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News of Record

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

- **Irvin G. Gaitan Del Cid:** of Winchester, Va. was charged with Engaging in business without a business franchise registration certificate. The criminal case was opened with the West Virginia State Tax Division on November, 8, 2024 as a result of a labor inspection performed by Randy Utt, (Inspector of WV Labor Department) on October 30, 2024 at 170 Fourth Street in Davis.
- During the labor inspection on Oct. 30, 2024 performed by Randy Utt, he contacted the defendant, Foreman of IGDC Services LLC, along with three employees doing demolition work on a building. It was determined that there was not proper documentation for the employees on site for IGDC Services LLC or a West Virginia Business License. Randy Utt provided a copy of the labor report.
- Steven Schellhaus enlisted the assistance of Valerie Lamp, Intelligence analyst, West Virginia Tax Department Criminal Investigation Division, to find additional information on the business and the owner of the business mentioned.
- Upon review of the tax accounts in West Virginia, it was determined that the owner of IGDC Services LLC is not licensed to do business in West Virginia.
- The defendant pled guilty, paid a \$1,000 fine and court cost.
- **Edwin Enrique Romero:** of Winchester, Va. was charged with Engaging in business without a business franchise registration certificate. This criminal case was opened with the West Virginia state Tax Division on Oct. 15, 2024 as a result of a labor inspection performed by Randy Utt, (Inspector of West Virginia Labor Department) on September 26, 2024 at 737 William Avenue in Davis.
- During the labor inspection on Sept. 26, 2024 performed by Randy Utt, he contacted the owner of Celestial Construction LLC, along with two employees installing a metal roof and trim on a building. It was determined that there was no proper documentation for the employees on cite for Celestial Construction LLC or a West Virginia Business License. Utt provided a copy of the labor report.
- Steven Schellhaus enlisted the assistance of Valerie

Lamp, Intelligence analyst, West Virginia Tax Department Criminal Investigation Division, to find additional information on the business and the owner of the business mentioned.

- Upon review of the tax accounts in West Virginia, it was determined that the owner of IGDC Services LLC is not licensed to do business in West Virginia.
- The defendant pled No Contest, paid a \$1,000 fine and court cost.
- **Russell Gerald Shaffer,** of Parsons was charged with one count of Driving under influence of alcohol, controlled substances or drugs and one count of Driving while license suspended or revoked. According to the complaint on Sunday, Jan. 19 Cpl. C.R. Summerfield of the Tucker County Sheriff’s office (TCSO), was dispatched to a drunken driving complaint by Tucker County Communications (911). 911 advised that the driver of a dark colored side by side with canvas on it was reported to under the influence of alcohol. Summerfield advised a side by side in the Dollar Store parking lot in Parsons that matched that description. He observed the side by side exit the parking lot, drive through a snow drift and driving left of center on US219. Said vehicle then turned on Central Ave.
- Summerfield activated the emergency lights on his patrol vehicle and initiated a traffic stop. The driver of the side by side drove into a snow bank and continued on the throttle, appearing to attempt to drive through the snow. Summerfield approached the vehicle, while the driver was still spinning and ordered the driver to turn the vehicle off. The driver continued to spin. Summerfield opened the door of the vehicle and again ordered the driver to turn off the vehicle. He requested a copy of the driver’s operators and any registration information on the side by side. The driver stated that he did not have a driver’s license and provided the officer with his name and date of birth. The driver was identified to be Russell Gerald Shaffer. Summerfield provided this information to 911.
- Upon making contact with the driver, Summerfield could smell the odor of alcohol and the defendant’s eyes were glassy and bloodshot. Upon exiting the side by side the defendant leaned onto his vehicle for balance and appeared to be very unstable walking. While standing beside of the officer’s

patrol vehicle the defendant lost his balance and fell into the snow. He stated that he had been drinking alcohol. Summerfield observed an unopened alcoholic beverage inside the side by side. Summerfield administered a series of sobriety tests with the defendant and all the tests were failed. 911 advised that Shaffer’s North Carolina operators were revoked for DUI with an effective date of Nov. 7, 2018, and that he had a WV ID card.

- Shaffer was arrested and transported to the Parsons Police Detachment for the intoximeter. Upon reading the West Virginia Implied Consent statement Shaffer refused the intoximeter. While giving Shaffer 15 minutes to change his mind, he agreed to the test at 6:37 p.m. Results of the intoximeter showed Shaffer to have a BAC of .176. Summerfield transported Shaffer to Tygart Valley Regional Jail to wait arraignment.

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

- Ann Marie Strickler, Dry Fork District, Interest in Unit G5 Week 20 Land of Canaan Vacation Resort Inc. to Land of Canaan Home Owners Association, Inc. \$577.50.
- Nee Camara, Susan L. Phares, Lee B. Sherline, Dry Fork District, Interest in Unit E2 Week 9 Land of Canaan Vacation Resort Inc. to Land of Canaan Home Owners Association, Inc. \$525.
- Freedom Bank Inc., Parsons Corporation, Lots 107, 108 and part of Lot 106 to Johnathan Bush AKA Jonathan Bush; Bush Jonathan AKA Johnathan Bush, \$55,000.
- Greylock Pipeline LLC, Black Fork District, Parsons Corporation, All RTI in 2 parcels to Oak Midstream LLC, \$29,600.
- Joseph Hansen, Dry Fork District, Unit/Lot #73, 0.386 acres, Winterhaven to Charles A. Bright, \$207,500.
- Frank Winchell and Inna Winchell, Davis District, Unit 1 Type B Pendletonheim to Ryan Cross and Colleen Cross, \$151,500.

The following marriages have been filed in the Tucker County Clerk’s office:

- Joshua Harman Tompkins to Lurenda Carlett Allison on Friday, January 10, 2025.
- Haden Seth Nestor to Brianna Renee Ruhlen on Friday, January 10, 2025.3

Hamm Placed on Sex Offender Registry

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Travis D. Hamm has been ordered onto the Sex Offender Registry. Hamm appeared before Judge Steven L. Shaffer January 14th along with his attorney Morris Davis. Savannah Wilkins represented the State in the matter. Hamm's appearance was to clarify some paperwork that was lost during the transition between Judges

at the first of the year. Hamm signed new copies of the sex offender registry requirements and terms of conduct of supervised release during the hearing. As part of the hearing, Judge Shaffer read the requirements Hamm would need to follow to the Hamm in open court and into the record. Judge Shaffer also recommended to Hamm that he stay up to date with any all requirements. Judge

Shaffer described the requirements as hard to comply with and outlined the penalties for non compliance that compounded with each offense. “They'd get tired of seeing me if I had to do this,” Judge Shaffer said. Hamm was convicted of one count of distribution and exhibiting of material depicting minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct in a case heard by Judge Courier in December.

Morgan Appears for Pretrial

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Wendall Morgan appeared January 14th before Judge Steven L. Shaffer in the 22nd District Court in Tucker County for a pretrial hearing. Morgan appeared with his attorney Aaron Yoho. Tucker County Prosecuting Attorney Savannah Hull Wilkins represented the State in the matter. Attorney Yoho said he had recently taken over the

case and had not received the entire file as of yet to review. He said that the previous attorney had done nothing wrong in the transfer of information. Yoho also said the parties

were working on a plea agreement. There were two cases and a global plea agreement could encompass both cases. There was mention that the case may go to trial in March or April.

Shaffer Pleads Guilty to Domestic Battery, Unlawful Restraint

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Chad Shaffer plead guilty to one count of First Offense Domestic Battery and one count of Unlawful Restraint as part of a plea agreement January 14th before Judge Steven L. Shaffer in the 22st District Court in Tucker County. Shaffer appeared in court along with his attor-

ney Morris Davis. Tucker County Prosecuting Attorney Savannah Hull Wilkins represented the State in the matter. As part of the plea agreement, the parties agreed to no deferred adjudication. There was also the stipulation that although not a felony, the defendant would surrender his firearm rights. The plea agreement also suggested that the two sen-

tences of up to 12 months and a \$500 fine each run concurrent. As part of the plea agreement, two counts of strangulation were dismissed. Attorney Davis said he believed had the case gone to trial strangulation would have been proven. “I believe this plea deal reduces his exposure a great deal,” Davis said. Shaffer's case was turned

over to probation for a presentencing evaluation prior to a sentencing hearing. During the proceedings, Judge Shaffer asked the defendant and made it clear that the two were no relation and had no prior knowledge of each other or contact due to the similarity of the last names. “I don't know you, Chad Shaffer, from Adam,” Judge Shaffer said.

ERCC Welcomes New Member to Board of Directors

ELKINS, W.Va. — Elkins Rehabilitation & Care Center has added long-time Randolph County resident Darroll Talbott Jr. to its board of directors. Talbott was appointed to serve by the other members of the board. His term began on January 1 and will last until the end of 2028. “Mr. Talbott brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the board,” said Tara Shaver, administrator. “We couldn’t be happier that he was appointed.” Talbott will join the group of other board members with a wide range of backgrounds who represent the non-profit. He retired from the Woodford Oil Company and was previously employed with the Guttman Oil Company, where he spent 26 years as a branch manager. He started his career at Badger Coal Company.

He is a 1982 graduate of West Virginia University. “Our board is made up a wide range of people who represent different fields and bring different skill sets to the table,” Shaver said. “Darroll is a hard worker, and he will add a lot to this organization.” Talbott has two children and two grandchildren. He is retired and he enjoys hunting, fishing, camping and playing golf. ERCC is a 111-bed, non-profit, short and long-term skilled and intermediate care and rehabilitation facility located in Elkins, WV. A wide range of care and rehabilitation services is provided at the facility by more than 150 full-time and part-time employees. For more information: <http://www.ercr.biz>.

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The Parsons Advocate

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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 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

FROM THE MOUNTAINS
TO THE VALLEYS
YOUR HOMETOWN
OR YOUR SECOND HOME

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OEM TALKS

Cont. From Front Page 1

didn't effect any other county in the State, then I would have to type up a paper, you all would have to sign it declaring a State of Emergency for Tucker County," White said. "But since it is a blanket State of Emergency, we don't have to do that. However, as far as dollars go, until there is a Disaster Declaration declared and then honored by the President and pushed to FEMA, there's no dollars available."

Tucker County Commission President Mike Rosenau asked about bringing in the National Guard for snow removal in areas such as Davis and Thomas due to the severe narrowing of the streets. "To me with the snow accumulation that we've had in Tucker County, with the influx of people that come to Thomas and Davis area, if there would be a fire or an emergency, the likelihood of you being able to get to that structure or that incident would be really impeded," Rosenau said. "I was wondering if there was anything available out there to bring into our County to help."

White said the last Disaster Declaration the area saw was during Hurricane Sandy. "Hurricane Sandy was perhaps our last declaration, I believe," White said. "And you seen what it took to get that."

White explained that much of the Disaster Declaration during Sandy was due to the extreme cost of tree removal the Highway Department faced in the days following the storm in order to reopen roads. "The Highway Department falls under a different declaration than us," White said. "The dollars counted towards us is different than the dollars counted towards the Highway Department. They file their own paperwork. We don't file theirs for them. If it hadn't been for them, the Highway Department being under such a financial burden with the tree removal and all that, it may not have gotten a Disaster Declaration at that time. That's what really the big dollar cost was for Highway Departments to open all these roads back up or subcontract crews. Superstorm Sandy, that was the last Declaration that we received."

According to White it cost the County \$40,000 for a helicopter extraction by the National Guard in the area. "We talked about a rescue helicopter, \$40,000 to bring a helicopter in here to do a search and possible extraction," White said. "To put the helicopter on standby and get the crew up and everything is \$25,000 before they take off," White said. "And then the clock starts ticking and it goes by how big the mission is and how far away it is from Charleston."

White said the County would be looking at the potential for hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of work should the National Guard come in to remove snow in the towns. "With snow removal you are looking at the same kind of thing," White said. "You are looking at hundreds

of thousands of dollars for them to do that type of work."

Both White and Rosenau said they did not agree with the cost the National Guard incurred. Rosenau said he felt it was unreasonable to charge for a State resource that was taxpayer funded. "So unfortunately, I don't agree with it, unfortunately, our National Guard costs us money if we request it," White said. "Through my office that has been a sore point for the entire basically ten years I've been doing this is all Emergency Managers do not agree with this," White said. "They think that it is asinine and that our State resources cost us if we need them."

White said that with the extreme weather the past few weeks, he had been working with partners such as energy companies in case of mass outages and has kept local shelters on standby in case. "We have had many communications with our resources such as MonPower, things like that just in case we have mass power outages. I've kept all of our shelters on standby just in case."

White said the County has two main shelters in Thomas and at Camp Kidd, but could open fire stations as warming stations as needed in case of an emergency. "Those are our two main shelters," White said. "We can always open up a fire station or something for just warming for a few hours, something like that."

White said that his department prepares for emergencies, but hopes they do not happen. "Its just sit back and hope nothing happens, but be prepared for when it does happen," White said.

White said he has also been working closely with the schools with daily weather reports. "We've had daily weather calls, which is unusual, for two to three weeks now," White said. "Been working closely with the schools to try to help make some decisions on when our kids can get back into school. Hopefully its not too much longer."

Temperatures over the past week in places like Cabin Mountain have reached as low as -20 degrees, according to White. Even Parsons has seen temperatures nearing the double digits below zero during this latest cold snap. "The last couple of days the temperatures have just been brutal," White said. "I've been seeing things on reporting stations like Cabin Mountain, places like that 18 below, 20 below in places like that. Parsons nine below. That's pretty cold temperatures for us."

White said that officially as of the 22nd of January, Tucker County had received 118.7 inches of snow with 78 inches of that falling in January alone. "We have received officially at our reporting station in Davis 118.7 inches of snow this year," White said. "78 of that, I believe, was in the month of January. So its been a very, very impactful snow year for us so far."

OBITUARIES

Robert Wesley “Bob” Freeman

Robert Wesley “Bob” Freeman, age 82 years, a resident of the Pifer Mountain Community, St. George, WV departed this life early Wednesday morning, January 22, 2025, at Cortland Acres at Thomas, WV under the care of Mountain Hospice. He had been in declining health. He was born Thursday, May 14, 1942, at Moatsville, WV, a son of the late Leo Benton Freeman and Hattie Sedia Nestor Freeman. On February 18, 1961, he was married to the former Wanda Grace Auvil, who preceded him in death March 21, 2018. They had celebrated fifty-seven years of marriage.

Surviving are one son, Robert Mark Freeman of Parsons, WV; two grandchildren, Heather Michelle Clower and husband Daniel of Pifer Mt., and Adam Wesley Freeman and wife Amanda of Parsons, WV; four great grandchildren, Paityn Rena Clower,



Wyatt Brennus Clower, Cambrie Freeman and Mavrett Freeman; and son in law, Pat Bright of Pifer Mt: two brothers, Arnold Freeman and wife Janet of Moatsville and Jim Freeman and wife Dotty of Tacy.

Preceding him in death are one daughter, Vickie Rena Bright; and one grandson, Robert Mark Freeman, II; and one sister and brother in law, Hattie Jean Wilson and husband Dale.

He attended the school at Kasson, and he was a

1960 graduate of Belington High School. He had worked at the former Parsons Tannery, was a carpenter and had a passion for farming. He enjoyed hunting, watching westerns, riding 4 wheelers and snowmobiles and dirt track racing. He loved spending time with his family.

The family received friends at the Lohr & Barb Funeral Home of Parsons, WV on Monday from 4 PM to 7 PM. Final rites were conducted at the funeral home on Tuesday, January 28, 2024, at 11 AM. Rev. Lowell Moore and Rev. Dave Freeman will officiate. Interment will take place at the Pifer Mountain Cemetery at St. George, WV. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is honored to be in charge of the arrangements for Robert Wesley “Bob” Freeman. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com

January Sets New Snow Record

by Bill Peterson

To Paraphrase: There’s no business like snow business, and for your local Canaan Heights weather reporter, curtain time is 7 am every morning. Some of my performances warrant jubilation and standing ovations; others jeers and sneers. It depends greatly on your take on the numbers.

As the National Weather Service official Canaan Heights observer, it is my job to record the day’s temperature and precipitation—including snow—each morning. Each report covers the measurements from 7:01 am yesterday through 7 am today and carries today’s date. About the 15th of the month, I wondered about the longest con-

tiguous stretch with measurable snowfall.

Dave Leshner, former intrepid NWS Canaan Heights observer, sent me his daily data, beginning January 1st, 2002. From 2002 through 2024 there were several 12-day snows and one stretch that lasted 13 days. Note: this data is from 3,700+ feet, not from lower in Canaan Valley where some earlier weather recordings exist.

I can now tell you—Davis just experienced a record 22 days with measurable snow every day. Finally, Wednesday, January 22, 2025, dawned sunny with nary a flurry, and the next snow held off till the evening of the 23rd. So, for those interested in records—I being one—we have a new record to record.

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Be Cautious of Undeliverable Package Emails, Text Messages

West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrissey urges consumers to be extra cautious if they receive emails or text messages about an undeliverable package.

“Online shopping is convenient and brings many retailers to our fingertips,” Morrissey said. “Scammers will try to take advantage of increased online commerce during the holidays so consumers should be extra cautious if they receive notifications about an undeliverable package.”

When a person buys something online, retailers typically send several notification emails or texts about the order including an order confirmation email, a shipping notification, and when the package has been delivered.

Scammers try to take advantage of consumers by sending fake emails or texts with a message about an undeliverable package and that in order to get the shipment, a person should click on a link to provide more information. Fraudsters could also send a message that the purchase is ready to ship but one needs to update the shipping preferences.

One tactic these scammers use is making the messages sound urgent by saying if one doesn’t respond quickly, the package will be returned to the sender.

What should consumers do if they receive a message like this? Here are a

few tips to protect one’s personal identifiable information and banking information:

If a message tells a person to click on a link to update one’s information, do not click the link.

If a person thinks it could be about a purchase one has recently made, go to the website where the order was made and check the status of the shipment.

If a person thinks the message could be legitimate, contact the shipping company using a phone number or website that is real. Do not rely on the information in the message.

This scam surfaces throughout the year but is especially prevalent during the busy holiday season. When a person contacts the scammer,

they will ask for verification of accounts or other identification to be able to access one’s account. No matter what time of year it is, consumers need to take precautions to protect their personal information.

In addition, packages arrive at doors more frequently during the peak shopping seasons because of the popularity of online

shopping. Thieves have been known to pilfer packages from porches, so it is important for consumers to take precautions.

Consumers should consider having packages shipped to their workplace or to a trusted neighbor’s house instead of allowing packages to be left unattended at home. Consum-

ers can also opt to have their packages shipped to a local post office or authorized FedEx or UPS locations for pick up.

Anyone who believes they have been the victim of a scam should contact the Attorney General’s Consumer Protection Division at 800-368-8808 or file a complaint online at www.ago.wv.gov.



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*Annual Percentage Yield. The stated APY is accurate as of 01/15/2025. Minimum deposit to open is \$1,000. Substantial penalty for early withdrawal. Certain restrictions may apply. Offer may be withdrawn at any time.

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

Hunter Safety Education Classes Teach Life-Long Skills

Jenningsston, WV - Hunter education classes are not just for die-hard hunters intent on bagging a trophy buck or putting food in the freezer. They are also beneficial for people who want to understand hunting ethics or learn more about survival skills and how to safely handle a firearm at all times. Mama Bear Protection is offering FREE hunter safety classes in cooperation with WVDNR (West Virginia Division of National Resources). These classes teach participants the necessary skills and knowledge needed to hunt safely and responsibly.

Anyone born on or after January 1, 1975, must successfully complete a certified Hunter Education Course before purchasing a base hunting license. Mama Bear Protection will offer the Hands-On and Written Test on select dates: February 8, April 12, May 9, June 21, July 12, August 9, October 11, and November 8. Participants can take part of the class online and part in person, before taking the test. Sponsored by Mama Bear Protection and The West Virginia School Of Traditional Skills, these tests will take place at the Laurel River Club Bed & Breakfast located at 417 Jenningsston Farm Rd. in Bowden, WV. All of these businesses are managed by Marsha Waybright. Concealed Carry & Home Defense Fundamentals classes will be offered on the same dates from 3 – 7 pm.

Topics discussed include gun safety, wildlife management, ethics, survival/first aid, game identification, and how to hunt safely and ethically. Classes generally take 12 hours to complete and a certificate of completion must be presented when purchasing a hunting license for the first time. Students who have not reached their 10th birthday by the written test date of the class will not receive a permanent hunter education certification.

Mama Bear Protection offers both the Hands-On and Written Test and the Traditional Hunter Education Test. The Hands-On and Written Test is FREE. First complete the online course, then register for the hands-on and written test, which is about 4 hours. Print your certificate of

completion from the online course then register to take the test. Bring your certificate with you when you come to take the test at the Laurel River Club Bed & Breakfast. The Traditional Hunter Education Test is an in-person class. Participants can sign up for the class online for FREE and attend to listen to volunteer instructors and natural resources police officers relate their expertise and hunting experiences. You will have the chance to speak with fellow hunters during class breaks, and become familiar with the entire hunting experience. This class is a total of 10 hours.

Mama Bear Protection also offers a Firearms Refresher Course. At Mama Bear Protection, we believe knowledge is power - and protection! If you are looking to refresh your hunting skills, get more comfortable handling rifles and shotguns, or simply want to become more confident with firearms, this is the perfect course to do so.

CPR/First Aid/AED Training Classes will be offered February 22, March 22, April 26 and May 17. Taken online and in-person, participants receive a two-year Basic Life Support digital certificate upon completion. Private classes are offered as well.

The Laurel River Club Bed & Breakfast is surrounded by the 250-acre Laurel Fork Educational Farm, your headquarters for adventure. A stay at the farm lets you enjoy a great breakfast before joining in on the fun without having to go anywhere. There’s no better great place to experience West Virginia! And be sure to check out Waybright’s podcast and catch her live on the YouTube channel, The Waybright Family, Experience West Virginia With Us, every first Monday of the month at 5:30pm throughout 2025.

To register for classes or for more information about Mama Bear Protection, the Laurel River Club B&B, and upcoming classes through the West Virginia School of Traditional Skills, or to book a stay, please visit www.lrcbnb.com or call (304) 402-7095. Find more info on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and YouTube.

WVSOM leads state’s medical schools in primary care, rural practice, total physicians and lowest tuition

LEWISBURG, W.Va. – The West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM) remains a medical education leader in several key areas, according to the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission’s (WVHEPC) Division of Health Sciences’ annual report, issued in December.

According to information published in the commission’s 2024 West Virginia Health Sciences and Rural Health Report, issued in December, WVSOM produces the highest number of physicians who practice in the Mountain State in all specialties, as well as the largest number who practice in rural areas of West Virginia. The report provides data for all three medical schools in the state.

A total of 159 WVSOM graduates from classes between 2014 and 2019 practice in West Virginia, compared with 155 from the second-highest school and 119 from the third-highest school. A total of 72 physicians who graduated from WVSOM during those years practice in rural areas of the state, compared with 43 from the other two schools combined.

The report defines rural areas as areas of the state

with a 2006 Rural Urban Commuting Area code of 4.0 or higher, a categorization based on the U.S. census that uses measures of population density, urbanization and daily commuting.

Data in the report also indicates that WVSOM leads the state in the number of doctors who practice primary care in West Virginia, with 101 pri-

mary care physicians who graduated from the school between 2014 and 2019, compared with 73 from the second-highest school and 58 from the third-highest school.

The report defines primary care as encompassing the specialties of family medicine, internal medicine, internal medicine/pediatrics, OB-GYN and pediatric

LEGAL

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

Deceased	Personal Representative(s)
Billy Allen Carr	Madeline Cale
1st publication 1/22/25	305 Chestnut St.
2nd publication 1/29/25	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

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

Deceased	Personal Representative(s)
Annabel Moore	D. Randall Moore
1st publication 1/29/25	511 Walnut Street
2nd publication 2/5/25	Parsons, WV 26287
Joey Lee Eskridge	Jodi Myers
1st publication 1/29/25	6039 Stemple Ridge Rd.
2nd publication 2/5/25	Aurora, WV 26705

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

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS NOT MET FOR DAVIS WATER WORKS, WV3304701

We are required to monitor your drinking water on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. Between 1/1/2023 and 12/31/2023, we failed to submit the required samples as indicated below and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below lists the required monitoring and the compliance period.

Required Monitoring	Compliance Period
03, MONITORING, ROUTINE, MAJOR Sample result 30603925001 collected in the 3rd Q instead of the 2nd Q. NITRATE results Not Submitted	1/1/2023 to 12/31/2023

What happened? What is being done? (Describe corrective action)

Nitrate sample was overlooked and collected in the wrong month, results not submitted in the right month. We are working hard to ensure future violations are eliminated and ensuring our water continues to meet all of the applicable standards.

For more information, please contact Frank Sharp at 304-259-5502 or 505 William Avenue, P.O. Box 207, Davis, WV 26260.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This Notice is being sent to you by: **DAVIS WATER WORKS**

State Water System ID #: **WV3304701**

Date Distributed: **1/27/25**

Continuing Participation Confirmations Being Accepted for Hope Scholarship Students

West Virginia State Treasurer, Larry Pack, who serves as chairman of the Hope Scholarship Board, announced that the Continuing Participation Confirmations are now available for current Hope Scholarship students wishing to continue their participation in the program during the 2025-2026 school year.

“This is a great opportunity for educational choice in West Virginia,” Pack said. “My office has seen rapid growth in Hope Scholarship participation in the last year. I want to encourage all participating families to submit their confirmations for their child as soon as possible.”

Continuing Participation Confirmations, previously referred to as a renewal application, will be accepted through June 15 in the Hope Scholarship online portal. Late confirmations will not be accepted.

If a student fails to submit their CPC by the June 15 deadline, their application would be considered a new application and the student would be subject to the statutory eligibility requirements for the program, requiring them to return to public school under the 45-day pathway to become eligible for the 2025-2026 school year.

Students continuing participation in the program will have to demonstrate current proof of West Virginia residency. A new, simplified residency process through Plaid will be available for families who wish to utilize it. Plaid will help expedite the review process and result in a faster decision on the system application.

Families who do not wish to utilize Plaid or those where Plaid is unable to confirm the address will be able to upload proof of residency documentation such as utility bills and vehicle registrations with their system application for manual review.

The full list of acceptable residency documentation can be found in The Hope Scholarship Parent handbook.

After logging on to the Hope Scholarship online portal, families are advised to navigate to the My Applications tab and click the Continued Participation link under their current school year application status.

Approved CPCs will be

updated to a status of conditionally eligible in the online platform. In early July, the Hope Scholarship Board staff plans to review all conditionally eligible students to ensure that the required academic progress reporting for the 2024-2025 school year has been recorded by the student’s county board of education and will update their status to approved for the 2025-2026 school year.

Academic progress data for the 2024-2025 school year is due to county boards of education by June 8. Parents of Individualized Instructional Plan students, including microschool students, must submit either nationally normed standardized test results or a certified teacher academic progress review to the county board of education.

Hope Scholarship applications for new students for the 2025-2026 school year will be available on March 1. New applications are only being accepted for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year through Feb. 28.

The Hope Scholarship will open to all school-age children residing in West Virginia beginning in the 2026-2027 academic year.

Program participation grew from 2,333 students during the 2022-2023 school year to 5,443 students during

the 2023-2024 school year. Total Hope Scholarship student spending increased from \$7.7 million to \$22.3 million in 2023-2024. Because of increasing demand for the program, applications are accepted year-round from eligible students with a pro-rated funding model based on the date of the application. As a result of these changes, 10,770 applications have been approved for the 2024-2025 school year.

The Hope Scholarship award amount varies each school year depending on the amount of state aid funding per pupil provided to county boards of education for public school students. The award amount for the 2024-2025 year was \$4,921.39 and is expected to be \$5,267.38 for the 2025-2026 school year.

The Hope Scholarship Act, passed by the Legislature in 2021, is an education savings account program available for kindergarten through 12th-grade students. It is designed to allow parents and families to receive an amount equal to the state portion of their child’s education funding to tailor an individualized learning experience that works best for their child.

More information on the program is available at www.hopescholarshipwv.com.

LEGAL

Notice of Public Comments for the 2025 Tucker County Comprehensive Plan Tucker County Planning Commission

The Tucker County Planning Commission will host two public meetings to present the revised Tucker County Comprehensive Plan. The first meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2025, in the Davis Town Hall (505 William Avenue) in Davis. The second meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 27, 2025, in the Old Courthouse Courtroom (211 First Street) in Parsons.

A copy of the full text of the proposed 2024 Comprehensive Plan is available for review at no charge at Five Rivers Public Library in Parsons, the Mountaintop Public Library in Thomas, and the County Clerk’s office in the Tucker County Courthouse in Parsons.

The revised Tucker County Comprehensive Plan is designed to provide information and to serve as a resource to plan for the future of Tucker County. The Comprehensive Plan is Tucker County’s official guide for land use, housing, transportation, economic development, infrastructure, public services, connectivity, tourism, and county demographics. The Plan will serve as the County’s guiding document for 10 years into the future, protecting and enhancing the unique character of our county.

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to section 46-9-504 of the West Virginia Uniform Commercial Code, Mountain Valley Bank, N.A. will sell to the highest cash bidder on Friday, January 31, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at Mountain Valley Bank, Parsons Office, Parsons, WV, the following repossessed vehicles:

2002 CHEV SUBURBAN
VIN: 3GNFK16X2G183221

2008 SUBARU LEGACY WAGON
VIN: 4S4BP61C187357119

The sale of the above-described vehicles will be made WITHOUT WARRANTY, and the Bank reserves the right to (1) bid at the public sale, (2) to reject bids at the public sale and (3) to continue such sale to any other time and place by announcement of such continuance at the time and place set forth herein.

The vehicles to be sold may be inspected at Mountain Valley Bank, Parsons Office, Parsons, WV.

The terms of the sale shall be cash in hand at the time of sale.

Dated at Elkins, West Virginia, this 15th day of January, 2025.

Mountain Valley Bank, N.A.
By: Anita Curtis
Its: Vice President of Retail Lending

LEGAL

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS NOT MET FOR DAVIS WATER WORKS, WV3304701

We are required to monitor your drinking water on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. Between 1/1/2024 and 3/31/2024, we failed to submit the required samples as indicated below and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below lists the required monitoring and the compliance period.

Required Monitoring	Compliance Period
27, MONITORING, ROUTINE (DBP), MAJOR Missing January Alkalinity sample	1/1/2024 to 3/31/2024

What happened? What is being done? (Describe corrective action)

Alkalinity sample was overlooked for month of January, and results were not mailed in for January. We are working hard to ensure future violations are eliminated and ensuring our water continues to meet all of the applicable standards.

For more information, please contact Frank Sharp at 304-259-5502 or 505 William Avenue, P.O. Box 207, Davis, WV 26260.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This Notice is being sent to you by: **DAVIS WATER WORKS**

State Water System ID #: **WV3304701**

Date Distributed: **1/27/25**

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 February 25, 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
002	2022880005	S388-REC/AL-25 00	STBG-2025(010)D	PAVEMENT MARKINGS D-8 RECALL STRIPING 2025 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 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.



What's? Happening

Free Friday

Free Friday will be held on January 31 at 6 pm at the First United Methodist Church of Parsons. The menu will consist of sloppy joes, macaroni and cheese, and various side dishes, desserts and drinks. No donations accepted and everyone is welcome to.

Buckwheat Dinner

Buckwheat Dinner at St. John's

Church, Parsons on Saturday, February 8th from 4pm - 6:30pm. \$12 donation for adult meal & \$6 for children 12 and younger. Carry out orders call 304-478-2620. Meal A - (5) buckwheat cakes & (2) cakes of sausage & (1) 4 oz. gravy & (1) biscuit. Meal B - (4) biscuits & (2) 4 oz. gravy & (2) cakes of sausage. Meal C - (4) pancakes & (2) cakes of sausage & (1) 4 oz. gravy & (1) biscuit.



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.

Jan. 30, 1818: Nicholas County was created by the Virginia legislature from parts of Greenbrier, Kanawha and Randolph counties. The county was named for Wilson Cary Nicholas, a Virginia governor and U.S. senator who lived from 1761 to 1820.

Jan. 30, 1895: Mingo County was created from the southern part of Logan County. Mingo is the youngest county in West Virginia.

Jan. 31, 1878: Educator William Woodson Trent was born in rural Nicholas County. He served as state superintendent of schools from 1933 until 1957.

Jan. 31, 1945: Sergeant Jonah Edward Kelley of Mineral County was killed in action while leading his squad against German positions during World War II. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for his “superb courage.”

Feb. 1, 1832: Education reformer Alexander Luark Wade was born. Wade reorganized rural Monongalia County schools to require progress through eight prescribed levels with a graduating exercise and receipt of a diploma. Wade’s system worked so well it was copied in other counties and states.

Feb. 2, 1908: Justice Marion Chambers was born in Huntington. Chambers was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions in the World War II Iwo Jima campaign in February 1945.

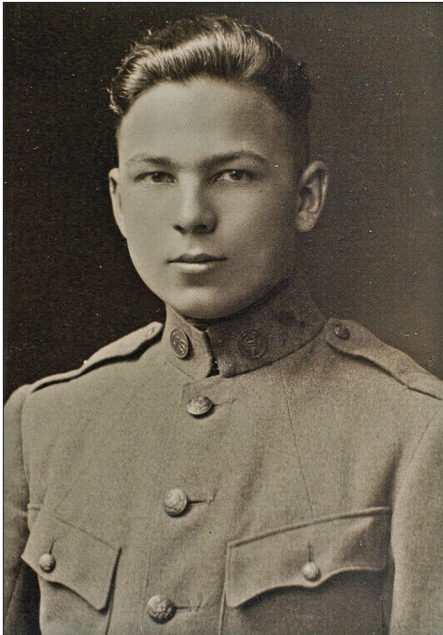
Feb. 3, 1825: Confederate General William Lowther Jackson was born in Clarksburg. He was one of at least three Southern officers to bear the nickname “Mudwall.”

Feb. 3, 1845: Gilmer County, located in the heart of West Virginia, was established from parts of Kanawha and Lewis counties. It was named for Thomas W. Gilmer, a governor of Virginia.

Feb. 3, 1923: Broadcast announcer Jack Fleming was born in Morgantown. He was the long-time “Voice of the Mountaineers.”

Feb. 3, 1961: The West Virginia legislature passed a resolution adopting “The West Virginia Hills” as an official state song. Prior to the adoption of “Take Me Home, Country Roads,” “The West Virginia Hills” was the best-known of our four official state songs.

Feb. 4, 1845: Doddridge County was



Feb. 1, 1901: Frank Buckles, the last surviving American veteran of World War I, was born in Missouri. Buckles purchased a farm in Charles Town in 1954 and continued to live there until his death in 2011.



Jan. 31, 1922: Movie and television actress Joanne Dru was born Joan Letitia Lacock in Logan. Her movie career included more than 40 films. Her brother, singer and TV host Peter Marshall, is also a West Virginia native.

formed from parts of Harrison, Lewis, Ritchie, and Tyler counties. It was named for Philip Doddridge, a Western Virginia congressman, state legislator and member of the Virginia Constitutional Convention of 1829–30.

Feb. 4, 1945: The hotel at Minnehaha Springs was destroyed by fire. Built in 1914, it was the first facility in Pocahontas County built strictly for the tourist business and was a forerunner of today’s local tourism economy.

WVU Dean's List

The following students made the WVU 2024 Fall Dean’s list:

Andrew Bonner
Ane Paul
Justin Robeson
Avery Smith
Emma Snyder
Holden Young

WVU President's List

The following students made the WVU 2024 Fall President’s list:

Tabitha Adams
Jacob Devilder
Jeremy Liller
Jacob Lower
Clay Poling
Mason Powell

Weather Totals

Jan. 14 - Jan. 21, 2025

Nursery Bottom
Parsons

Temperature

Max 42° F
Min -15° F

Precipitation

Week 0.84"
January 2.69"
2025 2.69"

Snowfall

New Snow 4.5"
Snow on ground 12"
Winter Total 37"

U.S. Forest Service

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

Old Man Winter continues to hang on here and it just keeps snowing. We have it piled up everywhere and I think it will get to the point where it will have to be loaded in trucks and hauled off somewhere. The driveways are getting plowed shut and it is hard to get around.

I guess I will have to watch what I wish for from now on. A few weeks ago I said I wished it would get cold and stay cold but I didn’t think the bottom would fall out of the thermometer. It has been brutally cold here and surrounding areas. Below 0 degrees had been the norm for over a week. **Momma Said**, “Enough is enough already.”

This is how I remember winter being when I was growing up and it brings back a lot of memories. Not worrying about being cold, playing all day and coming in to a warm

Momma Said

This column is about tips, helpful hints, recipes and words of wisdom. I dedicate this column to my mother.

By Teri Cayton
The Parsons Advocate



house with the smell of good home cooked meals. I think I miss that the most.

I think it is about time for a big pot of chili, maybe some cornbread and a big warm blanket. **Momma Said**, “That sounds like it would hit the spot.” I know there is a big discussion of beans or not in chili. For me I like the beans and it also helps fill you up. Whatever is your preference, make up a big pot and enjoy.

Chili Recipe

INGREDIENTS

1 medium yellow onion
3 cloves garlic
2 (about 15-ounce) cans kidney beans
2 tbsp olive oil
3 tbsp tomato paste
2lbs ground beef, preferably 80 to 85% lean
2 tsp kosher salt, plus more as needed
1/2 tsp freshly ground black pepper
2 tbsp chili powder
1 tbsp ground cumin
1 tbsp unsweetened cocoa powder
2 tsp dried oregano
1 tsp paprika
1/4 tsp cayenne pepper (optional)
1 (28-ounce) can fire-roasted crushed tomatoes
1 (14.5-ounce) can low-sodium beef or chicken broth (scant 2 cups). If you do not want to use the broth you can substitute with tomato juice
1 tsp apple cider vinegar

SERVING OPTIONS:

Sour cream or plain Greek yogurt
Shredded cheddar cheese
Thinly sliced scallions
Diced avocado
Fresh cilantro
Tortilla chips

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Dice 1 medium yellow onion (about 1 1/2 cups). Mince 3 garlic cloves. Drain and rinse 2 (about 15-ounce) cans kidney beans.
2. Heat 2 tablespoons olive oil in a Dutch oven or large pot over medium heat until shimmering. Add the onion and cook, stirring occasionally, until softened, 3 to

5 minutes. Add the garlic and cook until fragrant, about 1 minute. Add 3 tablespoons tomato paste and stir to coat the onions. Cook, stirring occasionally until darkened in color, 2 to 3 minutes.

3. Add 2 pounds ground beef, 2 teaspoons kosher salt, and 1/2 teaspoon black pepper. Cook, breaking up the meat with a wooden spoon, until browned and cooked through, 6 to 8 minutes. Add 2 tablespoons chili powder, 1 tablespoon ground cumin, 1 tablespoon unsweetened cocoa powder, 2 teaspoons dried oregano, 1 teaspoon paprika, and 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper if using. Stir to coat the meat and cook for 1 minute more.

4. Add the beans, 1 (28-ounce) can fire-roasted crushed tomatoes, and 1 (14.5-ounce) can low-sodium beef or chicken broth, (or tomato juice) and stir to combine. Bring to a boil. Reduce the heat to maintain a gentle simmer. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the flavors meld and the mixture is slightly thickened, 30 to 40 minutes.

5. Remove the pot from the heat. Add 1 teaspoon apple cider vinegar and stir to combine. Taste and season with more kosher salt as needed. Ladle into bowls and serve with desired toppings.

RECIPE NOTES

Make ahead: Chili tastes best made a day in advance so the flavors have a chance to meld. Refrigerate in an airtight container. Reheat on the stovetop over medium heat.

Storage: Leftovers can be refrigerated for up to 4 days in an airtight container or frozen for up to 3 months.

Super Crossword

BENEFICIAL FAT

ACROSS

1 Diving equipment
6 Theater actor's place
11 Ray of light
15 Agts, like Eliot Ness
19 Babies, in Barcelona
20 Like meat that's OK to eat per Muslim law
21 Hamburg's river
22 Humorist Bombeck
23 — citato (in the work already mentioned)
24 Colonel North, in brief
25 "So right!"
26 Notice
27 Start of a riddle
31 Suffix with cash
32 Dollar divs.
33 Mil. roadside hazards
34 Busy Chicago airport
36 Small seed
39 Web, for a fly
41 ROY G. —
43 Moral wrong
44 Riddle, part 2
49 Source of a scratch from a tabby
50 Russian empress
51 Ark builder in Genesis
54 Oklahoma city
56 Saturated
57 Splits
61 Appraise
64 Cash, slangily
67 Motorists' org.
69 Meadowland
70 Riddle, part 3
74 Just get (by)
75 Be a suitor of
76 Nissan model
77 Seville's land, to its natives
121 Ever and —
122 Loosen, as laces
123 Dishonor
124 Apple discard
125 Camera eye
126 Verse writers
127 — With Love" (1967 #1 hit song)
92 End of the riddle
98 Luau paste
99 That lady
100 Full of curves
101 Calf catcher
103 "It's just one of — things"
105 Saturate
106 — Aviv
108 First year of the 10th century
109 Riddle's answer
116 Hair removal brand
117 Falafel bread
118 Defrosts
119 Dazzling success
120 Pakistani's language
DOWN
1 Trap by a winter storm

2 Constellation between Cassiopeia and Draco
3 Dredge up
4 Ernie's buddy
5 "Wait just —"
6 "Dang it!"
7 Converses
8 "For — know ..."
9 Increase
10 Like a song of lament
11 Lairs for grizzlies, e.g.
12 "St. — Fire"
13 Lying on a king or queen
14 Eatery list
15 Comb parts
16 Brand of food seasoning
17 Large markets
18 Vetoer's vote
28 Piece for eight
29 Reform Party founder Ross
30 Assembly of witches
35 Rhinoplasty doc
37 Red-shelled Chinese fruit
38 Green gp.
39 Skiing races
40 Football Hall of Famer Ozzie
41 Part of FBI
42 Mimic
45 Mo. in fall
46 Big feather
47 Logging tool
48 Pothole filler
51 Christened
52 Japanese metropolis
53 Crooked
55 Together (with)
58 Homeric epic
59 Pasta tubes
60 "Cosmos" host Carl
62 Akron-to-Atlanta dir.
63 Belly
65 Genre for Yes and Genesis
66 "Come, Fido"
68 DOJ heads
71 Babe or fox
72 Like Cheerios
73 Key or corkscrew
79 Family MDs
81 Deep blue
83 Fido's sound
86 One of the 87-Down
87 Competitors who didn't win
88 Pinkie-side arm bones
90 "But Not for Me" actress Palmer
91 Home to Boise: Abbr.
92 Fitting
93 A total lack of compassion
94 Carbon — (exhaled gas)
95 Have a gabfest
96 Actor Cage
97 — Trail (Everglades highway)
102 Jousting knight
104 Play a guitar
105 Determined to achieve
106 Specifically
107 "That's someone — problem"
110 White gem
111 Climbing plant
112 "Don't say it!"
113 Statistician Silver
114 Waistcoat
115 Reverberate
116 Letters before xis

SPORTS

Tucker Valley Boys and Girls Both Fall to South Morgantown Middle



Branson Hyre drives to the basket.

By: Adam Freeman

Both Boys and Girls Tucker Valley Basketball teams took on the squads from South Morgantown Middle. The girls' team played first in what was a tough outing for the Lady Wildcats. South would jump out to a 18-2 lead on Tucker Valley and would not let up in the second period either, taking a 28-6 advantage into halftime. Tucker would continue to struggle to get it going offensively and would finally fall in the contest with a final score of 40-12.

Channell 4 pts, Brown 2 pts, Wimer 2 pts, Lambert 2 pts, Decker 2 pts.



Titus Bowley breaks through the double team. (Photos by Brittany Channell)

The boys' matchup was to follow on the day with South taking the advantage early and was out to a 19-9 lead after the first quarter. The Wildcats would continue to claw away before the break but would trail 28-17. South would mount a 20-point third quarter to Tuckers 12 points and push their lead out to 48-29 going into the final period. Tucker would only manage 6 points in the fourth quarter and would fall in the contest with a final score of 67-35.

Wilfong 14 pts, 6 pts, Hyre 5 pts, Boyles 4 pts, Tuttle 3 pts, Freeman 3 pts.

Tucker Valley Boys will play at Philippi on January 28th at 6pm, the girls' team will travel to Kasson on January 29th at 6pm.



Reagan Wimer takes position to box out.



Matalee Brown fights for the ball.

Mt. Lions Perfect No More, Win Over Magnolia, Fall to Williamstown



Xander Lambert releases the free throw.

By: Adam Freeman

The Tucker County Boys' Basketball team traveled to Magnolia High School this past weekend to take part in their Rotary Invitational Tournament. Tucker would take on the home standing Magnolia Blue Eagles in the first matchup. The Mt. Lions would get up early in the first quarter with a 20-6 lead. They would further increase the spread before the half to take a 37-15 advantage into halftime. Tucker would explode for 24 points in the third period and take a 30-point lead into the final period, 61-31. The Mt. Lions would hold that line through the end of the game and take the win 81-51.

Wilfong 18 pts, 4 ast, 3 blk, FT 1-1; Mitchell 15 pts, 1 reb; Bonner 13 pts, 4 reb, FT 1-1; Cummings 8 pts, 1 reb, FT 1-1; Lambert 6 pts, 8 reb, FT 4-5; Marks 5 pts, 2 ast, FT 0-1; Dearborn 5 pts, 1 reb; Carr 3 pts, 1 reb

3 Points Goals 7-13: Cummings (2) Carr (1) Dearborn (1) Marks (1) Wilfong (1) Mitchell (1)

The second matchup at Magnolia High School was against (AA) contender in Williamstown



Sam Marks look to make the pass around the Blue Eagle defender.

High School. Tucker would manage its worst offensive outing of the season and did not appear to be the team that's undefeated to this point in the season. Tucker would fall behind 22-4 in the first quarter of play. The Mt. Lions would win the second quarter outscoring the Yellowjackets 16-14 but would still trail by a score of 36-18 at the half. Williamstown would again dominate the start of the second half and extend their lead to 26 points before the final period at 54-28. The Mt. Lions were never able to find any rhythm or get many key stops on defense and their perfect record would come to an end, 67-42, at the hands of Williamstown.

Bonner 22 pts, 4 reb, FT 2-3; Arnold 9 pts, 3 reb, FT 3-3; Cummings 7 pts, FT 4-4; Mitchell 2 pts

Dearborn 2 pts 1 reb

3 Point Goals 3-15: Bonner (2) Cummings (1)

Tucker will travel to Southern on January 29th tipoff is 6pm, they will then travel to Naugatuck to take on the Tug Valley Panthers on Saturday, February 1st at 5:45pm.

DT Loses Heartbreaker to Harman

By: Adam Freeman

The Davis Thomas Bears fell last week as they played host to the Harman Panthers. The Bears struggled to get it going in the first period, only managing 3 points to Harman's 9. DT would have a big second quarter outscoring their opponents 14-6, to take a 17-15 lead into the break. Harman would answer to start the second half with a 15-point third quarter to take the lead back 30-28. The Bears would continue to battle to the end but would eventually fall in the contest 42-38.

Luzier 15 pts, O'Brien 8 pts, Huffman 6 pts, Dearborn 4 pts, Kerr 4 pts, Sisler 2 pts.

Davis Thomas will be back in action on Monday, January 27th at Union, tipoff is set for 7pm.

**DEADLINE 3PM
FRIDAY**

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Good Luck!

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

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www.parsonsadvocate.com

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Monday thru Friday

DEADLINE 3PM FRIDAY

TURNER'S TIDBITS



This is a Tucker County High School Girl's Basketball Team around 2004. They are identified as: front row, left to right: Meredith Bennett, Jodie Pratt, Chelse Gsell, Jolena Slaubaugh, Brittany Taylor back row, left to right: Jerica Dumire, Bridgette Strawser, Emily Nestor, Jessy Pifer, Trisha Whitehair, Ashley Bonner. Ideas, comments, suggestions, items to share, contact Tim Turner (304) 478-3389.

NOTICE

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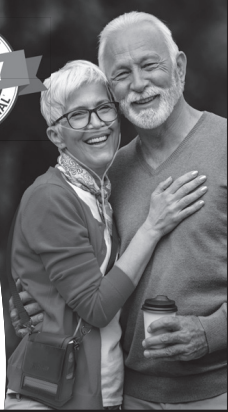
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Cancer Mortality Continues to Drop Despite Rising Incidence in Women

The American Cancer Society has released Cancer Statistics, 2025, the organization’s annual report on cancer facts and trends. The new findings show the cancer mortality rate declined by 34 percent from 1991 to 2022 in the United States, averting approximately 4.5 million deaths. However, this steady progress is jeopardized by increasing incidence for many cancer types, especially among women and younger adults, shifting the burden of disease. For example, incidence rates in women 50-64 years of age have surpassed those in men, and rates in women under 50 are now 82 percent higher than their male counterparts, up from 51 percent in 2002. This pattern includes lung cancer, which is now higher in women than in men among people younger than 65 years. These important findings are published in CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians, alongside its consumer-friendly companion, Cancer Facts & Figures 2025, available on cancer.org.

“Continued reductions in cancer mortality because of drops in smoking, better treatment, and earlier detection is certainly great news,” said Rebecca Siegel, senior scientific director, surveillance research at the American Cancer Society and lead author of the report. “However, this progress is tempered by rising incidence in young and middle-aged women, who are often the family caregivers, and a shifting cancer burden from men to women, harkening back to the early 1900s when cancer was more common in women.”

Overall, in 2025, there will be an estimated 2,041,910 new cancer diagnoses in the United States (5,600 each day) and 618,120 cancer deaths. In addition to projecting the contemporary cancer burden, ACS researchers compiled the most recent findings on population-based cancer occurrence and outcomes using incidence data collected by central cancer registries (through 2021) and mortality data collected by the National Center for Health Statistics (through 2022).

The report also highlights lagging progress against pancreatic cancer, which is the third leading cause of cancer death in the U.S. Both incidence and mortality rates are increasing, and the five-year survival rate is just eight percent for the nine out of 10 people diagnosed with pancreatic exocrine tumors.

“With a critical need to do better, ACS is constantly working to help advance efforts to aid in the discovery of new treatments for cancer patients and care for survivors,” explained Dr. William Dahut, chief scientific officer at the ACS. “As the largest non-government, non-profit funding source of cancer research in the U.S., we are currently financing more than \$450 million in grants to scientists. Our goal is to find answers that help save lives.”

Other highlights from the report include:

Despite overall declines in cancer mortality, death rates are increasing for cancers of the oral cavity, pancreas, uterine corpus, and liver (female).

Additionally, alarming inequalities in cancer mortality persist, with rates in Native American people two to three times higher than white people for kidney, liver, stomach, and cervical cancers. Black people are twice as likely to die of prostate, stomach, and uterine corpus cancers compared to white people and 50 percent more likely to die from cervical cancer, which is preventable.

Incidence rates continue to climb for common cancers, including breast (female), prostate (steepest increase at three percent per year from 2014-2021), pancreatic, uterine corpus, melanoma (female), liver (female), and oral cancers associated with the human papillomavirus.

The rate of new diagnoses of colorectal cancer in men and women younger than 65 years of age and cervical cancer in women (30-44 years of age) has also increased. Notably, lung cancer incidence in women under 65 years of age surpassed men for the first time in 2021 (15.7 versus 15.4 per 100,000 people).

Cancer incidence in children (14 years of age and younger) declined in recent years after decades of increase but continued to rise among adolescents (ages 15-19 years). Mortality rates have dropped by 70 percent in children and by 63 percent in adoles-

cents since 1970, largely because of improved treatment for leukemia.


“Progress against cancer continues to be hampered by striking, wide static disparities for many racial and ethnic groups,” said Dr. Ahmedin Jemal, senior vice president, surveillance and health equity science at the ACS and senior author of the study. “It’s essential to help end discrimination and inequality in cancer care for all populations. Taking this step is vital to closing this persistent gap and moving us closer to ending cancer as we know it, for everyone.”

“This report underscores the need to increase investment in both cancer treatment and care, including equitable screening programs, especially for underserved groups of patients and survivors. Screening programs are a critical component of early detection, and expanding access to these services will save countless lives,” said Dr. Wayne A. I. Frederick, interim chief executive officer of the ACS and the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network. “We also must address these shifts in cancer incidence, mainly among women. A concerted effort between healthcare providers, policymakers and communities needs to be prioritized to assess where and why mortality rates are rising.”

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