of unforeseen circumstances.

If you have any questions, please contact the business office at: (304) 478-2311

WV DHS Launches Student Loan Repayment Grant for Behavioral Health Professionals

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — The West Virginia Behavioral Healthcare Providers is proud to

announce a) is proud to announce the launch of a new Student Loan Repayment Grant program

administered by the West Virginia Department of Human Services' Bureau for Behavioral Health

LEGAL

TUCKER COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA SPECIAL EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICE FEE

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY:

This Ordinance concerns the imposition and collection of a Special Emergency Ambulance Service Fee, and is adopted under the authority of Chapter 7, Article 15, Section 17 of the Code of West Virginia, as amended.

Tucker County is a wonderful place to live, work and play. It is home to just 6,759 residents, but yet has 1 million plus visitors per year. Tucker County has a unique combination of natural recreational activities, as well as amusements, fairs and festivals available throughout the year. It is a short drive from anywhere within West Virginia and the surrounding states, making it an ideal day trip or weekend destination. The aforementioned attributes bring with them burdens to Tucker County in providing the necessary and required services for such an influx of people.

Therefore, this Ordinance is enacted for the purpose of establishing and maintaining an adequate Tucker County emergency ambulance system within the geographic boundaries of Tucker County, West Virginia, as an adequate emergency ambulance system is necessary to promote the health and welfare of the residents of and visitors to Tucker County. Emergency Ambulance service is a public purpose and a State-mandated responsibility of county government for which public money may be spent. Residents of Tucker County and visitors to Tucker County who engage in amusement, entertainment and/or recreational activities here, and to whom this Ordinance applies, are users of emergency ambulance service within Tucker County.

There shall be exempted from the provisions of this Ordinance any incorporated area within Tucker County provided that, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Ordinance, such area files with the Tucker County Commission a written request for such exemption and an affidavit stating that it will provide ambulance services substantially similar to those set forth herein to its residents at its own expense.

ARTICLE ONE: DEFINITIONS:

BUSINESS ACTIVITY: All purposeful revenue-generating activity engaged in or caused to be engaged in with the object of gain or economic benefit, either direct or indirect. For clarification purposes, this includes, among other things, short-term rental of property. This also includes, among other things, all activities of the State and its political subdivisions which involve the sale of tangible personal property or the rendering of a service when such service activities compete with or may compete with the activities of another person. BUSINESS: Any individual, firm, partnership, joint venture, association, corporation, estate, trust, business

politic or political subdivision, etc., who is engaging in any business activity. RECREATION: Any activity, whether indoors or outdoors, that people engage in during their free time, for enjoyment; any leisure activities that involve physical activity; this includes, among other things, hiking,

frust, receiver, syndicate, club, society, or other group or combination thereof acting as a unit, and any body

camping, and skiing, which can provide mental and physical health benefits. AMUSEMENT: Any activity, whether indoors or outdoors, that people engage in during their free time for entertainment that brings enjoyment, pleasure or a diversion.

ENTERTAINMENT: Any engaging amusement or diversion provided for pgrsonal enjoyment or pleasure, especially by performers such as bands, comics, plays, movies, etc.

RENTAL: A property or item that is owned and is used for the purposes of collecting rent.

SHORT-TERM RENTAL: Any rental period beginning from day 1 (one) up to and including day 90 (ninety). **ADMISSION**: A fee or charge paid for entry into a place or event.

COVER: A charge made by a restaurant, bar or nightclub that is in addition to the charge for food and drink. EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SYSTEM: Any emergency ambulance service established and provided pursuant to Chapter 7, Article 15 of the West Virginia State Code, as amended, in Tucker County, West Virginia State Code, as amended, in Tucker County, West Virginia State Code, as amended, in Tucker County, West Virginia State Code, as amended, in Tucker County, West Virginia State Code, as amended, in Tucker County, West Virginia State Code, as amended, in Tucker County, West Virginia State Code, as amended, in Tucker County, West Virginia State Code, as amended, in Tucker County, West Virginia State Code, as amended, in Tucker County, West Virginia State Code, as amended, in Tucker County, West Virginia State Code, as amended, in Tucker County, West Virginia State Code, as amended, in Tucker County, West Virginia State Code, as amended, in Tucker County, West Virginia State Code, as a second code, as a seco ginia, hereinafter called Tucker County Emergency Ambulance Service maintained by the Tucker County

APPROVED ANNUAL BUDGET ESTIMATE: The final or amended budget formally approved and adopted by the Board of Directors of the Tucker County Ambulance Authority and submitted to the Tucker County Commission for formal approval of the use of fees collected under this Ordinance.

SPECIAL EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICE FEE: A two percent (2%) fee to be collected by any business or individual located within Tucker County that engages in any one or more of the following types of amusement, entertainment and/or recreational activities as previously defined. The activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

Short-term rentals such as: hotel/motel, cabin, condominium, AirBnB, VRBO or private rentals;

- 1. All recreational and amusement activities including the rental of equipment in use of said activities, whether indoor or outdoor such as:
 - RV or tent camping;

 - Boat, paddle boat, kayak, canoe, floating tube rental;
 - ATV, UTV, motorcycle, bicycle rental;
 - · bus excursions, charters;
 - downhill ski equipment/clothing rental, ski lift fees;
 - cross-country ski equipment/clothing rental, fees;
 - sledding, tubing, ice skating;
 - · snowboarding fees, lift tickets, equipment/clothing rental;
 - scenic chair lift rides;
 - swimming, tennis, pickleball, court and equipment rentals; guided hunting or fishing excursions and clothing/equipment rental;
- zip line, rock climbing, paddle boarding, horseback riding, skeet shooting, paintball and other similar outdoor adventure activities and clothing/equipment rental for the same;
- Virtual Reality and/or Al gaming fees; putt-putt golf;
- golfing and golf cart rental fees; and

2. Any and all admission charges or cover fees including, but not limited to, music events and/or concerts, comics, movies, plays, professional sporting or gaming events; mud bogs or motorcycle/ ATV/4-wheel drive racing or trail riding.

EMERGENCY AMBULANCE RATES: The individual transport charges as established and promulgated

by the Tucker County Ambulance Authority. These charges shall be applied to any and all users of emergency ambulance services within Tucker County. EMERGENCY INTERAGENCY AND NON-EMERGENCY TRANSPORTS: The established individu-

al transport charges as might be established and promulgated by the Tucker County Ambulance Authority for routine transports or secondary transports from one medical care facility to another. Such transport charges shall be applied to all users of such fransport services, as defined to-wit: resident and non-resident. EXEMPTIONS: Registered non-profit organizations are exempted from this Ordinance; more

empted are volunteer fire departments, schools, churches, senior centers, Tucker County Fair, Tucker County 4H, and Tucker County Animal Shelter. ARTICLE TWO: ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL EMERGENCY

AMBULANCE SERVICE FEE

Each Special Emergency Ambulance Service Fee imposed under this Ordinance shall be for Tucker County emergency ambulance services for a fiscal year beginning July 1st through June 30th.

Ihe Special Emergency Ambulance Service Fee shall be two percent (2%), imposed on all sales, short-term rentals, admissions, fees and covers as described above to be collected by all individuals or businesses within Tucker County as specified in the definition of Special Emergency Ambulance Service Fee, less exemptions. ARTICLE THREE: AMBULANCE AUTHORITY BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

No later than February 1st of each year, the Tucker County Ambulance Authority shall prepare a detailed annual budget estimate for the total cost of providing emergency service within the geographical boundaries of the county for the following fiscal year. A prior year annual fiscal audit shall also be submitted to the County Clerk. Upon adoption by the Ambulance Authority, it shall present said estimated budget to the Tucker County Commission for review, and as input to the county budget formulation for any county monies to be used by the Ambulance Authority Board, as well as of the proposed use of collected fees for the new Fiscal Year beginning the following July 1st, not later than March 1st.

The Tucker County Commission shall review the Tucker County Ambulance Authority budget during the general county budgeting process. The Ambulance Authority shall submit an annual financial report of previous fiscal year expenditures to the Tucker County Commission by August 1st of each year. This report will include the expenditures of monies collected and expended under the auspices of this Ordinance.

ARTICLE FOUR: AND COLLECTION PROCEDURES A. Special Emergency Ambulance Service Fees

Payment of fees shall be made quarterly to Tucker County Comrnission for the Tucker County EMS Fund, on or before the 20th day of the month following the quarter and should be mailed to Tucker County Commission, 211 First Street, Suite 307, Parsons, WV 26287.

Ambulance transport rates per call for all categories of users shall be in amounts established by

the Tucker County Ambulance Authority and reviewed by the Tucker County Commission. Charges for individual transports shall be processed by the Tucker County Ambulance Authority as appropriate, with due allowance for insurance coverage, if any. Any accounts becoming delinquent shall be submitted to the appropriate collection agency as engaged by the Tucker County Ambulance

C. Collections Procedures

Special Emergency Ambulance Service Fees delinquent after the 20th day of the month following the quarter (April 21st, July 21st, October 21st, January 21st) they became due and payable, shall be reviewed by the Tucker County Commission. The Tucker County Commission, in its sole discretion, may collect unpaid fees through a collection agency engaged by the Tucker County Commission, or by civil action filed in a court of competent jurisdiction. Any such suit need not be brought in the same fiscal year the fee was due and owing. In any suit for collection of delinquent fees, the Tucker County Commission is authorized to recover costs of collection, including court costs, attorney fees, service costs and statutory interest.

D. Erroneous Assessment and Appeals

If a business owner or individual believes he/she/it is or should be exempt from collecting the Special Emergency Ambulance Service Fee, they can send a formal request in writing to Tucker County Commission.

Upon receipt of said written request, Tucker County Commission shall, within a reasonable time, cause to be investigated any request for exoneration/exemption. The County Commission may ask for documentation to verify the need for the exoneration/exemption. If good cause for exoneration/exemption is found by the County Commission, said Commission shall exempt and shall notify the business owner or individual in of its actions. An exoneration/exemption shall only be valid for the fiscal year in which it was requested. Upon July 1st, all temporary previous exemptions are null and void.

ARTICLE FIVE: MANAGEMENT OF REVENUES

All revenues received in accordance with this Ordinance shall be deposited into a fund known as the Tucker County EMS Fund. These funds shall be used by the Tucker County Ambulance Authority only to pay for reasonable and necessary expenses actually incurred, including personnel, medical supplies and equipment, utilities, vehicles, vehicle maintenance and service, and cost of rent or maintenance of buildings used in providing emergency ambulance service to residents and visitors of the county that might require such services. The County Commission may retain up to, but not exceed, eight percent (8%) of the Special Emergency Ambulance Service Fee collected for administration. Collected fees not expended in a given fiscal year shall be maintained in the Fund for the Tucker County Ambulance Authority to use in subsequent fiscal years.

ARTICLE SIX: AMENDMENTS AND EXECUTION

This Ordinance may, from time to time, be amended by a majority of the members of the Tucker County Commission as they deem necessary and appropriate.

If a court of competent jurisdiction declares any provision of this Ordinance to be invalid or ineffective, in whole or in part, the effect of such decision(s) shall be limited to those provision(s) which are expressly stated in the decision to be invalid or ineffective, and all other provisions of this Ordinance shall continue to be separately and fully effective.

This Ordinance may be reviewed annually, before the Tucker County budget meetings. This Special Emergency Ambulance Service Fee is adopted this 13th day of November 2024 and shall become effective on the 1st day of January, 2025.

(BBH). The grant will be awarded to behavioral health professionals who provide critical mental health and substance use disorder services in underserved communities across the state.

This initiative addresses the growing demand for mental health care in West Virginia by offering loan repayment assistance to eligible professionals who commit to serving in community behavioral health or substance use disorder fields.

For behavioral health professionals, this initiative is already making a difference.

"I was so incredibly grateful to receive student loan repayment assistance from the state," said one executive-level employee of the National Youth Advocate Program (NYAP).

The recipient shared the impact the program has had on their family.

"Student loan debt can be a crippling mountain to climb, and now it's one less monthly bill my family has to endure. It's easy to say this assistance has been life-changing for us," said the NYAP

"We get into this field of behavioral health to help people, and oftentimes to get the education needed to do so, the financial burden can be overwhelming."

LEGAL

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

Personal Representative(s) Deceased Hugh R. Kendall Sandra Kendall 1st publication 12/18/24 PO Box 717 Thomas, WV 26292 2nd publication 12/25/24 Orpha M. Knicley 1st publication 12/18/24 Tommy G. Nestor 272 Charlie Moore Rd. 2nd publication 12/25/24 Parsons, WV 26287

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

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA CHARLESTON

CASE NO. 24-0678-G-D HOPE GAS, INC.

Application to change depreciation rates.

NOTICE OF HEARING

On August 7, 2024, Hope Gas, Inc. (Hope) filed an application to change depreciation rates (Application) pursuant to Rule 20 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (Procedural Rules), 150 C.S.R. 1 and its general ratemaking authority under W.Va. Code § 24-2-3.

The Commission set a procedural schedule, including a hearing on the Application that will begin at 9:30 a.m. on March 26, 2025, in the Howard M. Cunningham Hearing Room at the Commission's offices at 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia. The hearing set by the Commission's September 27, 2024, Procedural Order was cancelled.

Anyone desiring to intervene should file a written petition to intervene within 30 days following the date of this publication unless otherwise modified by Commission order. All requests to intervene should briefly state the reason for the request to intervene and comply with the rules on intervention set forth in the Commission's Procedural Rules. The Commission will receive public comments until the beginning of the hearing. All written comments and requests to intervene should state the case name and number and be addressed to the Commission Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323. Public comments may also be filed online at http://www.psc.state.wv.us.scripts/onlinecomments/default.com by clicking the "Formal Case" link.

Eligible Professionals

The program targets a broad range of licensed and supervised mental health care professionals, including:

- Physicians specializing in psychiatry
- Physician Assistants
- · Alcohol and Drug
- Counselors (ADCs) Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs)
- · Licensed Psycholo-
- Supervised Psychologists under a licensed psychologist's supervi-
- Licensed Clinical
- Social Workers (LCSWs) · Licensed Graduate
- Social Workers (LGSWs) • Licensed Independent Clinical Social Workers (LICSWs)
- Licensed Professional Counselors (LPCs)

professionals These deliver critical services listed under Medicaid's authorities, including Case Management, Rehabilitative Services. and Alternative Benefit Plans, while serving Medicaid members in rural and underserved

Commitment to Ser-

Participants must agree to a minimum one-year service contract to qualify for loan repayment assistance. This commitment ensures the retention of skilled mental health professionals in communities with the most acute needs, especially those in isolated and rural regions of West Virginia.

Strengthening Behavioral Health Access

The Student Loan Repayment Grant program reaffirms West Virginia's commitment expanding access to high-quality mental health care.

HOPE GAS, INC.

LEGAL

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

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service (www.bidx.com) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia until January 14, 2025 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 008 2021000722 S388-STRIP-25 00 STP-2025(013)D PAVEMENT MARKINGS

ROADWAY STRIPING DISTRICT WIDE COUNTY: PENDLETON, POCAHONTAS,

RANDOLPH, TUCKER 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 include one of the following forms properly executed with each proposal: Proposal Guaranty Bond, Cashier's Check, or Certified Check for \$500.00 or 5% of the total bid, whichever is greater. The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways reserves the right to defer, delay

ment, 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

or postpone the date for receiving and publicly opening proposals for any project designated in this advertise-

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

State of West Virginia **Department of Environmental Protection Division of Water and Waste Management** PUBLIC NOTICE

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE, 601 57TH STREET, CHARLESTON SE, WEST VIRGINIA 25304-2345 TELEPHONE: (304) 926-0440. APPLICATION FOR COVERAGE UNDER THE GENERAL WEST VIRGINIA NATIONAL

POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM WATER POLLUTION CONTROL **PERMIT NO. WV0115924** BS-150-2024 Public Notice Date: December 25, 2024 **Public Notice No.:** Paper: The Parsons Advocate

Longitude:

The following has applied for coverage under the General WV / NPDES Water Pollution Control Permit No. WV0115924 for this facility or activity: Appl. No.: WVR110848

Applicant: CANAAN VALLEY PSD PO BOX 428 **DAVIS, WV 26260** Location: THOMAS, TUCKER COUNTY

Receiving Stream: Blackwater River/Cheat River/Monongahela River

Latitude:

Canaan Valley stormwater construction lasting longer than 1 year.

39:04:52

Business conducted:

The sewer system in Canaan Valley will undergo an upgrade from the original system. Implementation:

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 emailed to billy.t.shirley@wv.gov or addressed to: Director, Division of Water and Waste Management, DEP ATTN: Billy Shirley, Permitting Section 601 57th Street SE

Charleston, WV 25304-2345

The public comment period begins December 25, 2024 and ends January 24, 2025. Comments received within this period will be considered prior to acting on the permit modification application. Correspondence should include the name, address and the telephone number of the writer and a concise statement of the nature of the issues raised. The Director shall hold a public hearing whenever a finding is made, on the basis of requests, that there is a significant degree of public interest on issues relevant to the 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.

LEGAL

CITY OF PARSONS

The City of Parsons Council is considering amendments to the City Charter. The proposed amendments are intended to codify certain organizational and operational protocols and requirements of the City and its governing body, and to conform to West Virginia law and modern mu-

Printed copies of these amendments are available at the Parsons City Hall or by calling the City at 304-478-2311.

The City Council will conduct a public hearing regarding the proposed amendments at the Parsons City Hall on January 7th at 5:00 p.m. During this hearing, City Council will welcome and receive written comments, objections and suggestions regarding the proposed amendments. Citizens unable to attend the hearing may submit to the Council written comments regarding the amendments, which will be accepted until the public hearing is convened and included in the record to be considered by the gov-

Any qualified voter or freeholder may make written suggestions or objections to the proposed amendments. If no objections are filed, or if objections filed are withdrawn at the time of the hearing, Council may take final action on the proposed amendments at the conclusion of the public hearing by enacting by ordinance the amendments, to be effective no sooner than ten days following the public hearing.

Informal questions regarding this process and the amendments are welcome. POC at City Hall is City Manager Mike Simmons via email: mike@parsonswv.gov

LEGAL

CITY OF PARSONS

FIRE FEE COLLECTION PROGRAM

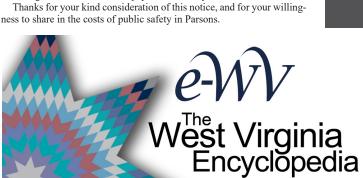
Our essential and excellent fire protection and emergency services in Parsons are funded through our municipal fire service fee. The owner of each protected structure in the City is required by law to pay this fee. The revenues collected from this fee are dedicated funding for these critical

Most Parsons property owners support these services by paying the required fire service fee. Unfortunately, some property owners have not kept current on their fire fee account. Financing adequate emergency services works only if everyone pays their share of these costs.

If you own property in Parsons, please check your records to ensure that your fire fee account is current. If you are uncertain of your account status, please call City Hall at 304-478-2311 to review your payment record.

If you have a delinquent fire fee account, please make payment to bring the account current or make payment arrangements with the City Manager to satisfy the delinquency. If a delinquent account is paid in full by December 31, 2024, the City will waive any interest charges associated with this late payment.

Please note that delinquent accounts as of January 1, 2025, will be referred to the City Attorney for legal proceedings to collect this debt, including collection of interest payments and any associated court costs.



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.

Dec. 25, 1887: Folk artist James Tyree Rexrode was born in Pendleton County. He created a visual record of rural West Virginia life in the early 20th century. He died in 1976.

Dec. 26, 1917: Instrument maker Harold M. Hayslett was born in Putnam County. Hayslett's violins, violas and cellos have received awards for tone and workmanship, and are cherished by collectors and players alike.

Dec. 27, 1797: The county seat of Ohio County was moved from West Liberty to Wheeling.

Dec. 27, 1923: Businessman and Point Pleasant native Michael Owens, who revolutionized the glass industry through automation, died at age 64.

Dec. 28, 1879: Brigadier General Billy Mitchell was born in France. As chief of the Army Air Service, Mitchell ordered aircraft of the 88th Squadron to perform reconnaissance during the 1921 Miners' March on Logan.

Dec. 28, 1978: The last trains ran on the Greenbrier Division, a branch line of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway. Unlike most C&O branches in West Virginia, the Greenbrier Division was not a coal-hauling line but

served the valley's timber industry. Dec. 29, 1861: Confederate soldiers burned most of downtown Sutton. The town slowly rebuilt but remained small until the local timber industry boomed in the 1890 to 1920

Dec. 29, 1928: Humorist and political cartoonist James Frederick Dent was born in Charleston. His talent for turning daily events into delightful anecdotes gained him national fame. Reader's Digest reprinted 194 items from his columns, and radio commentator Paul Harvey often used his work.

Dec. 30, 1901: McKendree Hospital started providing medical care in rural Fayette County. It was one of three hospitals established by the state in the fast-growing coalfields.

Weather Totals

Dec. 10 - Dec. 17 2024

Nursery Bottom Parsons

<u>Temperature</u>

Precipitation

Snowfall

U.S. Forest Service

Snow on ground

Max

Min

Week

2024

December

New Snow

Winter Total

59° F

18° F

1.56

2.93"

0.5"

11"

49.04"



Dec. 29, 1970: John Denver and two friends completed the song "Take Me Home, Country Roads." Deformed "Country Roads" in West Virginia on several occasions, notably for the opening of the new Mountaineer Stadium in Morgantown in 1980.

Dec. 30, 1917: The temperature in Lewisburg dropped to 37 degrees below zero. It is the coldest official temperature on record for

Dec. 31, 1939: Larry Combs, one of the world's leading orchestral clarinetists, was born in South Charleston. He started studying woodwinds at age 10 and was principal clarinetist for the Charleston (now West Virginia) Symphony Orchestra at age 16. He later served in the same role for symphonies in Montreal and Chicago and was inducted into the West Virginia Music Hall of Fame in 2009.

Dec. 31, 2007: Sara Jane Moore was released from prison after serving 32 years for trying to kill President Ford. Moore grew up in Charleston and later moved to California, where she joined left-wing groups and became an FBI informant. She spent part of her incarceration at the Federal Prison Camp in Alder-

Weekly **SUDOKU**

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!

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By Teri Cayton

The Parsons Advocate

Well here it is, Christmas Day and the year is winding down fast. It has been a tumultuous year to say the least. With everything that has happened with my brother and the state of the country I will be glad to say goodbye to the year 2024. I am hoping that 2025 brings big changes for everyone. Momma Said, "Hope is a very big four letter word."

We can live every day as if it is our last or we can buckle down, press ahead and make a future for everyone. The children of this world deserve a better place than what we have now. I hope that one day we can look ahead and actually see the light at the end of the tunnel. Momma Said, "Hopefully it will not be the light that you see when your time is up."

I just spoke of a better world and the news flashes an alert about a missing 15 month old child, another school shooting with one student and one teacher, along with the 15 year old female shooter,

Momma (Saíd This column is about tips helpful hints, recipes and words of wisdom. I dedicate this column to m mother. By Teri Cayton

dead and seven injured. We also had a local standoff with a gunman not 50 miles from here. Momma Said, "That light is getting dimmer by the minute."

This season should be a time of joy and renewal not despair and death. I wish all the wars would stop, the drones would find what they are looking for, or just pick me up and fly me away, all the madness and mayhem of the world would just magically go away. I know that is not possible, but this is a time of miracles so maybe we will get one. MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM MOMMA AND GRAN!!!

Knorr Spinach Dip Recipe

This is a cool and creamy, quick and easy, party-perfect spinach dip recipe. Make it and then watch it disappear!

- 1 can (8 oz.) water chestnuts, drained and chopped (optional)
- 3 green onions, chopped (optional)

Ingredients

- 1 box (10 oz.) frozen chopped spinach, squeezed very, very dry
- 1 container (16 oz.) sour cream
- 1 cup Hellmann's® or Best Foods® Real Mayonnaise
- 1 package Knorr® Vegetable recipe

Directions

- 1. Combine all ingredients in a bowl and mix.
- 2. Chill for about 2 hours.
- 3. Serve with your favorite dippers, like crackers or veggies, and share with your favorite people

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

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM

Super Crossword 55 Minerals in 104 Six-legged

marchers

Carol

128 Saturate

130 Dissimilar

129 Bullfight yell

131 Legal equal

four letters

answers in

this puzzle

JANUARY 1 FUN 48 Sierra, Yukon 88 Genetic

and Acadia

49 Trendy

berry

50 Shells out

56 Very thin

as clouds

57 "It matters

to me"

58 Escorted

ACROSS 1 Drag race vehicle

8 Schuss, e.g. 11 Stinging flier 15 Contributed 19 Halloween mask feature

20 Hoodwink 21 Falco of TV 22 Leave off 23 Tendency toward chaos 24 Fido's noise 25 * Star of the

1950s TV series "China Smith' 27 BLT seller 28 Naval forces 30 - Field (Mr. Met's home)

31 * Getting tired 34 Baby bird 38 Evergreen with red arils

39 Actress Polo 40 Stephen of "V for Vendetta' 42 Young moray, e.g.

43 Cowl wearer 45 * Hope when the situation is desperate

portrayer

Alastair

51 Mosque official 54 Scrooge 103 RV refuge

61 "One World" 108 How Alaska musician is populated **111** * Town 65 Holders of frozen cubes 116 Cab cost 117 "It takes two 66 Girl in dances 118 Agents in brief

56 * "Vanity Fair" 107 Suffix with

the fam 67 "Insecure" actress 69 — Hawkins 119 * "The Price dance Is Right" host 123 Happy dance 70 Astonishment 73 E'en if 124 Net. as 75 Actor Bridges earnings 127 Ames' state

thin sheets

novelist

76 Fathers 79 Auditing gp. **81** Was disgusting to 84 Deep desires 85 * Period superseded

by automobiles 89 Ragtime 91 Large cut

for short

pianist Blake 90 Aficionado

92 * Three-part novel by Gertrude Stein 98 Green-light 102 Removal of restrictions.

considered, cryptically DOWN 1 Honorarium 2 Writer Rand

5 "Relax!"

might be 3 Lay in place 4 Tossed

6 Of Swiss mountains 7 Playa del -8 Climb up 9 Divided Asian land 10 Get by logic

11 Joins closely 12 Org. for cavity fixers 13 Thereafter **14** Counterparts of manis 15 Cousin of a chimpanzee

16 Poehler of "Baby Mama" 17 Fight (for) 18 Zeta follower 26 Pronounces

28 "Just my opinion, in a text 29 Supermodel

132 Brontë's Jane 133 Despite this 134 What the last 31 Fitness locale 32 Early auto 33 Award for U2 of eight key 34 All-time low 35 Creeping vine

36 Once called 37 Fido's threat 41 Intertwine 44 Tartan skirt wearers 46 Suffix with owl or wolf

47 Vardalos of

Hollywood

61 Fox-sighting cry 63 "When I

74 Globe 77 Ergo

80 In no danger O'Neill

82 Playwright 83 Links letters 86 Dangerous

89 Spider's hatching pouch 52 Boggy areas 92 NFL goals 93 With it,

stuff

53 Motorists' gp. in old slang 94 Lyricist Gershwin

95 Battle with spongy balls 96 "So funny!"

from outside 59 Org. with bag 97 Light beams 99 Actress Alley screeners 60 The whole and caboodle single

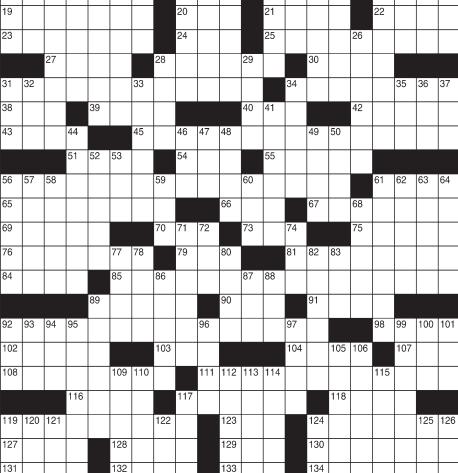
101 "- -haw!" 105 Regal seat 62 Jagged, as a 106 Playground leaf's edge fixture 109 Wipe clean

Need You' 110 "Bad, Bad singer Leo Brown' 64 Hopper of old 112 Delight in gossip 113 Nimble 68 Fake coins 114 Big name in

71 Not fooled by thesauruses 115 In a fitting **72** Previous to manner 117 Small kid 78 Japanese 119 Chip topper

noodle type 120 Fish spawn 121 She-sheep 122 Mug handle **124** Bit of

word wit 125 Rap sheet abbr. **87** Vetoing vote 126 Boomer's kid



Puzzle answers page 7

Tucker Boys Get Pair of Wins Over Mt. Ridge and Pendleton

By: Adam Freeman

The Tucker County Mt. Lions Basketball Team opened its season last week playing two opponents. On Monday, December 16th, Tucker played host to the Mt. Ridge Miners. Tucker got out to an early double-digit lead over the Miners, 19-7, at the end of the first quarter. The Mt. Lions would continue to hold the lead going into the second quarter and went into the break with a score of 31-18. Tuckers' third quarter would produce its lowest total of any quarter, only massing 12 points in the period. Tucker, however, would still maintain a double-digit lead at 43-28. The Mt. Lions would finish off the victory in their first game of the season with a final score of 59-45. Tucker was led on the night by seniors Trevan Bonner who had 17 points and 8 assists, and Garrett Wilfong who had 16 points, 9 rebounds, and 6 steals. Junior guard Mikey Mitchell also added 14 points.

The Mt. Lions would then make the trip to Franklin on Wednesday, December 18th, to take on the Pendleton County Wildcats, in what would be a tightly contested game that would come down to the final few minutes to be decided. Tucker would trail at the end of quarter one, 15-14 in favor of the Wildcats. The Mt. Lions would, however, tie the game up at halftime with a score of 35 all. The Wildcats would take the lead back in the third, gaining a 54-52 edge in the contest. Tucker would not go



Jarrett Dearborn forces the pass

quietly into the night, as they scored 19 points in the final period and held Pendleton to 8 points to take the win, 71-62. The Mt. Lions were led on the night by Garrett Wilfong who had a career high of 33 points, 16 rebounds and 5 blocks. Trevan Bonner added 12 points and 4 rebounds. Tucker will return home Friday, December 20th, to take on Tygarts Valley at 6 pm and on Monday, December 23rd, facing Gilmer County with tipoff at 6 pm.

Tucker Girls Net Win Over Petersburg 59-46



Addi Moats gets back to set up the

By: Adam Freeman

The Tucker County Lady Mt. Lions played host to the Petersburg Lady Vikings last Tuesday, December 17th, at TCHS. Tucker would take the lead after one quarter of play at 16-10. The Lady Mt. Lions would continue to maintain before the half holding a 30-24 lead going into the break. Tucker would get a

big 18-point quarter start the secpush the score

out to 48-35. The Lady Mt. Lions would hold on for the win in the fourth quarter to get the victory with a final score of 59-46 over Petersburg. Tucker received a balanced effort in scoring on the night as



ond half and Izzy Kitzmiller pressures the Viking

Raven Matthews, Maya Gross and Makenna Evans all had 16 points each in the contest. Tucker will host their annual Holiday Tournament on December 27th and 28th, times and opponents are still TBA.

THANK YOU FOR READING THE PARSONS ADVOCATE

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Lady Bears Pound Union 50-17

By: Adam Freeman

Last Monday, December 16th, the Lady Bears of Davis Thomas, took on the Union Tigers. The Lady Bears jumped out early to a 14-2 lead over the Tigers at the end of the first quarter. The Lady Bears would double their point total taking a 28-11 lead into the half. A huge 16-point third quarter would propel DT to a 44-13 advantage at the end of the third. Davis Thomas would get the win on the night with the eventual final score of 50-17 over Union. The Lady Bears were led in scoring by Addy Johnson who had 18 points and Morgan Simmons poured in 16 points. DT will travel to Tygarts Valley on Monday. January 3, 2025, to take on the Bulldogs at 5 pm.



Addy Johnson prepares to get the steal

Tucker Boys Get Pair of Wins Over Mt. Ridge and Pendleton

By: Adam Freeman

The Tucker County Mt. Lions Basketball Team opened its season last week playing two opponents. On Monday, December 16th, Tucker played host to the Mt. Ridge Miners. Tucker got out to an early double-digit lead over the Miners, 19-7, at the end of the first quarter. The Mt. Lions would continue to hold the lead going into the second quarter and went into the break with a score of 31-18. Tuckers' third quarter would produce its lowest total of any quarter, only massing 12 points in the period. Tucker, however, would still maintain a double-digit lead at 43-28. The Mt. Lions would finish off the victory in their first game of the season with a final score of 59-45. Tucker was led on the night by seniors Trevan Bonner who had 17 points and 8 assists, and Garrett Wilfong who had 16 points, 9 rebounds, and 6 steals. Junior guard Mikey Mitchell also added 14 points.

The Mt. Lions would then make the trip to Franklin on Wednesday, December 18th, to take on the Pendleton County Wildcats, in what would be a tightly contested game that would come down to the final few minutes to be decided. Tucker would trail at the end of quarter one, 15-14 in favor of the Wildcats. The Mt. Lions would, however, tie the game up at halftime with a score of 35 all. The Wildcats would take the lead back in the third, gaining a 54-52 edge in the contest. Tucker would not go quietly into the night, as they scored 19 Gilmer County with tipoff at 6 pm.



Garrett Wilfong steps to the line to extend the lead with two additional

points in the final period and held Pendleton to 8 points to take the win, 71-62. The Mt. Lions were led on the night by Garrett Wilfong who had a career high of 33 points, 16 rebounds and 5 blocks. Trevan Bonner added 12 points and 4 rebounds. Tucker will return home Friday, December 20th, to take on Tygarts Valley at 6 pm and on Monday, December 23rd, facing

Tucker Valley Boys Couldn't Complete Comeback Against Belington

By: Adam Freeman

The Tucker Valley Boys Basketball Team hosted Belington Middle School last Tuesday December 17th, in Parsons. Belington would take the lead at the end of the first quarter with a score of 12-7. The Wildcats would mount a comeback before the half taking an 18-17 front before the break. Belington, however, would storm back in the third, outscoring the Wildcats 23-12, to take a 40-30 lead into the final quarter. The Wildcats would continue to battle but the efforts would not be enough as they would fall to Belington 52-38. The Wildcats were led in the contest by Landon Wilfong who had a double- double on the night with 12 points and 12 rebounds, Titus Bow-

ley pitched in 10 points and Branson Hyre notched 7 points. Tucker Valley

will travel to Buckhannon Upshur Middle School on January 7, 2025 at 6 pm.

News of Record

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

- Joni R. Wandeloski, Clover District, 39 acres, six chains, fifteen poles more or less to Shiloh Quarry LLC, \$2,000.
- Jill S. Zazarino, Clover District, 39 acres, six chains, fifteen poles more or less to Shiloh Quarry LLC, \$2,000.
- Tambra Jo Hebb and Daniel Wade Pase, Thomas Corporation, Lot 7, Cosner Addition to Bradley W. Phillips and Delores K. Phillips, \$25,000.
- Jeffery B. Noah and Johnna Noah, Dry Fork District, Lot #177 Mountainside Section E. Timberline to Clifford
- Red Creek Construction LLC, Davis District, Lot 59, Tuscan Ridge, .52 acres, Section 1 to William T. Newland III, Family Trust, \$674,000.
- MSOPInvestments LLC, Dry Fork District, Lot 81 Black Bear Woods to Lydia Anna Davis, \$310,000.
- CE Properties LLC, Warranty Deed Unit #4 Winterset, 17,912 square feet to Jason Robert Hager and Monica L. Robinson, \$804,000.
- Phillip Clements and Debra Clements, Dry Fork District, 2-1/2 acres to Clare Terese Lane, \$175,000.







The Parsons Advocate

rsons, WV 26287 304-478-3533

Classifieds

Notary Services Available

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

DEADLINE 3PM FRIDAY

Notice

the Parsons Advocate will not be available until Thursday, Jan 2, 2025. We are sorry for the inconvenience but

Because of the holidays the January 1, 2025 edition of the regular schedule will resume afterwards. Thank you all for your patronage and hope to see you in 2025. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

TUCKER COUNTY LANDFILL 2025 FREE DAY SCHEDULE

The Tucker County Solid Waste Authority has established the first Thursday of each month as "Free Day" at the Tucker County Landfill. Disposal of up to one pick-up truck load (maximum weight of 516 pounds) of household residential waste is free of all charges to WV residents at the Tucker County Landfill on the first Thursday of each month during the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

If the first Thursday falls on a holiday, the following Thursday is designated as "Free Day". Any person who is not a resident of West Virginia may only participate in the monthly free day upon proof that his or her state of residence would likewise allow West Virginia residents to dispose of residential solid waste in the same or substantially similar manner.

The schedule for 2025 is as follows:

January 2 February 6 March 6

April 3 May 1

July 3 August 7 September 4 October 2 November 6 December 4

For a complete copy of the "Free Day" policies, contact the Tucker County Landfill at (304) 259-4867.

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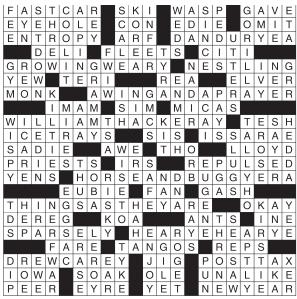




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In Tucker County, local children will go cold this winter without your help.

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

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

How will the children's clothing be purchased?

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

CLIP & MAIL

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

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

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c/o The Parsons Advocate P.O. Box 345, Parsons, WV 26287

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

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