SERVING THE PEOPLE OF TUCKER COUNTY SINCE 1896

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Margot Evick of the Randolph-Tucker Child Advocacy Center discusses what her organization has done in the County over the past year with the Tucker County

Child Advocacy Center Talks Child Safety

By: Lydia Crawley The Parsons Advocate

Margot Evick of the Randolph-Tucker Child Advocacy Center spoke to the Tucker County Commission March 12th about what your organization had done in Tucker County over the past year and what their goals for the future were. "The Child Advocacy Center works with community partners to promote healing and justice for victims of abuse and neglect and drug endangerment and all of those things,' Evick said.

Evick said that the CAC has been working with CASA for Kids since 2024 and look forward to continuing to work with the organization as they expand in Tucker to strengthen our partnership with CASA," Evick said. "We are so excited to have them."

According to Evick, case numbers were down in Tucker County for Fiscal Year 2024. "So last year our numbers were down all the way across the board," Evick said. "From a hundred and fifty some the prior year to 89 last year in fiscal year 2024."

Numbers were up eight percent across the State, but numbers in Tucker and Randolph Counties were down, according to Evick. As a result, Evick said her organization has met individually with their Child Protective Service workers on the issue. "There's a lot of reason for that," Evick said. "The State, the entire State



Slater Liller and Daniel Hebb, center, stand with the Tucker County Commission during the award ceremony for Liller March 12th.

ELiller Honored

By: Lydia Crawley

The Parsons Advocate

911 Center Slater Liller was honored for going above and beyond the call of duty to assist callers and save lives. Liller, a longtime 911 dispatcher, was presented a plaque in recognition of his efforts by 911 Center Director Daniel Hebb. At the presentation, Sherry Simmons related how Liller's efforts saved the life of her husband, Bill, one fateful evening in August

Hebb said that Liller's efforts stand out above and beyond what is expected of dispatchers. "This employee stands out and goes above and beyond what is asked and taught," Hebb said. "His selfless and persistent acts have saved lives. Through his valiant efforts and persistent questioning, he was able to retrieve vital information that ultimately led to the saving of the

According to Hebb, Liller has coached callers through administering CPR and Narcan to save the lives of patients. "He administer Narcan," Hebb said. "The patient has a long life ahead of them. He pretty well saved them through coaching.

Its not the first time he's done this."

Simmons related that in August of 2021, Liller's quick actions saved the life of her husband. "On August the 25th, 2021, a John Deere lawnmower met a truck pulling a cattle trailer in front of the Com Center, but the quick action from a dispatcher saved my Bill's life," Simmons said.

"He was the first on scene to administer CPR," Simmons said. "We owe him a lifetime of gratitude for acts that evening were beyond his call of duty."

Simmons said she owes many others a lifetime of gratitude for their actions that day. "The EMS, the Fire Department, God rest his soul, Adam Arborgast and P.S. Martin, along with good neighbors Kevin and Leslie White, Jonathan and Jennifer Rosier and Amanda Simmons we also owe a lifetime of gratitude," Simmons said.

According to Simmons, the doctor at Ruby Memorial said that if not for the quick response that her husband received that day, he would not be here today. "Bill coded three times, sustained a head injury, a broken clavicle, nine broken ribs, two was 10 days," Simmons said. "The doc-

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coached a man through CPR and how to broken vertebrae, he was in ICU and a total times he spent in Ruby Memorial Hospital

Fatality at Timberline Resort

By: Lydia Crawley The Parsons Advocate

An out of state guest at Timberline Resort lost their life Wednesday, March 12th as the result of a suspected medical

emergency, according to Tucker County Sheriff Jake Kopek. "It was a middle aged man, out of state," Kopek said. The man is suspected of experiencing a medical emergency that caused him to strike a tree on the slopes, Kopek said.

According to Kopek, the victim died at the scene. "Right now it is unclear as to what happened," Kopek said. "It appears there was a medical emergency and he struck a tree on the slopes and he perished there."

Timberline Mountain released a statement on Facebook about the incident March 12th. In their statement, Timberline wrote, "We are heartbroken to share the news of a fatality of a guest while skiing at Timberline Mountain on Wednesday, March 12th. We want to express our deepest condolences to the family and loved ones affected by this tragedy."

Timberline also thanked first responders for their assistance during the emergency. "We are immensely grateful to our ski patrol, staff, and local first responders for their swift and professional efforts. Our thoughts are with all those impacted by this devastating event," Timberline wrote.

Timberline also said that they are committed to the safety and well-being of their guests, but had no other details to share.

The Tucker County Sheriff's Department is conducting a death investigation into the incident. "Tucker County Sheriff's Department is investigating," Kopek said. "There is currently a death investigation going on as to the circumstances."

Commission Approves Funding Request for CASA



Crissi Kolb, left, discusses the mission of CASA for Kids with the Tucker County Commission March 12th.

By: Lydia Crawley The Parsons Advocate

The Tucker County Commission approved a \$10,000 funding request for Court Appointed Special Advocates for Kids (CASA) during the Commission's March 12th meeting. Crissi Kolb represented CASA at the meeting to present the funding request and explained what CASA did for children in Tucker County. "Its a really amazing and really cool thing to be a part of the growth and the healing of children," Kolb said. "Unfortunately, we come into their lives at the worst point, but we get to be with them through that."

CASA is a volunteer organization founded in Monongalia County in 1994, according to Kolb and began serving

Tucker County in 2024. The organization is part of a multidiciplinary team that serves the same children as the Child Advocacy Center and partners with the Center to serve children in Tucker County and group recruits community members to volunteer as child advocates, Kolb said. volunteers are tasked with advocating for the best interest of children in care who've experienced abuse and neglect," Kolb said.

According to Kolb, CASA volunteers only have one child that they serve and that allows them to get to know the child in a way that other workers never can. "Our CASA volunteers only have one case or one child that they serve from start to finish, their time in foster care," Kolb said. "They really get that individualized care,

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Hambleton Park Raising Money for New Playset

By: Lydia Crawley The Parsons Advocate

A group of concerned citizens in Hambleton are raising money for a new playset for the city park. Katie Whitmore of Hambleton is spearheading the effort to replace the aging playset. "We are trying to raise enough money to get a new playset," Whitmore said.

Whitmore said the existing equipment has been there for years and her group wants to create a safe place for the children of Hambleton to play. "We want to make our park very safe for our kids," Whitmore said. "What we have has been there for

Whitmore said a lot of people do not know where the park is. "The Hambleton Park has kind of gone off grid," Whitmore said. "Even a lot of Hambleton residents, if you say the Hambleton Park, they don't even know where its at."

There are two parks in Hambleton, the playground and a ball court, according to Whitmore. "We kind of have two Hambleton Parks," Whitmore said. "They have the one behind Tom Hardy's garage, which is the playground park and then we also have the basketball court underneath the hill of Hambleton Park. So a lot of people forget about that, also."

Whitmore said that her group fundraised

\$6,600 last year and applied for several grants for the project. "We had a really good income last year of what we raised, what we put in for grants," Whitmore said. "Which was a little under \$6,600 and we worked our tails off. We were in the community almost every weekend, every other weekend."

According to Whitmore, many grants have been denied due to the park's location. "We've kind of exceeded a lot of our grants," Whitmore said. "I've put in for multiple grants. A lot of places don't want to give us grants because we're either not on the trail, we're not something with the water, they are coming up with excuses."

The cost of the new equipment is estimated at \$18,000. "Playground equipment is very, very expensive," Whitmore said. "I have a quote of a little under \$18,000 and that includes the delivering, setting up, everything."

Whitmore said the group are going to continue to apply for grants and fund raise. "We have some more money we are going to raise," Whitmore said. "There are more events coming up this year. We have some more grants that we are going to apply for, but we are still under and we are short."

To donate to the Hambleton Park, an account for the Hambleton Park has been established at Mountain Valley Bank or donations can be made to Katie Whitmore.

Animal Shelter Golf Tournament Scheduled for May, Vaccines Available to Residents

By: Lydia Crawley The Parsons Advocate

The Tucker County Animal Shelter will hold its annual golf tournament May 17th, according to Animal Shelter Director Stacey Canfield. Paws on the Green will be held at Holly Meadows Golf Course in Parsons. "We have a golf tournament coming up on May 17th," Canfield said.

The event has grown over the last couple of years, Canfield said. "That brought in over \$5,000 for us last year and the year before that I'm not totally certain on a number, but it was over two grand then," Canfield said.

Canfield said she is hopeful that this year will be even bigger than last because the word is getting out sooner. "We are hoping for more because we are getting the word out faster than last year," Canfield said.

Last year, there was a tournament in Buckhannon that conflicted with the Shelter's event, Canfield said, and that drew away from potential players. "There was a big tournament in Buckhannon the same weekend as ours," Canfield said. "So we are looking for a better outcome this year then last year."

Canfield said so far this fiscal year, the shelter has spent nearly \$39,000 on vet bills, which is why fundraisers and donations such as this are so vitally important. "From July 1, as of last Friday, we have spent close to \$39,000 in vet bills just for an eight month period," Canfield said. "So we really rely on our consistent donations to come in and our big fundraisers like this. So we are super excited that the golf course reached out to us and got us on the schedule."

To register a tee time call 304-478-3406. There will be a cash prize for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. The cost is \$40 a player.

Canfield also said the shelter offers microchip and rabies vaccines to Tucker County residents at a reduced cost. According to Canfield, the cost of a rabies vaccine for Tucker County residents at the shelter is \$10. "I can personally administer rabies vaccines at the shelter for all animals owned by Tucker County residents," Canfield said. "If you have a Tucker County address, I can microchip your animal and I can give it its rabies vaccine. Which rabies is required by State law."



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News of Record

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

- Emily E. Smith, Dry Fork District, 21,600 square feet or .497 acres, Tucker County, WV to Robin
- Justin Edmunds and Anna Edmunds, Dry Fork District, Land of Canaan Vacation D2, No. 19 to Dylan Bowers and Aubree Bowers.
- Larry M. Stemple, Sr. and Emma M. Stemple, St. George District, Quitclaim Deed 5 acres Horseshoe Run to Brent M. Gidley and Wendy
- Own Some Land LLC, Dry Fork District, Lot #160 of Mountainside, Section E of Timberline containing 14.72 acres to CVWVLLC, \$299,990.
- Crossed Paws LLC, Dry Fork District, Unit #41 of Winterset containing 15,160 square feet to Peter Scanlon and Linda Scanlon, \$105,000.
- Robert C. Mullenax, Amy Mullenax, Amy Mullenax, Attorney-in-Fact, Black Fork District, Part of Lot 35, all of Lots 36 and 37, Blackman Flats Sub-division to Steven M. Stone, \$154,900.
- Tommy G. Nestor, Clover District, 63.50 acres, Texas Mountain to Tommy G. Nestor.
- Peter C. Johnson, Davis Corporation, Lot #15, Davis Riverwalk, Phase 2 to Friday Management LLC, \$65,000.
- Clifford F. Kinney Jr. and Sandra Kinney, Lots 48 and 49, Tuscan Ridge to Benjamin Williams and Rachel Williams, \$92,000.
- Tommy G. Nestor, Black Fork District, All of Lots #4 and 5, CE plum Land to Tommy G. Nestor.
- Tambra Jo Hebb and Daniel Wade Pase, Thomas Corporation, Part of Lot 622 to Michael E. Bender and Emily P. Bender, \$165,000.
- Jon Hovatter and Deborah Hovatter, Licking, .23 acres Bull Run to The Yellow Moon Cabin LLC.
- Jon Hovatter and Deborah Hovatter, Licking, 41 ½ acres Bull Run and 11.03 acres Bull Run to Matraca R. Gunnoe, Trustee of the Jon and Deborah Hovatter Irrevocable Trust.

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

 $Ricky \, S. \, Rosier to \, Lindsey \, K. \, Hebb \, \text{on Saturday},$ March 8, 2025.

Cont. From Front Page 1

CHILD ADVOCACY

of West Virginia, did see an eight percent increase in children being served, but for whatever reason, Randolph and Tucker Counties, the numbers did not match up.'

Tucker County Commission President Mike Rosenau said he felt that CPS in the area were not doing the job they should and thought Tucker County was falling through the cracks. "In my opinion, they are just not doing their job in Tucker County," Rosenau said. "I have talked on the State level and the thing that I get is, well we just don't have the workers. Well, we have children in Tucker County that need protected."

Evick said she has met with the CPS workers and they assure her they are doing the best job they can for the County, but covering Tucker County is a challenge. "I have driven over to Mineral County and met with them individually and they assure me they are doing the best that they can," Evick said. "But yet I talk to my fellow directors and other CAC's which actually share the same CPS workers... but there's quite a few counties that they are covering so Tucker County to come over here has been a challenge for them."

Evick said she stays in contact with Tucker County Prosecuting Attorney Savannah Hull Wilkins on the issue. "Of course Savannah Wilkins and I are in constant contact to make sure that is happening," Evick said. "We have another meeting to see what are we going to do because this is a problem."

Rosenau said that Tucker County children are just as important as children in other areas of the State and doesn't want them to be left behind because of where they live. "The little county, tucked away over in the mountains, I don't have time to do that," Rosenau said. "I can just go down the street and take care of children right here. Well, our children are just as important as every child. So that's why you'll see me get a little bit, I don't know, get a little bit loud, passionate. We have to be or we just get drownded

Evick said that Tucker County cases were seen due to efforts of law enforcement, prosecutors and school counselors. "The numbers that did come through Tucker County, because of law enforcement and prosecution, stayed up,' Evick said. "But law enforcement, because school counselors call in constantly, making sure, hey this happening. They call us directly. We were able to catch a lot, make sure a lot of those kids were seen in this area."

Rosenau also attributed school resource officers to the drop in Tucker County cases. "We have school resource officers now," Rosenau said. "That may make a difference in our numbers going down."

Evick also said that the school resource officers have had a positive impact on children since their adoption. "We have seen such a positive impact for children since those PRO officers have been available for children," Evick said.

Rosenau attributed Tucker County's success to teamwork. "We talk about a Team in Tucker County," Rosenau said. "We have the School Resource Officers and we have a Prosecutor now that does not hesitate to prosecute and I appreciate that, especially when it comes to children. So you do something wrong in Tucker County and it has something to do with a child, you're going to jail."

In all, Tucker County saw 90 forensic interviews, with 10 of those children receiving medical care, 36 of those children referred and started counseling, 1,391 children receiving prevention, 953 of those children receiving advocacy services with a majority of children for sexual abuse with the remainder followed by physical abuse, according to Evick. "Drug endangerment, the number of children that we saw doubled," Evick said. "That was significant. We had the highest number of increase for West Virginia."

Evick said that Tucker County has seen 19 cases so far since January with only a couple more months in the fiscal year. "Our numbers since January, Randolph-Tucker CAC in total has only seen 67 kids," Evick said. "But 19 of them have been through Tucker County. Sometimes we see 20 to 25 kids total for Tucker County for the year," Evick said. "So to have 19 already and we've only got a couple more months of the year. That's good. I'm comfortable with that, but I still need that CPS response to be stronger.'

The CAC also has been completing their yearly body safety curriculum in the County schools. This year, Evick said they have been in talks with Mountain Laurel School about beginning the program there. Rosenau asked about what could be done to bring the curriculum to home schooled children in the area. "That is a topic of discussion currently," Evick said. "It has been the last few years. How do we reach these children, especially with the increase in the number of kids that are staying home to be schooled. What are we supposed to do?"

Evick said the topic has been a state-wide discussion among CAC's, one without a simple answer. "That is a

state-wide conversation right now to try and figure out how we are getting this in because we know it is mandated that these children that are in public school get sexual abuse prevention curriculum every year. We haven't figured that out yet," Evick said.

Evick said many homeschooling parents are doing a good job, but she worries there are those children that "nobody has eyes on." Evick said that perhaps there would be a way to enlist pediatricians to assist in efforts, as they are mandatory reporters. "Do we meet with the pediatricians to really dig into what signs to look for in that small amount of time they are with them so they as mandatory reporters can make sure they are connecting or giving the parents that prevention information to share with them?" Evick said.

Rosenau said that he is not against homeschooling, only that he doesn't want to see any child "fall through the cracks." "I'm not saying anything negative at all about homeschooling, but I want all children because its not just the sexual abuse that could happen while they are homeschooling, but somewhere else," Rosenau said. "So if they have a little bit of knowledge on where to go, what to do if that happens. You know, I don't want any child to fall through the cracks."

Rosenau offered that if Evick required a letter of support to assist with efforts at the State level, the County Commission would be happy to write one for her. "If with your conversations at the State level, if there's are any letters of support that you need from a County Commission, we'd be glad to write that letter, if it would help you, just to try to get their attention," Rosenau said.

In a motion made by Rosenau, the Commission approved a funding request by the CAC for \$15,000. Included in the motion was the free use of office space supplied by the

Tickets for this year's Champions for Children April fundraiser are on sale, according to Evick and can be purchased through the organization's website https://rtcac.org.

Advocate

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COMMISSION

they get to know the kids, their needs, their wants, their desires."

Kolb said that caseworkers often have overwhelming case loads that do not allow them to get to know the children as well as CASA volunteers do. "Unfortunately, a lot of our caseworkers have overwhelming case loads," Kolb said. "Our guardians ad litems that we usually work with have overwhelming case loads. But our CASA volunteers only have that one child or that one family and they are really the consistent people in their lives."

According to Kolb, the child that she works with has been through four guardian ad litems, nine caseworkers and 18 different placement, but only one CASA volunteer "So, I have been with her throughout that time and been able to go with her to each place," Kolb said.

CASA volunteers also act as the child's voice in court, Kolb said. "They also give the children a voice within the court," Kolb said. "The kids don't go to court. So often times they feel like they're forgotten, the judge doesn't want to hear what they have to say or other members don't necessarily want to hear want to hear it. So we help them provide a voice within the court."

CASA submitted a grant request of \$10,000 to help with expansion efforts in Tucker County and to fund staffing, marketing and supplies, Kolb said. "We did submit a grant request," Kolb said. "It will help us to continue to expand here in Tucker County."

When asked by Tucker County Commission President Mike Rosenau how many children CASA currently serves in Tucker County, Kolb said there are currently between 18 and 20 children in the County being served by CASA volunteers. "I want to make sure that our children, if there are only 18 versus 110, get the same care that Monongalia County may have or a larger county. I'm not pointing them out," Rosenau said. "Because our children are just as important."

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Kolb said the best thing about working in Tucker County is how much the community comes together to support the children. "What's amazing about Tucker County is it really shows how well people work together, when they work well together and they are not overwhelmed, how efficient we can be, "Kolb said. "For me, its been a blessing to work in Tucker County just to see how well the community here just wraps around the children that have experienced these sort of things."

According to Kolb, the cooperation of Tucker County is one of the main reasons CASA wishes to expand in the County. "It works well here in Tucker County and that is part of the reason why we wanted to expand," Kolb said. "We don't want other big counties. We want to focus on small counties because as you said, they are just as important."

Rosenau said the County provides an office space to the Child Advocacy Center and suggested that CASA works with them if they needed the setting for business or child advocacy purposes. "We provide an office space," Rosenau said. "So I'm sure you can work together, if you need a place for your files or just to meet with a child or do whatever out of the setting of the home, I'm sure you can work with Child Advocacy to work together because we provide them a space and that's all working together. That's what we do in Tucker County."

Rosenau also thanked CASA for what they do to assist children within the County. "We as a Commission appreciate anything you can do for children, especially neglected and abused and children that actually need the extra boost in school and activities," Rosenau said. "This Commission appreciates that."

A funding request by CASA for Kids in the amount of \$10,000 was approved by the Commission by a motion made by Commissioner Fred Davis. The money will be appropriated from Opioid Settlement money, Rosenau said.

LET US KNOW "WHAT'S HAPPENING"

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

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

30 days and can not exceed 500 words.

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

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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.

Marie Ellen Crossland

Marie Ellen Crossland, 88, of Davis, passed away on March 9, 2025, at the Stonehaven Home in Home in Belington. Born on August 30, 1936, in Lanesville, she was the daughter of the late Joyl and Mary (Collins) Crossland.

Marie retired from the City of Alexandria, VA, where she worked as a secretary. She enjoyed playing bingo and board games. She grew up on country music and would go square dancing any chance she had.

She is survived by her daughter, Cheryl Robin



Hassinger; a grandson, Cole Jones; two siblings, Richard Crossland and wife Wanda, and Elaine Kackley; a sister in law, Sharon Crossland; and a host of nieces and neph-

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two siblings, Dixie Lea and Allen.

Friends will be received on Friday, March 14, 2025, from 10 AM to 12 PM, at the Fredlock & Fenner Funeral Homes. 567 Thomas Avenue, Davis. A funeral service will be held at 12 PM in the funeral home with Pastor John Callaway officiating. Interment will follow in the Buena Cem-

The Fredlock & Fenner Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Crossland family.

Cecil Junior "C. J."

Streets, 77, a resident of Parsons, passed from this life Saturday, March 8, 2025, at Mon General Hospital in Morgantown.

CJ was born Friday, January 2, 1948, in Brushy Fork, a son of the late John William Streets and Mae Godwin Streets. In August of 1981, in Thomas, he was married to Mary Lorraine Swanson Streets who survives. They had celebrated forty-three years of marriage.

Also left to cherish CJ's memory are two sons, John Makepeace and wife, Denise, of Lacrosse, WI, and Benjamin Makepeace and wife, Kathy, of Austin, TX, two granddaughters, Leah Makepeace and Luna



Makepeace, two sisters, Dora Jean Poling and Patty Sue Snyder, and many wonderful cousins, nieces and nephews.

Preceding CJ in death besides his parents were three brothers: Robert Dale "Bob" Streets, Asa "Sonny" Streets, William Dorsey "Dorse" Streets, and a sister, Dottie Grace

Cecil Junior "C. J." Streets

CJ attended Murphy's School and Pifer Mountain School. He had worked in timber, as a coal miner, and as a self-employed contractor. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, working on his farm, country and gospel music. He loved his family and was a loving husband, father, brother, and friend to all. He was a "true dag gone WV boy" all the way through.

CJ's request for cremation will be honored. The Hostetler Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements for Cecil Junior "C. J." Streets. Send online condolences to the family at: www. hostetlerfuneralhome.com.

LILLER

Cont. From Front Page 1



Sherry Simmons hugs Slater Liller in thanks during Liller's award ceremony March 12th.

tor in charge that night, told me that if it wasn't for the quick response that Bill received from all persons involved, he would not be here today."

Tucker County Commission President Mike Rosenau thanked Liller for his efforts on behalf of the Tucker County Commission. "On behalf of the Tucker County Commission, I want to thank you for all that you do," Rosenau said. "For the life saving that you have committed and done here beyond your call of duty. When Sherry was talking about Bill, you

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saw that right outside the window of the 911 Center. So, you didn't hesitate to go assist and that is beyond anybody and I just want to thank you from the bottom of my

heart for all that you do."

In Appreciation

The family of Donald Lee Knotts wishes to express our heartfelt thanks to all our family and friends for their support during the loss of our loved one.

We deeply express our appreciation for the food, flowers, calls, cards, gifts, texts, visits and prayers.

We want to extend special thanks to WVU St. Joseph's Hospital, Tygart Valley Health and Rehab, Belington, Mountain Community Living, Anita and Nick Barb and Lohr & Barb Funeral Home, pall bearers, Rev. Carolyn Shreve and Rev. James Snyder, for the beautiful service, The St. George Church of God, Kasson Church and anyone that contributed in any way to the delicious bereavement dinner.

The Donald Lee Knotts Family





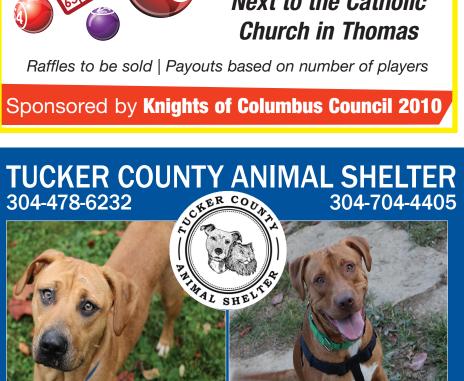


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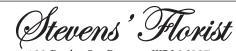
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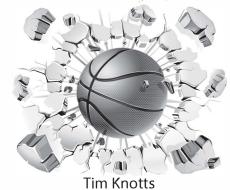


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LEGAL NOTICE STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

A meeting of the Stockholders of Miners & Merchants Bank of Thomas, West Virginia will be held at the Bank's Main Office Building located at 16000 Appalachian Highway, Thomas, West Virginia on Tuesday, March 25, 2025, beginning at 1:00 p.m., for the purpose of electing a Board of Directors for the ensuing year and transacting any other business

that may properly come before the meeting. Given under my hand this 4th day of February 2025.

Jennifer Newland

LEGAL

The Town of Davis is accepting applications for a general labor position. The job entails all work associated with the Town, including, but not limited to, trash pickup, grass cutting, snow plowing/removal, general town maintenance, water/sewer line repairs, cemetery work, and assisting other jobs when needed.

The Town of Davis offers full-time employment with full benefits after a 90-day probation period. Pay is discussed upon interview based on

Applications can be picked up at the Davis Town Hall, 505 William Ave., Davis, WV 26260.

Applications/Resumes can be returned by mail at P.O. Box 207, Davis, WV 26260, or in person at the Town Hall Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. by March 21, 2025.

The Town of Davis is an Equal Opportunity Employer

LEGAL

I have before me the accounts of the Executor or Administrator of the estates of the following deceased persons: Personal Representative(s)

Deceased Rodney D. Liller Hannah Liller 1st publication 3/19/25 PO Box 177 2nd publication 3/26/25 Davis, WV 26260

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

108.99

LEGAL

(2022-C-000013 - TUCKER COUNTY - CATO ENERGY LLC)

To: LARRY POLING ET AL, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all ardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties have ing an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject

DISTRICT CLOVER MAP 9999 PARCEL 0020 1090 0000

You will take notice that CATO ENERGY LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, Cert. No. 2022-C-000013, located in CLOVER District, MIN INT IN 70.35 AC, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of POLING LARRY A ET AL, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of TUCKER County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on June 27, 2023. CATO ENERGY LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after June 1, 2025, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before May 31, 2025 will be as follows:

interest, for tax year ticket number 2021 - 2054. Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for 0.00 ticket number Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2022 - 2067. 15.63 Additional taxes with interest. 0.00 Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest. 158.70 Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest. 637.25 Additional Statutory Fees with Interest. 409.43 Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, \$ 1,330.00 certified or personal check.

You may redeem at any time before May 31, 2025, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with

Given under my hand March 4, 2025 Christal G. Perry

Christal G. Perry

Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and

Nonentered Lands of CLAY County, State of West Virginia

Please return this letter and payment to the West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East **Building 1, Room W-114** Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Questions please call 1-888-509-6568

LEGAL

(2022-C-000037 - TUCKER COUNTY - CATO ENERGY LLC)

To: NADA MURPHY, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT LICKING MAP 9999 PARCEL 0090 0081 0000

You will take notice that CATO ENERGY LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, Cert. No. 2022-C-000037, located in LICKING District, 1/7 M 188 ACRES, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of MURPHY NADA, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of TUCKER County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on June 27, 2023. CATO ENERGY LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after June 1, 2025, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before May 31, 2025 will

| e as follows: | | | |
|---|-----------------|----------|--|
| Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certificatio | on, with \$ | 98.33 | |
| interest, for tax year ticket number 2021 - 8435. | | | |
| Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification | on for \$ | 0.00 | |
| ticket number | | | |
| Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 20 |)22 - 8473. \$ | 5.97 | |
| Additional taxes with interest. | \$ | 0.00 | |
| Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest. | \$ | 110.91 | |
| Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, perso | onal service, | | |
| Secretary of State with interest. | \$ | 637.25 | |
| Additional Statutory Fees with Interest. | \$ | 409.43 | |
| Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, m | noney order, \$ | 1,261.89 | |
| | | | |

certified or personal check. You may redeem at any time before May 31, 2025, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

Given under my hand March 4, 2025

Christal G. Perry Christal G. Perry

Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of CLAY County, State of West Virginia

Please return this letter and payment to the West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East Building 1, Room W-114 Charleston, West Virginia 25305. Questions please call 1-888-509-6568

LEGAL

Tucker County Commission Levy Estimate (Budget) 2025 - 2026 Fiscal Year

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA County of: Tucker, West Virginia

In accordance with Code §11-8-10, as amended, the Tucker County Commission proceeded to make an estimate of the amounts necessary to be raised by levy of taxes for the current year, and doth determine and estimate the several amounts to be as follows:

| General Fund | Estimated | Revenues |
|---|------------------|-----------|
| Fund Balance | \$ | 1,000,000 |
| Property Taxes Current Year | | 3,428,797 |
| Prior Year Taxes | | 65,000 |
| Tax Penalties, Interest & Publication Fees | | 30,000 |
| Dog Taxes | | 500 |
| Property Transfer Tax | | 125,000 |
| Gas & Oil Severance Tax | | 20,000 |
| Wine & Liquor Tax | | 15,000 |
| Hotel Occupancy Tax | | 1,000,000 |
| Payment in Lieu of Taxes | | 45,000 |
| Federal Grants / Federal Payment in Lieu of Taxes | | 300,000 |
| State Grants | | 50,000 |
| Sheriff's Service of Process | | 3,000 |
| County Clerk's Earnings | | 20,000 |
| Circuit Clerk's Earnings | | 6,500 |
| Accident Reports | | 400 |
| Motor Vehicle License Fee | | 16,000 |
| Rents & Concessions | | 50,000 |
| Special Patrol / Security Systems | | 300 |
| Franchise Agreement | | 3,700 |
| IRP Fees (Interstate Registration Plan) | | 30,000 |
| Regional Jail Operations Partial Reimbursement | | 4,500 |
| Interest Earned | | 10,000 |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | | 21,285 |
| Sheriff's Commission | | 15,000 |
| Gaming Income | | 40,000 |
| Video Lottery | | 3,000 |
| Refunds / Reimbursements (External Sources) | | 700,000 |
| Transfers Assessor's Valuation Fund | - | 177,482 |
| Total Estimated General Fund Revenues | \$ | 7,180,464 |
| Coal Severance Tax | Estimated | Revenues |
| Assigned Fund Balance | \$ | 33,667 |
| Coal Severance Tax | | 5,000 |
| Total Coal Severance | \$ | 38,667 |
| | General | Coal |
| ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES | Fund | Tax |
| GENERAL GOVERNMENT | | |

| Coal Severance Tax | | 5,000 |
|---|--------------|-----------------|
| Total Coal Severance | \$ | 38,667 |
| | General | Coal Severai |
| ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES | <u>Fund</u> | <u>Tax Fund</u> |
| GENERAL GOVERNMENT | | |
| County Commission | \$ 436,613 | , |
| County Clerk | 320,762 | |
| Circuit Clerk | 218,520 | |
| Sheriff - Treasurer | 411,30 | |
| Prosecuting Attorney | 346,614 | |
| Assessor | 239,440 | |
| Assessor's Valuation Fund | 177,482 | 2 - |
| Statewide Computer Network | 18,000 | |
| Agriculture Agent | 128,03 | |
| Elections - County Clerk | 105,61 | 7 - |
| Magistrate Court | 10,000 |) - |
| Circuit Court | 6,222 | 2 - |
| Courthouse | 867,550 |) - |
| Regional Development Authority | 2,563 | - |
| Economic Development | 92,000 |) - |
| Rehabilitation of Property | 40,000 |) - |
| Contingencies - Not to Exceed 10% of Budget | 75,000 | <u> </u> |
| TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT | 3,495,72 | 7 38,667 |
| PUBLIC SAFETY | | |
| Sheriff - Law Enforcement | 720,06 | 7 - |
| Sheriff - Service of Process | 105,15 | 1 - |
| Regional Jail | 150,000 |) - |
| Emergency Services | 91,054 | 4 - |
| Communication Center | 683,950 |) - |
| Fire Department | 140,000 |) - |
| Ambulance Authority | 250,000 |) - |
| Dog Warden / Humane Society | 190,54 | 1 - |
| Community Based Corrections Program | 538,76 | 1 - |
| K-9 | 11,42 | - 8 |
| TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY | 2,880,952 | |
| HEALTH AND SANITATION | | |
| Local Health Department | 35,000 |) - |
| TOTAL HEALTH & SANITATION | 35,000 | |
| CULTURE AND RECREATION | | |
| Parks & Recreation | 120,000 |) - |
| 4-H Camp | 80,000 | |
| Historical Commission | 20,000 | |
| Visitor's Bureau | 500,000 | |
| Library | 27,500 | |
| TOTAL CULTURE & RECREATION | 747,500 | |
| SOCIAL SERVICES | | |
| TOTAL SOCIAL SERVICES | | _ |
| CAPITAL PROJECTS | | <u> </u> |
| Assessor | 21,28 | - 5 - |
| TOTAL CAPITAL OUTLAY | 21,28 | |
| Total Expenditures | \$ 7,180,464 | |
| rotar Expenditures | 9 /,100,40 | <u> </u> |

TUCKER COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA REGULAR CURRENT EXPENSE LEVY

| FISCAL | YEA | R JULY 1, 2025 - JU | UNE 30, 202 | 6 | |
|--|-----------|-----------------------|-------------|----|-----------|
| C | ertif | icate of Valuation | | | |
| A | sses | sed Value | Levy | | Taxes |
| Current Year fo | or Ta | x Purposes | Rate/\$100 | | Levied |
| Class I | | | | | |
| Personal Property | \$ | 0 | 11.28 | \$ | 0 |
| Public Utility | | 0 | | | 0 |
| Total Class I | \$ | 0 | | \$ | 0 |
| Class II | | | | | |
| Real Estate | \$ | 448,089,110 | 22.56 | \$ | 1,010,889 |
| Personal Property | | 2,872,327 | | | 6,480 |
| Total Class II | \$ | 450,961,437 | | \$ | 1,017,369 |
| Class III | | | | | |
| Real Estate | \$ | 314,004,660 | 45.12 | \$ | 1,416,789 |
| Personal Property | | 130,947,857 | | | 590,837 |
| Public Utility | | 56,407,222 | | | 254,509 |
| Total Class III | \$ | 501,359,739 | | \$ | 2,262,135 |
| Class IV | | | | | |
| Real Estate | \$ | 69,648,760 | 45.12 | \$ | 314,255 |
| Personal Property | | 22,271,249 | | | 100,488 |
| Public Utility | | 9,919,412 | | | 44,756 |
| Total Class IV | \$ | 101,839,421 | | \$ | 459,499 |
| Total Value & Projected Revenue | <u>\$</u> | 1,054,160,597 | | \$ | 3,739,003 |
| Less Delinquencies, Exonerations | | | 5.00% | | 186,950 |
| Less Tax Discounts | | | 2.00% | | 71,041 |
| Less Allowance for Tax Increment | Fina | ncing (if Applicable) | | | 0 |
| Total Projected Property Tax Col | llect | ion | | | 3,481,012 |
| Less Assessor Valuation Fund | | | 1.50% | | 0 |
| (Subtracted from regular current ex | pen | se taxes levied only) | | | |
| Net Amount to be Raised by Levy STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA | of Pı | roperty Taxes | | \$ | 3,481,012 |

I, Sherry Simmons, CLERK OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF SAID COUNTY, DO HEREBY CER-

TIFY THAT THE FOREGOING ARE TRUE COPIES FROM THE RECORD OF ORDERS MADE AND

ENTERED BY SAID COMMISSION ON THE 12th DAY OF MARCH 2025.

COUNTY OF TUCKER

What's ? Happening

Buckwheat Cake and Sausage Dinner

The Maple Spring Church will have a buckwheat cake, sausage and gravy dinner from 3 - 8 p.m. Saturday, April 5 in the Family Life Center. There will be a bake sale as well. Donations are \$12, children 6 - 10years, \$6 and children 5 and under eat free. Proceeds go to Family Life

Center. For more information please call 304-735-5202.

TC Retired School Employees meeting March 20 at noon

TC Retired School Employees meeting is March 20 at TC Senior Center in Parsons. Senior Center choir sings at 10:30. Lunch is available at 11:30, meeting to follow shortly after 12:00 noon.



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

March 19, 1936: The Ohio River crested a record 15 feet above flood stage at Wheeling.

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

March 20, 1849: Businessman James Kay was born in Scotland. He constructed the coke ovens at Hawks Nest, installed a cable car to carry coal across the New River, and installed a tramway to move miners and coal up and down the gorge face at Kaymoor.

March 20, 1897: Musician Frank Hutchison was born in Raleigh County. With a slide guitar sound akin to the bottleneck style, he helped instill a blues strain into modern country music and was influential among coalfield musicians.

March 20, 1936: Recurring storms led to major flooding on the Potomac River, hitting record levels in Harpers Ferry. The Ohio River at Parkersburg reached 10 feet above flood stage.

March 21, 1914: The first West Virginia boys'

County Route 1/15

(Bob Smith Road),

Tucker County, will

Wednesday, March

TUCKER COUNTY,

WV – County Route

Road), Tucker County,

1/15 (Bob Smith

12, 2025

have delays beginning



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

high school basketball tournament began Buckhannon. The event was sponsored by West Virginia Wesleyan College, which at the time had the state's largest and finest gymnasium.

March 21, 2018: Sculptor Frank Gaylord died. Born 1925 in Clarksburg, his best-known work is "The Column," a platoon of 19 larger-than-life, stainless steel soldiers comprising the central element of the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington.

March 22, 1922: Physician Mildred Mitchell-Bateman was born in Georgia. She became the first Black woman in West Virginia to hold a highlevel state administrative position when, in 1962, Governor Wally Barron appointed her director of the Department of Mental Health.

March 23, 2003: Private Jessica Lynch of Pal-

Tucker County Road Closure

will have delays from

7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

beginning Wednes-

day, March 12, 2025,

through mid-April, for

setting up steel girders.

Work will begin at the

intersection of County

Route 1 (Holly Mead-

ows Road) and County

estine, Wirt County, was serving as a supply clerk with the Army's 507th Maintenance Company when she was captured by Iraqi forces after her group was ambushed.

March 24, 1890: Confederate General William Lowther "Mudwall" Jackson died in Louisville. Jackson, who was born in Clarksburg, joined the Confederate Army as a private. After helping to organize an infantry unit, he was promoted to colonel. He served on the staff of his cousin, Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson, and was jokingly nicknamed "Mudwall."

March 25, 1878: Attorney General Armistead Abraham "Cousin Abe" Lilly was born at Jumping Branch, Summers County. Lilly appealed the Virginia Debt Suit to the U.S. Supreme Court; when settled, it was estimated that Lilly had saved the state a large sum of money.

Route 1/15 (Bob Smith

Road) and ending at

Jersey Lane. Accom-

gency vehicles, school

buses and United States

modation for emer-

Postal Services; all

alternate routes.

other motorists are to

expect delays or to seek

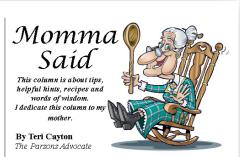
By Teri Cayton

The Parsons Advocate

I was coming to work this week and saw something that really blew my mind. Ahead of me I saw an animal crossing the road so I slowed down to let it pass. As I got closer the shape and gait of the animal were unmistakable. It was a very large otter. It was dark, almost black and about three feet long. I have lived my entire life in West Virginia and outside an animal park that is the first one I have ever seen.

What really baffled me was how far it was from the nearest body of water. The closest water is a small stream that meanders through some bottom land but I would not think it would have the amount of fish an otter would need to sustain itself. Also they are usually in a large family unit.

It hasn't rained much lately to have misplaced it so I am just baffled. I know otters are native to West Virginia but to have gone this far in



life and this is my first sighting I am elated. I don't know much about that area as far as how the land lies because it was a massive dump area for dirt when the four lane highway went through. I don't know if there are ponds behind this mountain of dirt or not.

I am so intrigued that I would even go so far as to stop and ask permission to walk through the area and see if I can find where it lives. Momma Said, "I just hope it does not meet a grizzly fate on the highway." It was a pleasure for me to see something that I would have never have guessed to see in the wild.

Cranberry Bliss Bars

INGREDIENTS FOR THE BARS

- 1 cup (2 sticks) butter, melted
- 1 1/2 cups brown sugar
- 2 eggs, room temperature • 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup white chocolate chips • 3/4 cup dried cranberries, rough-

ly chopped FOR THE FROSTING AND TOP-**PING**

- 8 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/3 cup dried cranberries, chopped
- 1/2 cup white chocolate, melted for drizzling

INSTRUCTIONS

• Preheat the oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Line a 9×13-inch baking pan with parchment paper, leaving an

overhang on the sides.

- In a large bowl, beat the melted butter and brown sugar until combined. Whisk in the eggs and vanilla until smooth.
- Sift the flour, baking powder, and salt in a separate bowl. Add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients and mix until just combined. Do not over mix. Fold in the white chocolate chips and cranberries.
- Spread the batter evenly into the prepared pan. Bake for 20-22 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Allow the bars to cool completely in the pan.
- Make the frosting: In a medium bowl, beat the cream cheese with an electric mixer until smooth. Add the powdered sugar and vanilla and beat until light and fluffy.
- Spread the frosting evenly over the cooled bars. Top them with cranberries and drizzle with melted white chocolate. Lift the bars out of the pan using the overhang. Cut them into 24 squares.

Super Crossword **CROSS WORDS**

89 An ex-Trump 129 What nine **ACROSS** 47 Get older 1 Swing by 50 Give off 92 Fix typos, say 6 Sop up 51 Shaggy's 93 Plus more: 12 Fez or beret nickname for Abbr. 15 General his dog 94 \$5 bills chicken 52 Pollen lover in slang 53 Actress 19 Preface 96 Intense

20 "Hello" singer Lionel 54 "Life Is Good" 21 Santa rapper 55 Letter winds 22 Eight, in after pi **56** 212 degrees Berlin 23 Alternative to Fahrenheit. potstickers for water **61** "Yup" 26 Trevi Fountain city 63 Big Apple

27 Golf prop 28 Requiring lots of attention 29 L-P linkup 30 "- Up Mv Heart" (1997 *NSYNC song) 32 Call before the court

35 Touchy topic 37 Skit-filled NBC show in brief 38 Texas-Louisiana border river

41 Three. in Paris 42 H.G. Wells Doctor Moreau, e.g. 66 Alpha Sig 110 Chant 111 Boxing great e.g. 67 Speaks from a soapbox 115 Suffix with 68 Right after Motor 116 British being baked 72 Fake: Prefix 117 Oxidizer in 75 Stalagmite

site 76 Camera type in brief 77 Acting award 81 Brand of hard cider

84 Google Play download 86 Tokyo sash 87 Prefix with byte or ton

88 Suffix with

key words in this puzzle are synonyms of DOWN 99 "That doesn't 2 Entomb

3 Navigate ring -101 Regressed 4 A Gershwin 102 - - la-la brother 103 Group of 5 Male tabby warriors in 6 Eve of old TV "Kung Fu one's time Panda" 8 Missile in the 106 Church part Gulf War for the clergy 9 "Heavens!" 10 Shred

Stakes (horse race) 12 Kayak cousin 13 "Gemini Man" director Lee prep school 14 Grazing land 15 "Proud Mary liquid rocket star — P. propellants Henson 122 Swedish 16 Makes the Billboard

soprano Top 40, e.g. 123 '50s prez 17 Of a resistance unit (HUD corp.) 18 Artery insert **125** Yo-yo part 24 Like Brits 126 Lucy's guy 25 Pertaining to 31 Black, to Poe **127** Toon Flanders 33 Aide: Abbr.

34 U.S. "Ltd."

128 Villains

36 Dutch artist 78 Musical finale 79 Somewhat Jan 80 Act of liturgy 38 - - Cat **39** From — Z 82 Film units 40 Lettuce type 83 Uses a

trowel

85 Noodles in

90 Battle (for)

91 Additionally

92 Israel's Abba

94 Vast stretch

95 Large tuna

96 Wild rants

97 Gorilla, e.g.

98 Historic time

swimmer

100 Olympic

Matt

Taylor

103 Grazing land

105 Renowned

found in 1801

101 Actress

104 De-knot

drink

Meara

42 Option list 43 East Asian 44 Platter 45 — Lodge (motel chain) 46 Actor Harvey 48 Heredity unit 49 Wolfs down

52 Malaise. with "the" 53 Horse colors 55 Little - (the Ocean State) 57 Proposal 58 Original NYC

subway line 59 State exec. 60 Before surgery in brief

106 Asteroid 62 "Star Trek" 107 Chocolate lieutenant native

64 Agave plants 108 T-man Ness 65 Salt Lake City 109 Big dipper 112 Comic 69 Additionally 70 Fertilizable 113 Rake prong gametes 71 Chimp's kin 72 Book

114 Mix, as paint 118 Luau guitar, for short 119 Martini liquor division 73 Vexed state 120 Longtime 74 Dairy case **CBS** series containers 121 30-day mo.

Weather Totals

Mar. 4 - *Mar.* 11, 2025

Nursery Bottom Parsons

Temperature Max 68° F Min 23° F

Precipitation

Week 0.66'0.66" March 2025 8.91"

Snowfall

0.75'**New Snow** Snow on ground 0" Winter Total 47'

U.S. Forest Service

Weekly SUDOKU

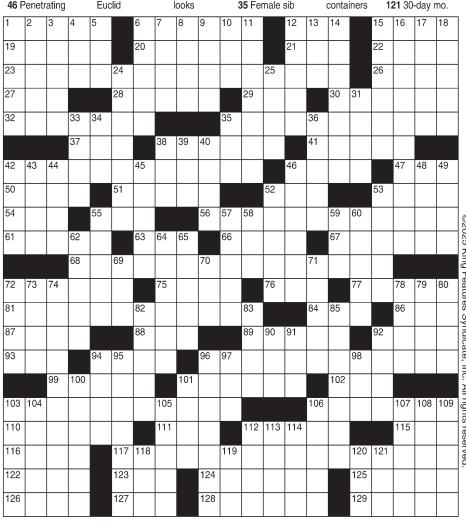
| 1 | 4 | | 8 | | 3 | | 6 | |
|-------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 4 | | 7 | 9 | |
| | 9 | | | | 2 | | | 1 |
| | 5 | 4 | | | | | | |
| | 1 | 9 | 3 | | | 4 | | |
| | | | | | | 5 | | 9 |
| 4 | 3 | | 6 | 1 | 8 | | 5 | |
| 4 5 9 | | 1 | | | | 8 | | 4 |
| 9 | | | 5 | 2 | | | | 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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St. George Medical Clinic Welcomes New Doctor

St. George Medical Clinic is excited to announce that Dr. Lydia Davis, DO joined their team in January 2025. Dr. Davis sees patients primarily at the St. George Canaan Valley Clinic located at 6368 Appalachian Highway, Davis, WV, in addition she sees patients periodically at our other St. George Medical Clinics as well. Dr. Davis received a degree in Psychology from the University of Virginia then went on to obtain her medical degree from West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in Lewisburg, WV. She completed her residency at West Virginia University in Morgantown, WV. Dr. Davis is excited to make Tucker County her home and

to join the St. George Medical family. said, "I've been looking for the right community to put roots and Tucker County is the right place to do just that." Dr. Davis enjoys skiing, hiking, hunting, fishing and all things outside and looks forward to enjoying those activities in beautiful Tucker County. When not outdoors, she enjoys music, spending time with family, and cook-

The addition of Dr. Davis is just another example of St. George Medical Clinic's dedication to maintaining a highly skilled and professional staff to deliver family centered health care to its service area in Tucker and surrounding counties.

WVRAC is Soliciting proposals for Title II projects

ELKINS, West Virginia. — The West Virginia Resource Advisory Committee (WVRAC) is soliciting proposals for Title II projects to be implemented across the National Forest. Project proposals will be accepted from March 6th, 2025 through May 6th, 2025.

Funding will be provided through the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act, which provides payments to counties as compensation for the loss of tax income associated with federal land within their boundaries.

By law, Title II projects must provide direct or indirect benefits to natural resources on National Forest lands. The proposed projects should aim to enhance forest ecosystems, improve water quality or improve existing infrastructure within the Monongahela National Forest.

Previous projects have accomplished watershed restoration, stream stabilization, invasive plant treatments, native plant reestablishment, wildlife and fish habitat improvements, and trail or road maintenance. The projects must be in Greenbrier, Pocahontas, Randolph, Tucker, or Webster Counties and can be on federal or private land. By law, Title II projects must provide direct or indirect benefits to natural resources on

National Forest lands. Selected projects are typically funded in the \$10k – \$45k range.

Individuals and organizations are encouraged to submit project proposals as early as possible. It is the responsibility of the proponent to coordinate with Forest Service staff and partner agencies to ensure that the proposal is complete and meets the intent of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act. The proposals must also be pre-approved by the district ranger or forest supervisor where the project resides before being submitted. Project applications and instructions on how to submit a proposal are available online at the West Virginia RAC website.

The WVRAC, which represents a wide variety of citizen interests, will review all proposals, and recommend projects for funding. Proponents will be notified of the RAC meeting schedule and are encouraged to attend the meetings, which are open to the public, to answer questions about their projects.

Additional information about the Secure Rural Schools Act can be found at fs.usda.gov/main/pts/home. Questions can be directed to WVRAC Coordinator, Kristopher Hennig, at Kristopher.Hennig@usda.gov or (304) 635-4475.

Vandalia Health Davis Medical Center Launches New Support Group Focusing on Diabetes Education and Management

ELKINS, W.Va. (March 13, 2025) –Vandalia Health Davis Medical Center will host a new support group to educate and empower community members with diabetes, pre-diabetes and their caregivers. The group's first meeting will be at Noon, April 3, in the Davis Medical Center boardroom.

The free event is open to all individuals seeking guidance on managing Type 2 and Type 1 diabetes and prediabetes as well as family members and caregivers who want to learn more about providing support.

"We understand that living with diabetes can be challenging, so we want to provide the resources and support our community members need to live healthier, fuller lives," said Jim Severino, Dietician and Certified Diabetes Educator for Davis Medical Center. "This group will not

only provide access to useful information but also create a community of individuals who can support and motivate each other along their health journeys."

Attendees will have the opportunity to explore a wide range of educational resources provided by Davis Medical Center health care experts, including diabetes-friendly recipes and practical ideas for meal planning, making it easier for individuals to enjoy food that is both satisfying and helpful for diabetes management. Participants will have the chance to ask questions, share experiences, and learn from both health care professionals and their peers.

The April 3 meeting is the first in a planned series of sessions, with each gathering focusing on a specific aspect of diabetes management, from nutrition and exercise to medication and mental health.

For more information, visit DavisHealthSystem.org.



Blackwater Chapter DAR Honors Sarah Fletcher



Each year, the month of March is designated as "Women in American History" Month in which notable women and their accomplishments are recognized and celebrated.

The Daughters of the American Revolution's "Women in American History" Award is being presented during "Women's History Month" by DAR chapters across our country. It is meant to honor great women – past or present – who have made a notable contribution in their communities resulting in a lasting difference in the lives of countless individuals.

At their March 8 meeting, Blackwater Chapter members honored the late Sarah Thompson Fletcher with this prestigious award.

Sarah was born in Arthurdale, WV to Ben and Dorothy Mayor Thompson and was a descendant of the owner of the Thompson Lumber Company and of hard-working farmers who owned a few thousand acres of land in Canaan Valley where she was raised.

Her life was characterized by a passion for learning, service, and adventure. Her education began in the two-room Cosner Grade School in Canaan Valley. She then, graduated from Mountaineer High School in Thomas.

Sarah pursued her passion and became a nurse. She continued her education and earned a master's degree with the first graduating class from the WVU Advanced Nurse Practitioners Program. Dedication to healthcare led her to work in labor and delivery, and later with Youth Health, where she assisted teenage girls during their pregnancies. She also served with Hospice of Randolph County before her retirement.

Sarah's impact extended beyond her professional life. Besides being a loving wife and mother, she was a devoted member of the Buena Chapel United Methodist Church in Canaan Valley, where she held a representative position for the conference, and served as a lay preacher and a Sunday school teacher. With a caring heart, she sponsored two boys at the Living Hope High School in Kenya, Africa and visited them on multiple occasions.

Her thirst for knowledge took her on numerous other domestic and international trips, including visits to Alaska, Israel, and Italy.

Sarah's mother, Dorothy, was a weaver and a National Heritage Fellow who learned to weave at the Arthurdale Homestead. She taught Sarah the art and the love of weaving. Sarah and her mother were known state-wide for many decades, and they taught weaving to scores of individuals. Sarah was a talented weaver and assumes the operations of her mother's business, the Ben's Old Loom Barn in Canaan Valley, continuing her family's legacy.

She was a remarkable individual and left an indelible mark on her community. Her love for volunteering earned her the prestigious "Tuckineer" Award from the Tucker County Chamber of Commerce in 2016. She was a member of the Canaan Valley VFD Ladies Auxiliary, the local book club, the American Nurses Association and the WV Nurses Association and the WV Nurses Association, who once recognized her with their "Nurse of the Year" Award.

She was also a naturalist and volunteered for the Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

Sarah actively participated in walking, knitting, and reading groups. She enjoyed sharing her family's history, investing in her community, and keeping her mind sharp until the end.

Sarah passed away in 2023 at the age of 80.

Sarah's son, Ben Fletcher and her niece, Jennifer Snyder were present to accept this award presented by Blackwater Regent Cathy Hebb. Also attending the ceremony was Sarah's nephew, Mike Fletcher.



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2025 LAWN CARE SERVICES SOUGHT

North Central WV Community Action Association, Inc. is soliciting contractors to provide separate bids to perform lawn care services at three apartment complexes in Tucker County, WV. Lawn care services include (but are not limited to) mowing & trimming of all designated areas & all sidewalks, steps, porches, parking areas to be cleared of all clippings.

The lawn care services contracts will cover the period from April 1, 2025, to October 31, 2025, on an "as needed" basis or a minimum of 2 times per month. Lawn care contractors must use their own equipment.

Bids are due by 3:00 PM on March 27, 2025.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR

TO GET A BID SHEET, PLEASE CONTACT Barbara Simmons, 304-478-3536 or email bsimmons@ncwvcaa.org/

BIDS CAN BE MAILED TO NCWVCAA at 513 Central Avenue, Parsons, WV 26287, or

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<u>APPLICATIONS CAN BE PICKED UP AT</u> Davis Town Hall, 505 William Ave., Davis, WV 26260.

<u>APPLICATIONS/RESUMES CAN BE RETURNED</u> by mail at P.O. Box 207, Davis, WV 26260, or in person at the Town Hall Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm by March 21, 2025.

The Town of Davis is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Employment Opportunity

The Tucker County Solid Waste Authority is accepting applications

FOR A FULL-TIME AND A PART-TIME **EQUIPMENT OPERATOR/MECHANIC & LABORER**

Full-time position offers full benefits, including fully paid family health insurance, dental & eye insurance, paid vacation, paid sick leave, state retirement and paid holidays.

Duties include operating equipment, heavy equipment repairs, assisting in site maintenance and clean-up.

TO REQUEST AN APPLICATION, **EMAIL US AT TCSWA@FRONTIERNET.NET** CALL 304-259-4867 OR STOP BY THE OFFICE LOCATED AT 284 LANDFILL ROAD, DAVIS, WV. Applications will be accepted

The Tucker County Solid Waste Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

until both positions are filled.

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Hinchcliff Road, Hendricks, WV 26287

Lawn Care Services Needed

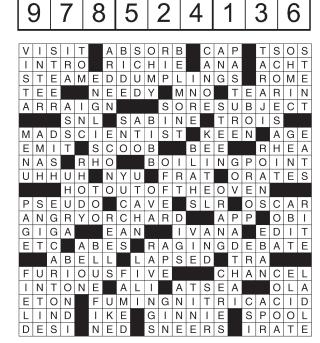
Pineview Apartments and the Pines 55+ Communities are seeking a reliable, insured, and professional lawn care service provider to contract with for the upcoming summer season.

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- · Mowing, edging, trimming, weed control, and general lawn maintenance to keep our community looking its best.
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Interested businesses, please contact Duane Poling at 681-2289076 or email: kellys@cortlandacres.org for more details, to schedule a site visit, and to submit a proposal.

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Enbridge Inc. Donates \$3,000 to the Eastern College Foundation in Support of the Wind Energy Program

Moorefield, W.Va. — Eastern West Virginia Community & Technical College received a \$3,000 donation from Enbridge Inc. on Monday, March 3, 2025, reinforcing the company's commitment to supporting student training.

Enbridge Inc. is a global energy leader with operations in West Virginia, including the New Creek Wind Farm in Mineral County.

They have been a dedicated supporter of Eastern for the past three years, making annual contributions to enhance student learning experiences. This year's donation will go toward upgrading equipment for Eastern's Wind Energy Technology program, ensuring students gain hands-on experience with industry-leading technology.

"We appreciate the generous support and partnership with Enbridge, and we are always looking to expand our partnership in the energy sector with businesses," said Dr. Thomas Striplin, Eastern President.

For more information about Eastern's Wind Energy Technology program, visit https://easternwv.edu/academics/windenergy-technology/.

SENATE BILL 500 STREAMLINES AUDITS OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

CHARLESTON – The West Virginia Senate today unanimously passed Senate Bill 500, providing that the West Virginia Legislative Auditor "has the authority and duty to make a regular review of the finances of each volunteer fire company" in the state.

At present, both the Legislative Auditor and the State Auditor conduct rolling audits of each of the state's more than 400 volunteer fire departments, albeit with the Legislative Auditor reviewing only state funds received by volunteer fire departments and the State Auditor reviewing each department's entire finances.

"Senate Bill 500 will eliminate this unnecessary overlap," said State Auditor Mark Hunt, "making the process more efficient and removing the burden of duplicative financial examinations by multiple state agencies."

Although Senate Bill 500 consolidates the audits of volunteer fire departments with the Legislative Auditor, existing Code will remain unchanged as to the requirement that audits or financial examinations "shall be scheduled as to complete a review of each volunteer fire company at least once every five years."

Auditor Hunt credited Senator Laura Chapman (R-Ohio) for sponsoring the bill and bringing the issue before the Legislature

"Under current law, which will remain unchanged, the scope of the audits will include all income of the volunteer fire departments, regardless of the source of funds, the assets, liabilities, and all expenditures of the departments," said Senator Chapman. "Likewise, current law also provides that our volunteer fire departments may be audited more than once in a five-year period if there is reason to think that loss, mismanagement,

misuse, or waste of funds is occurring." In those instances, Senate Bill 500 would require the Legislative Auditor—"upon discovering any concerning or suspicious financial transactions"—to report the matter to the State Auditor's Office "to investigate and pursue correction or prosecution...of any misconduct, mismanagement, misuse, or waste."

Senate Bill 500 now goes to the West Virginia House of Delegates for consideration and passage. The Legislature's 60-day Regular Session concludes on April 12.

Grant County Bank Announces Promotions

Petersburg, W.Va, Keyser, W.Va, Davis, W.Va (March 11, 2025) --- The Grant County Bank is pleased to announce the promotion of three Commercial Lenders to the role of Assistant Vice President. Tracy Kesner, Lindsey Teets, and Sarah Strosnider were selected for promotion recently by the bank's Board of Directors.

"Our commercial lending team is critical to the success of our bank," said George Ford, President & CEO of The Grant County Bank. "They are the face of the bank to many of our commercial clients, and I am proud of their achievement thus far and look forward to their future accomplishments."

G. James Cornett, Senior Vice President & Chief Credit Officer of The Grant County Bank, stated, "I am pleased with the recent promotions and know that they are well deserved. They have each performed well in their current roles, and we are counting on them to help us continue to grow our relationships with commercial clients throughout our market area."

Lindsey Teets completed his Bachelor of Arts in Economics at Armstrong State University and completed his Master of Science in Integrated Marketing Communications at West Virginia University. Lindsey is entering his second year of the Graduate School of Banking at the Barrett School of Banking in Memphis, Tennessee. He has also attended the West Virginia Banking School and the Commercial Lending Development Program. Lindsey is married to Rebecca Teets, and they have six beautiful boys from the ages of 5 to 13. He also runs a farming operation with his father, where they manage a flock of 270 sheep and goats. Prior to working at The Grant County Bank, Lindsey worked for Eastern Community and Technical College and the WV Small Business Development Center as a Business Development Specialist.

"I look forward to continuing to help entrepreneurs grow and expand in the region and beyond," stated Lindsey. "The Grant County Bank is one of the best community-minded banks in the area and specializes in serving small business customers"

Tracy Kesner is a Petersburg native and a graduate of Dominion Business School. In 1998, she relocated to Keyser after meeting her husband, Brian. Together, they have raised a son and a daughter. Tracy began her banking career in 2002 and has spent most of her career in management.

She has been a valued team member at The Grant County Bank since 2013, serving first as a branch manager in the Keyser Office and then as a Commercial Lender beginning in 2018. Tracy has also furthered her expertise by attending the West Virginia Banking School and completing the Commercial Lending Development Program.

Tracy's hobbies include camping, boating, and repurposing furniture. As a recent empty nester, she also enjoys visiting her children whenever possible. Tracy is passionate about building trusted relationships with customers and offering specialized financial services within the business community.

"I have witnessed firsthand the countless hours and significant risks that small business owners in our community endure," Tracy stated. "I am truly grateful for the opportunity to work alongside them and contribute to the continued economic growth of our area."

Sarah Strosnider, a native of Grant County, is deeply engaged in her local community. She holds membership in both the Grant County Chamber of Commerce and the Grant County Development Authority. In her spare time, Sarah enjoys spending quality time with her husband and daughter as well as other family and friends. Sarah earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management and Marketing from Shepherd University. Additionally, she has completed programs at the West Virginia School of Banking and the Lloyd P. Calvert Graduate School of Banking. With 18 years of extensive experience in community banking, Sarah has expertise in loan processing, underwriting, credit analysis, portfolio management, and the numerous commercial loan products available through The Grant County Bank. As a Commercial Lender, she emphasizes her proficiency in all facets of Commercial Lending, which encompasses business loans, real estate investment loans, and agricultural loans.

"I am honored to not only support our local businesses as a patron but to also assist them in their financial endeavors that promote continued business growth within our community," stated Sarah. "I appreciate every opportunity for professional growth that has been provided during my career, and I am thankful for the supportive management team of The Grant County Bank."

THANK YOU FOR READING THE PARSONS ADVOCATE

Serving the people of Tucker county since 1896

West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History to Begin Accepting Entries for its Annual Juried Quilt Exhibition

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – The West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History (WVDACH) will begin accepting entries for the 2025 West Virginia Quilts and Wall Hangings Juried Exhibition on Friday, March 14 until Friday, April 25, at 4 p.m.

This is the 44th year of the exhibition which will open Friday, May 23, with an awards ceremony at the annual Vandalia Gathering at the Culture Center, State Capitol Complex, in Charleston. The free summer-long exhibition will be displayed through Sept. 13, 2025.

Quilts and wall hangings handmade or machine made by West Virginia residents are eligible for the exhibition. Special consideration will be given to hand-quilted entries. Entrants may submit one quilt and one wall hanging. There is a non-refundable fee of \$20

per entry. Quilts and wall hangings shown previously in a Department of Arts, Culture and History Quilts and Wall Hangings juried exhibition are not eligible.

Monetary awards will be presented for first (\$750), second (\$400), and third (\$300) places in Pieced, Appliqued, and Mixed/Other quilt categories; and first (\$400), second (\$300), and third (\$200) places in the wall hanging category. A Purchase Award valued at up to \$2,000 and a \$100 Best of Show Award also will be awarded. Nonmonetary Honorable

Mention Awards may also be presented at the juror's discretion. Please note, kits are not eligible for prize awards.

The Department is also proud to host the Annual Quilting Workshop on May 9, 2025, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The instructor, Ms. Mary Zesiger, will be leading the workshop in a "Quilt A Story" lesson. There are limited spaces available, and an RSVP is required.

The prospectus and entry information for the 2025 Quilts and Wall Hangings Juried Exhibition can be found at https://wvculture.org/agencies/museums/.

For more information about the exhibition or to RSVP to the workshop, contact Sidney Duncan, WVDACH exhibits coordinator, at Sidney.L.Duncan@wv.gov or (304) 558-0220.

NOTICE TO MON POWER CUSTOMERS WITH RIGHTS-OF-WAY ACROSS THEIR PROPERTY

Mon Power has contracted to maintain portions of its rights-of-way with an aerial saw consisting of approximately ten 24-inch rotary blades powered by a motor and suspended on a vertical boom beneath a helicopter. This maintenance method allows for the quick, safe, and efficient trimming of trees along our transmission lines. The aerial saw will be operating March through September 2025 in the following counties in West Virginia:

Preston County and Tucker County (Albright-William #108-A, 138 kV)

Beginning south out of Albright Power Station, crosses Cheat River and St. Joe Road approximately ¾ mile from intersection with Route 7. The line then starts running south southeast, crosses Route 7 and Copeman Farm approximately 1-mile up Caddell Mountain, and continues running up the mountain eventually crossing Rag Tavern Road. The line continues running south southeast crossing Saltlick Road approximately ¾ mile south of the intersection with Bucklick Road and then runs up Kinsinger Run crossing Kinsinger Run Road and continues up the hill for approximately 2 miles where it crosses Lantz Ridge Road. The line then crosses Wolf Creek and soon thereafter crosses Route 50 just west of the state road garage, ending just past Little Wolf Creek where the line joins up with another transmission line. The line picks back up approximately 1.25 miles east of the aforesaid location and continues running in a south-southeast direction crossing Eglon Rd, Accident Road, and Hogback Road just west of its intersection with Route 24. The line then crosses Ed Sell Road, Evans Road and Mt. Grove Road before crossing Route 219 approximately 1.5 miles south of Silver Lake. The line runs up Backbone Mountain and down the other side crossing Kempton Road and Fairfax Stone Road before ending at the Williams substation near the intersection of Route 219 and Route 90.

For more information about Mon Power's Transmission Aerial Saw Program, call 1-800-686-0022. When contacting, please alert our Representatives that your call is pertaining to our Transmission Aerial Saw Program.



Snowshoe Artist Now on Display at WV State Capitol





On Friday, March 7th, Maurer personally delivered four of her paintings to the **West Virginia Secretary of State's Office**, where they are now on loan. This opportunity arose after Secretary of State Kris Warner, impressed by her talent, approached Xandria after Governor Morrisey's inauguration and invited her to contribute works that embody the natural beauty of Appalachia.

The four paintings—"On the Lake," "Majestic Cascade Falls," "Song of the Forest," and "Morning Majesty"—are part of Maurer's acclaimed "Into the Heart of Appalachia" series. Each piece captures the essence of the this beautiful region, from its cascading waterfalls to its tranquil lakes and mist-covered mountains. More details on these paintings can be found on her website: (https://awakenimagination.com).

Maurer, whose work has been exhibited at **luxury resorts, private collections, and cultural events world-wide**, is known for her ability to bring nature to life on canvas. Her paintings are deeply inspired by her time spent in the Amazon rainforest and the mountains of Norway during her childhood and formative years and now her deep connection to the Appalachian land-scape.

WVDOH awards contracts for road striping

CHARLESTON, WV – On Thursday, March 6, 2025, the West Virginia Division of Highways (WVDOH) awarded nine construction projects to paint road stripes around the Mountain State. The bid awards were from two special bid lettings conducted on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, and Thursday, February 27, 2025.

Contracts awarded were:

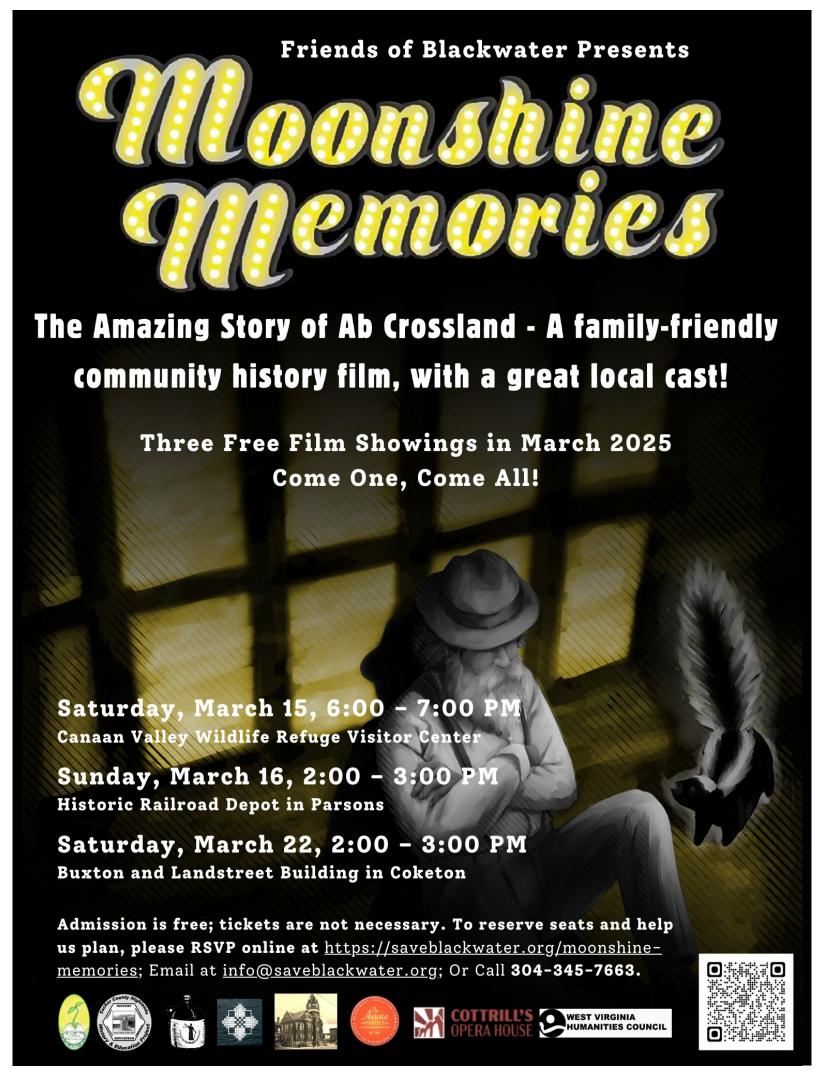
- Mid Atlantic Maintenance Inc. was the low bidder on a project to paint road stripes in District 7, with a bid of \$334,375. (Barbour, Braxton, Gilmer, and Lewis counties)
- Roadsafe Traffic Systems Inc. was the low bidder on a project to paint road stripes in District 8, with a bid of \$362,090. (Pendleton, Pocahontas, Randolph, and Tucker counties)
- Highway Safety Inc. was the low bidder on a project to paint road stripes in District 9, with a bid of \$366,310. (Fayette, Greenbrier, Monroe, and Nicholas counties)
- Mid Atlantic Maintenance Inc. was the low bidder on a project to paint road stripes in District

6, with a bid of \$353,875. (Brooke, Hancock, Marshall, and Ohio counties)

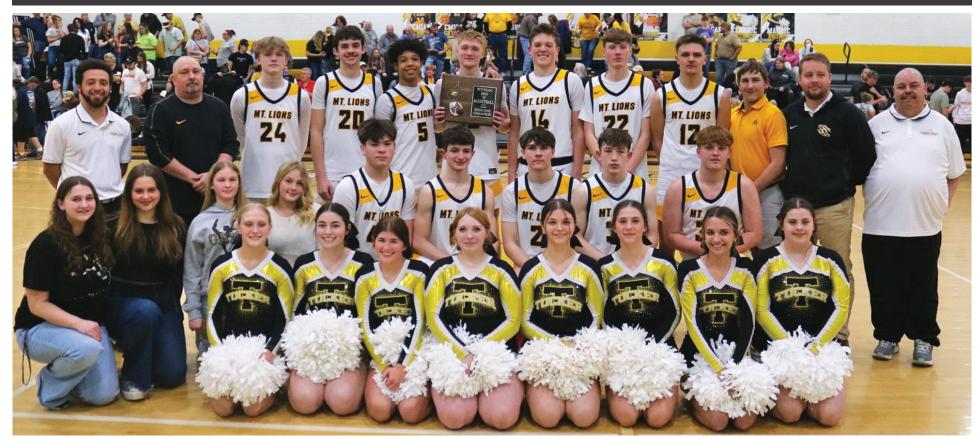
- Highway Safety Inc. was the low bidder on a project to paint road stripes in District 10, with a bid of \$366,310. (McDowell, Mercer, Raleigh, and Wyoming counties)
- Mid Atlantic Maintenance Inc. was the low bidder on a project to paint road stripes in District 4, with a bid of \$359,000. (Doddridge, Harrison, Marion, and Monongalia counties)
- Mid Atlantic Maintenance Inc. was also the low bidder on a project to paint road stripes in District 3, with a bid of \$359,400. (Calhoun, Jackson, Pleasants, and Ritchie counties)
- Highway Safety Inc. was the low bidder on a project to paint road stripes in District 1, with a bid of \$358,810. (Boone, Clay, Kanawha, and Mason counties)
- Highway Safety Inc. was also the low bidder on a project to paint road stripes in District 2, with a bid of \$358,810. (Cabell, Lincoln, Logan, and Mingo counties)

Several factors are considered before awarding a bid, including whether a bid falls above or below the WVDOH Engineer's Estimate and by what percentage. In cases where a bid is above the Engineer's Estimate, WVDOH must consider the project need, repercussions of not awarding the project, additional funding sources, and whether sufficient reasons exist for the differences in estimates. Most projects are reviewed, analyzed, and awarded within a week of the bid letting, but the process can take longer.

When the Division of Highways has a project that is determined to be best constructed by a contractor, it is processed through the bid letting system. A letting is a scheduled opportunity for contractors to review and bid on several construction projects at one time. Lettings are held either once or twice per month and conducted through the Bid Express System online at www.bidx.com and handled through the Contract Administration Division. Contractors need to subscribe to Bid Express before bids can be accepted on any project.







2025 Single A Region 2 Champions.

Tucker Advances to State Tournament with Pounding of Pendleton 82-37

By: Adam Freeman

The Tucker County Boys' Basketball squad took on the Pendleton County Wildcats in the regional finals this past week, with the chance of making it to the State Tournament on the line. Tucker would start off slow hitting just one basket in the first 5:00 minutes of the first quarter. However, that would all come to an end as the Mt. Lions would hit a season high 18 three pointers by the final horn, in what was a masterful display of shooting. Tucker held the lead at the end of one quarter at just 12-9. The second quarter

would be a different story as the shooting would heat up, with sophomore guard, Ethan Cummings, who hit 3 triples in the period and Tucker would score 26 points to go with it, taking the lead 38-20 at the break. The Mt. Lions dropped 6 more threes and scored a massive 32 points in the third quarter to make the advantage 70-30. Tucker would find its lead at 45 points before it was all over with a final score of 82-37. The win garnered Tucker the #2 seed in the Tournament just behind rival, Tug Valley. This sets Tucker with a matchup against the #7 seed of Magnolia High School on Thursday, March 20 at 1:00pm

inside the famed Charleston Coliseum. Tucker played Magnolia in the Rotary Invitational at Magnolia High back on January 21, with Tucker taking the win 81-51. Tucker finishes play with a 20-2 overall record.

Bonner 16 pts, 7 reb, 7 ast, FT 2-4; Carr 12 pts, 4 reb, FT 0-2; Cummings 12 pts, 5 reb; Mitchell 11 pts, 2 reb, 4 stl, FT 0-2; Lambert 11 pts, 7 reb, Marks 9 pts, 2 reb; Felton 3 pts, 2 reb; Ricottili 4 pts; Arnold 2 pts, 7 reb; Dearborn 2 pts, 1 reb

3-Point Goals 18-50: Cummings (4) Carr (4) Mitchell (3) Lambert (3) Bonner (2) Marks (1) Felton (1)

Lady Mt. Lions Tripped Up in State Tournament, Fall to Greenbrier West 74-67



Matthews takes it to the basket.

By: Adam Freeman

The Lady Mt. Lions of Tucker County High School ended their season this past week with a first-round loss in the State Tournament at the hands of Greenbrier West. Tucker found itself in foul trouble early on with starters Raven Matthews and Makenna Evans with 2 fouls a piece. The Cavilers would take advantage and go on a 9-0 run in the first, and they would hold the lead at 23-12 to end the first quarter. Greenbrier West



Gross gets around the defender.

would continue to give Tucker problems with their pressure defense forcing multiple turnovers. The Lady Mt. Lions were only outscored by one point in the period and the Cavilers had the lead at the half 42-30. Tucker would dig deep in the second half and mount a monstrous comeback. The Lady Mt. Lions would go on a 14-2 run in the third erasing the Cavilers double digit lead and outscoring them 21-14 to make the score 56-51 going into the final period. Tucker would continue to claw their way back and would even take the lead late



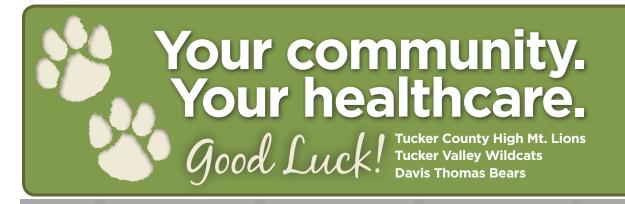
Evans drives the ball up. (Photos by Brittany Channell)

in the quarter. However, Greenbrier West would pull through in the end and claim the victory. The Lady Mt. Lions finish their season 16-8. Tucker's senior forward, Raven Matthews, was chosen to the Single A All-Tournament Team.

Matthews 33 pts, 17 reb, FT 7-9; Gross 15 pts, 1 reb; Evans 6 pts, 10 reb, 9 ast, FT 2-2; Moats 6 pts, 1 reb; Herron 3 pts, 6 reb, FT 1-4; Kitzmiller 2 pts, 2 reb; Shaffer 2 pts, 3 reb

3-Point Goals 3-17: Moats (2) Gross (1)

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4th Grade Boys, Champions!



2/3 Girls, 4th Grade Runners-Up.

Tucker Youth Travel Teams Take Champions and Runners-Up in Moorefield

By: Adam Freeman

This past weekend, four Tucker Youth Travel Teams, competed in the Moorefield Invitational Tournament and continued to prove the future for Mountain Lion Basketball is bright. The Tucker Boys' 4th grade took home the trophy, winning the championship against Petersburg. The Tucker 2nd/3rd Girls competed in the 4th grade division and took Runners-Up against Romney. The teams will be back in action March 28-29 at the Bridge Complex.

Tips Shared To Keep Lungs Healthier

With the New Year just underway, it's a great time to set some lung health-focused goals. With each of the 23,000 breaths a person's lungs take daily, they perform essential work to support overall health.

Whether a person is managing asthma, quitting smoking, or simply looking to keep one's lungs strong, here are some tips from the American Lung Association in West Virginia.

•Get Regular Check-ups. Regular check-ups help prevent diseases, even when a person is feeling well. This is especially true for lung disease, which sometimes goes undetected until it's serious. During a check-up, a healthcare provider will listen to one's breathing and one should share any concerns a person may have.

•Quit Smoking: The American Lung Association encourages people who smoke, vape or use tobacco to resolve to begin their quit journey in 2025 and provides tips and resources at Lung.org/quit-smoking or call the LungHelpline at 1-800-LUNGUSA (1-800-586-4872). Tobacco remains the number one cause of preventable death in the United States, and here in West Virginia. E-cigarettes are not a safe or effective way to quit. Many health insurance plans cover quit aids and counseling.

•Take the Quiz. In the United States, 14 million people are at high risk for lung cancer and are eligible for lifesaving lung cancer screening. Here in West Virginia, only 20.7 percent of residents at high risk for lung cancer are screened for the disease each year. If a person smoked, the low-dose CT lung cancer screening test could save one's life. Lung cancer, the leading cause of cancer deaths, is more treatable when caught early—survival rates increase by more than four times. If a person is aged 50-80 and smokes or has quit within the past 15 years, one may be eligible for screening. Take the 2-minute quiz at SavedByTheScan.org.

•Stay Up-to-Date on Immunizations. Get COVID-19 and flu shots (and RSV and pneumococcal pneumonia, if eligible). The best way to stay healthy and protect others is to be up-to-date on the recommended immunizations and make sure all of one's loved ones – from those aged 6 months to 100+ years – are also current on theirs.

•Limit Exposure to Air Pollutants. If possible, avoid environments with high levels of air pollution, chemical fumes, secondhand smoke and other lung irritants. It's also essential to test the home for radon, a leading cause of lung cancer, and take action if levels are elevated. If a person has asthma or other lung health concerns, regularly monitor daily air quality forecasts to take precautions against outdoor air pollution. Conditions in one's area can be checked at Airnow. gov.

Learn more about how to protect one's lung health in 2025 at Lung.org or call 1-800-LUNGUSA.

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Safety Tips Shared for Residents Awaiting Power Restoration

As a severe winter storm impact the region, thousands of residents may be without power in freezing temperatures. The West Virginia Department of Health is urging residents to take immediate steps to stay warm, healthy, and safe while waiting for power to be restored.

For those who lose power, the safest place to be is inside their home. Gather in one or two rooms and close off any unneeded spaces to conserve heat. Use blankets, sleeping bags, or clothing to stay warm. For those with a fireplace or wood stove, use it cautiously and ensure proper ventilation. Never use a gas stove, charcoal grill, or portable heater indoors, as these can cause dangerous carbon monoxide poisoning.

Layer clothing to trap body heat and insulate against the cold. Wearing a hat and warm socks can help prevent heat loss, while mittens or gloves will keep hands warm. These simple steps can go a long way in maintaining body temperature during prolonged exposure to the cold.

Anyone with access to a generator or space heaters should make sure they are placed in a well-ventilated area, and far from any flammable materials. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions carefully. Never run a generator indoors or in an attached garage, as this can lead to carbon monoxide exposure.

Close any windows and doors, even if storm windows or plastic are already in place, to prevent drafts. Placing towels or blankets under doors and around windows can help minimize heat loss. With a fireplace, it is important to make sure the damper is closed when not in use to prevent cold air from entering the home.

For those with access to a gas stove or who can safely use a portable stove, consider heating up soups, stews, or hot drinks. Eating snacks like nuts, granola bars, or dried fruit can be an effective way to maintain body temnerature

Even in cold weather, it's essential to stay hydrated. Drink plenty of fluids, especially if you are exerting energy outside in the cold. Be aware of the signs of frostbite, hypothermia, and dehydration. Symptoms of frostbite include numbness, tingling, or pale skin in exposed areas.

Hypothermia can cause confusion, slurred speech, and extreme shivering. Anyone showing any of these signs should seek medical attention immediately.

In addition, please make an effort to check on elderly or infirm neighbors, particularly those who live alone. They may be more vulnerable during power outages. For those who are able, offer assistance with food, heat, or transportation to a warming center. Ensure they have blankets, warm clothing, and access to emergency supplies.

It's also a good idea to be prepared for an extended power outage. Make sure there are enough emergency supplies on hand, including flashlights, batteries, water, non-perishable food, medications, and other necessary items.

"Safety and preparedness are critical when facing extreme winter conditions," said Sherri Young, cabinet secretary of the West Virginia Department of Health. "We urge everyone to take these precautions seriously and help look out for those in our community who may need assistance during this difficult time."

Residents in need of emergency assistance should call 911.

For updates on the availability of warming centers, they can also contact their county's non-emergency line at https://emd.wv.gov/About/News/Pages/WV-Counties-Non-Emergency-Assistance.aspx.

For residents seeking additional resources, please contact West Virginia's 2-1-1 hotline, hosted by United Way, by calling 2-1-1 or visiting https://wv211.org/.

New West Virginia Vacation Guide Available

Governor Patrick Morrisey unveiled the 2025 West Virginia Vacation Guide, the state's official travel magazine. Packed full of stunning imagery and hidden gems, this guide makes the perfect tool for travelers to plan their 2025 getaway to the Mountain State. Travelers can request a free copy of the new guide online to be sent to their doorstep or pick one up at one of the state's welcome centers.

"This guide tells the story of West Virginia," said Morrisey. "It highlights our natural beauty, growing recreational opportunities and thriving towns filled with local businesses. I encourage everyone to get a copy and discover for themselves what makes West Virginia the shining state in the mountains."

Organized by experiences, the new guide highlights ways to explore the outdoors, experience mountain culture, escape and unwind. It also gives insider tips on Appalachian eats, Almost Heaven swing locations and how to best enjoy West Virginia in each of the four seasons. From extraordinary overnight stays and historic hubs to natural wonders and thrilling adventures, the new vacation guide uncovers the abundance of activities awaiting in West Virginia.

"The 2025 guide will inspire you to spend your vacation days in Almost Heaven," said Chelsea Ruby, West Virginia Department of Tourism secretary. "Whether you're a traveler planning to visit for the very first time or a local looking for new ways to experience every corner of the state, this guide showcases all the unique and amazing experiences awaiting you. So, bring along the entire family and all your friends - we can't wait to welcome you to West Virginia!"

The 2025 Vacation Guide was produced in partnership with Dotdash Meredith, a leading publisher producing Southern Living, Real Simple, and Parents magazines. By partnering with Dotdash Meredith, the new guide will accompany 100,000 Travel + Leisure magazines and be mailed to West Virginia's target markets to encourage travel to the Mountain State. Last year alone, the West Virginia Department of Tourism distributed over a quarter of a million printed guides to travelers across the nation and around the world.

To request a free copy of the 2025 West Virginia Vacation Guide go to https://wvtourism.com/information-and-press/free-travel-guide/get-a-free-wv-travel-guide/. To access a digital version of the guide, go to https://digital.emagazines.com/West_Virginia/20250106/index.html?t=c385fbae-eff7-44a8-b0ee-361ae856034d&err=true&utm_campaign=testlink_west_virginia&utm_source=EG&utm_medium=EG#p1.

REAL ID Enforcement Begins May 7

The Transportation Security Administration has published a final rule providing a framework for federal agency phased enforcement of REAL ID requirements. Federal agencies, including TSA, will begin REAL ID enforcement on the deadline — May 7, 2025.

Starting on May 7, only state-issued driver's licenses and identification cards that meet the security requirements established by the REAL ID Act will be allowed for official purposes, including boarding commercial aircraft. The final rule provides necessary flexibility for federal agencies to begin enforcement in a manner that takes into account security operational risk and public impact

federal agencies to begin enforcement in a manner that takes into account security, operational risk and public impact.

Federal agencies that use a phased enforcement approach must also coordinate their enforcement plans with TSA and make them publicly available on agency websites. TSA will provide

additional information about its use of

phased enforcement authority on TSA.

"Congress passed the REAL ID Act in 2005 to enhance security standards for identification, directly in response to the security vulnerabilities highlighted by the 9/11 attacks," said David Pekoske, TSA administrator. "Identity verification is foundational to security. I urge those who use a driver's license or stateissued identity card as their primary form of identification to access federal facilities or board commercial passenger aircraft, to ensure these credentials are REAL ID-compliant. We are committed to engaging with the public, licensing jurisdictions and states to facilitate a smooth transition to REAL ID enforcement beginning May 7, 2025, which this rule supports."

All states are issuing REAL ID-compliant driver's licenses and identification cards. TSA continues to urge travelers to obtain a REAL ID-compliant state-issued driver's license, state-issued identification card or another form of acceptable ID before May 7 to avoid delays at airport security checkpoints.

Arbor Day Foundation honors Garrett College



Garrett College staff and students have been collaborating with the Mountain Laurel Garden Club (MLGC) and the Maryland Forest Service on an initiative to transform the College' physical environment with a series of campus plantings.

GC named 2024 Tree Campus for its work with MLGC, Forest Service

McHenry, MD – The Arbor Day Foundation has designated Garrett College as a 2024 Tree Campus.

In recently announcing the award, the Foundation said Garrett College earned that designation through a review of its "commitment to environmental stewardship, sustainability, and community engagement." Garrett College staff and students have been collaborating with the Mountain Laurel Garden Club (MLGC) and the Maryland Forest Service on an initiative to transform the College' physical environment with a series of campus plantings.

"We were successful in forming an advisory committee, writing a campus tree care plan, and creating a service-learn-

ing project aimed at engaging the student body," said MLGC co-President Linda Harris. "This allowed us to be organized in our goals and objectives, and to work toward beautifying and improving the campus green spaces."

Harris commended Western Region Urban & Community Forestry Coordinator Katherine Phillips and Maryland Forest Service Garrett/Allegany Project Manager Melissa Nash for their assistance, including helping to "choose great plants for our landscaping projects."

Harris also praised Garrett College's collaborative nature in creating a plan that resulted in the 2024 Tree Campus designation

"Our partnership with Garrett College has been exceptionally rewarding and successful because of the support the Col-

lege has given us to lead planting projects on campus," said Harris. "The support has come from many different departments and people at the College."

Dr. Richard Midcap, Garrett College's president, said the partnership with MLGC and the Maryland Forest Service is "dramatically improving our campus outdoor environment."

"We appreciate the efforts of the Garden Club and the Forest Service in enhancing the College's green spaces," added Midcap.

"Trees on campus improve air quality and boost physical health benefits for students and staff," said Harris. "Trees also improve students' mental and cognitive health, providing an appealing aesthetic for campuses, and create shaded areas for gathering and studying."



Garrett College spring headcount grows 8%

Number of spring credit students is highest since

McHenry, MD – Garrett College recorded its highest total of spring semester credit students in nine years this semester, according to data released by the College's Office of Records and Registration (ORR).

GC has 677 credit students this spring, an increase of eight percent, the highest since the College enrolled 693 students in spring 2016. This spring's enrollment is the second-highest headcount in the last 12 years.

"We're very pleased to see enrollment continuing to grow," said Dr. Richard Midcap, Garrett College's president. "With spring enrollment now finalized, we've seen credit enrollment growth for three consecutive fiscal years."

Total spring credit hours taken by Garrett's students increased 8.4 percent, rising from 5,650.50 in spring 2024 to 6,126.50 in spring 2025. That's the highest total since spring 2020, when the College logged 6,190.75 spring credit hours.

The College's headcount enrollment has grown 28.7

percent over the last four years, according to ORR data. GC's spring credit hours increased 23 percent over the same four-year time period.

"Our student headcount is almost 12 percent higher than spring 2020, which was our last pre-COVID semester," said Dr. Robert "JR" Kerns, GC's dean of student affairs. "That's really quite an achievement."

Kerns said new academic programs, including sport management, and expansion of the College's intercollegiate athletic program have both played roles in GC's enrollment growth.

"We've been intentionally trying to expand opportunities that provide enrollment growth potential," said Kerns, adding he expects the radiologic technology program that launches in June and the men's soccer program that starts in August to further expand enrollment.

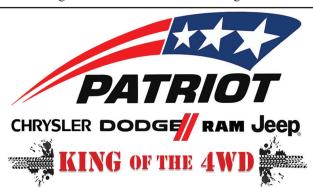
Ongoing increases in the number of High School Dual Enrollment (HSDE) students is helping to drive headcount increases, according to Dr. Kelli Sisler, GC's director of institutional effectiveness.

"HSDE grew almost 15 percent from last spring to this spring," said Sisler, noting that the Garrett College Scholarship Program continues to fund HSDE. "The five-year trend data is even more impressive – there has been an 85 percent increase in the number of HSDE participants this spring compared to spring 2020."

Professor Christa Bowser, GC's chief academic officer, said implementation of The Blueprint for Maryland's Future by Garrett County Public Schools (GCPS) and Garrett College has played a key role in expanding HSDE.

"The Blueprint emphasizes public schools and colleges working collaboratively to offer high school students a dual enrollment option, which GCPS and the College have worked extensively to provide," said Bowser. "GCPS and the College already had a close working relationship, but the Blueprint sparked an even higher level of collaboration."

GC's part-time student population hit an all-time high this spring with 369 part-time students, which Bowser said is largely due to the increase in HSDE.



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