

The Tucker County Commission poses with representatives from the Tucker County Family Resource Network April 9th.

Tucker County Proclaims April Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month

The Tucker County Commission has declared the month of April Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month. The proclamation was signed in collaboration with the Tucker County Family Resource Network. 2025 marks the 31st year for the proclamation in Tucker County according

to FRN Executive Director April Miller who was on hand for the signing. Operating in Tucker County since 1994, the FRN provides family support programs and resources, including a food pantry. The FRN also partners with the Tucker County Extension Office.



Tucker County Development Authority Executive Director Steve Leyh addresses the crowd during public comments during a Town Hall Meeting in Davis April 13th. A record number of residents attended in person and via Zoom to discuss issues surrounding a proposed power plant and data center between Davis and Thomas next to the County Landfill.

Davis Town Hall Draws Record Crowds

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

A record number of residents from across the area were in attendance for a Town Hall Meeting at the Davis Fire Hall Sunday, April 13th. The meeting, hosted by Davis Mayor Al Tomson, centered around the controversial proposed power plant and data center between Davis and Thomas. Besides a Fire Hall so full that there were not enough chair available for all in attendance, leaving nearly half the

attendees without a seat, over 100 participants signed in via Zoom for the meeting leading to what Mayor Tomson called a record attendance for a meeting in Davis.

Presenters at the meeting included Mayor Tomson, Tucker County Commission President Mike Rosenau, Tucker County Commissioners Fred Davis and Tim Knotts, Davis Resident and West Virginia Highlands Conservancy President Marilyn Shoenfeld and PMP Certified

See DAVIS TOWN HALL page 9



Nathan Sander, pictured right, addressed the County Commission over concerns about a proposed power plant and data center slated for Tucker County.

Local Government Hands Tied on Data Center Issue

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

The State has essentially tied the hands of local officials with House Bill 2014 when it comes to data centers coming to and operating in the Tucker County area, Tucker County Commission President Mike Rosenau said. The statement came as part of public comment during the

Tucker County Commission's regular session April 9th. During the session, members of the public were on hand to voice their concerns over Virginia based company Fundamental Data's plans to build a power plant and data center between Davis and Thomas near the County's landfill.

"We've voiced our concerns to everyone

See DATA CENTER page 6

City of Parsons Proclaims April Donate Life Month and Domestic Violence Awareness Month



Parsons Mayor Bruce Kolsun signs the Proclamations.



During the signing of the proclamation on Donate Life Month, the City of Parsons had transplant survivors on hand. Mayor Kolsun reports that Phillips Kolsun receive a Liver in 2018 from a live donor. Phillips said, “that he is really grateful to his live donor and for the a city of Parsons recognizing Donate Life Month every year.” Kolsun also said that Jon Bush received a Kidney in 2020 from a live donor. Jon said, “It is truly a blessing that a live donor stepped up to give me life.” Pictured from left: Jon Bush, transplant survivor; Phillips Kolsun, transplant survivor; Bruce Kolsun, Mayor of the City of Parsons and Mike Simmons, Parsons City Manager.



In a proclamation on Domestic Violence Awareness Month, representatives of local law enforcement were on hand for the signing. Pictured from left: Kevin Kепlinger, Parsons Chief of Police; Margo Evick, Executive Director of Randolph Tucker Child Advocacy Center; Bruce Kolsun, Mayor of the City of Parsons; Savannah Hull Wilkins, Tucker County Prosecuting Attorney; Jake Kopek, Tucker County Sheriff and Amanda Simmons, Tucker County EMS Director.

Tomson Talks HB 2014

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

It seems everyone in Tucker County is talking about West Virginia House Bill 2014, a controversial Bill that seeks to bring data centers to West Virginia. Town of Davis Mayor Al Tomson is no exception. Tomson discussed the Bill during Mayor Comments during the April 9th session of the Davis Town Council.

"House Bill 2014 with or without the amendment will pass, I have no doubt," Tomson said. "They're ramming it through and sometime before midnight (Saturday) I will know its fate and I will share that Sunday at the public meeting."

Tomson said that no local input has been made concerning HB 2014 or the filing of an Air Quality Permit Application at the State level for a power plant that would power a data center slated to be built between Davis and Thomas next to the Tucker County Landfill. The project only recently came to the attention of the public and more importantly public officials who became aware of it a week before the Town Council meeting.

“Nobody locally has been contacted

about any of this. About the proposed power plant or about House Bill 1014,” Tomson said. “And myself and every other local leader is very upset. I think this was unconscionable. I think it was reckless. And I think it shows the lack of concern that the State has for people living in various

“It’s an unconscionable degree of government overreach by the State of West Virginia,” Tomson said.

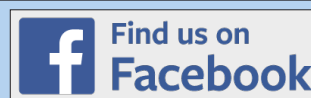
local areas.”

Tomson explained the Bill as an “unconscionable degree of government overreach” that “usurped” the power of local authorities. Under HB 2014 local governments would have no say when it comes to data centers or where they could or could not be located, nor would they be entitled to any tax revenue generated from them, including property taxes, as it would all go to the State.

See TOMSON TALKS page 12



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News of Record

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

- **Cory Bryant Dibartolomeo**, Parsons, was charged with one felony count each of Burglary and Conspiracy:
- **Crystal Kay Hensley**, Hambleton, was charged with one felony count each of Burglary, Conspiracy and Malicious Assault/Unlawful Assault:
- **Trenton Ray Dibartolomeo**, Parsons, was charged with one felony count each of Strangulation, Burglary and Kidnapping:
- **Levi Garrett McCauley**, Hambleton, was charged with one felony count each of Burglary, Kidnapping and Conspiracy.
- According to the complaint on Saturday, April 5 Trooper G.P. Hahn was dispatched to the address of 189 Overlook Drive in Parsons for a call of a possible assault. He had made it to Parsons and was getting ready to turn onto Billings Ave when he was advised that one of the suspects (T.R. Dibartolomeo) had returned to the scene in a dark colored F-150. He was advised by Tucker 911 that when the suspect had seen EMS on scene he took off. Hahn caught up to the pickup and conducted a traffic stop in reference to the alleged assault. He made contact with driver, advised him of Miranda Rights and began questioning about said incident. While speaking to the suspect the officer noticed the smell of alcohol and asked if he had been drinking to which the suspect allegedly answered yes most of a 30 pack.
- He was issued a series of field sobriety tests to which all were failed. The suspect (Now Accused) was placed under arrest and transported to the Parsons Police Department to await secondary tests. The second tests produced a BAC of .137 whereas the legal limit is .08. Two WVSP Troopers transported the accused to the TVRJ.
- Upon returning to Tucker County Hahn and an assisting officer went to the aforementioned address to speak with the victim of the original call for service. They arrived on scene and made contact with the victim/complainant who stated that Trenton Ray Dibartolomeo (suspect) along with Cory Bryant Dibartolomeo (suspect), Levi Garrett McCauley (suspect) and Crystal Kay Hensley (suspect) had come to his residence at approximately 1 a.m. on Saturday, April 5 and collectively forced their way into the residence.
- The victim stated that after forcing their way into the residence they began questioning him about a large

sum of money that they allegedly stated had been taken from them. The victim continued by saying at this time, Trenton began using physical violence against the victim my means of strangulation. The victim states that he ended up being held down on his couch by his neck. The victim stated that at this time he began struggling, at which time he stated that Levi used extension cords to tie/restrain him from struggling. He stated that Trenton continued strangling him to the point that he began going in and out of consciousness after having been tied/restrained. He stated he began attempting to scream for help at which time Trenton continued the strangulation as well as covering the victim’s mouth with one of his hands. He states that while being continuously strangled, Trenton questioned him of the whereabouts of the “Stolen” money as well as threatening to kill and or seriously injure the victim if he did not give up the money.

- He states he did not take any money and that he had no idea as to where the money may be located. He also stated that while being strangled, Crystal grabbed one of his knives and held it to his throat while screaming and yelling profanities at him. He states that during this struggle, the suspects had destroyed his residence in search of the aforementioned cash. He states that while they were searching, he broke free of his restraints and “bolted” out the door in fear for his life. He stated he ran to a neighbor’s residence at which time he called 911 and awaited help.
- Hahn observed multiple injuries to the victim’s neck, upper chest, lower back, face and right shin. The victim stated that he was not only strangled but that he was struck and kicked during this incident. Hahn acquired photos of the victim’s injuries as well as his residence. He was shown video footage from cameras inside the victim’s residence that had been knocked over but still caught audio recording from the struggle. Officers listened to said recordings in which the victim could be heard attempting to scream for help through the struggle. They could hear Trenton, who had previously admitted to being at the residence and that he had put hands on the victim. Officers could hear Trenton yelling at the victim while the victim could be heard saying he couldn’t breathe and that he was going to pass out. Trenton could be heard stating that he has choked people out before and knew that the victim was “faking”. While watching these recordings, the officers observed unblocked footage of Trenton coming out

of the victim’s bedroom as Levi was telling him that the victim had escaped at which time both subjects ran out of frame.

- Hahn was shown the knife that the victim states was held against his throat. He asked the victim for the knife to used as evidence to which he agreed. Hahn advised the victim that the recordings would need to be downloaded and handed over to officers for evidence to which the victim agreed. Hahn accompanied the victim to the Tucker County Magistrate Office court to file for a Domestic Violence Protection Order which was granted. After having acquired said protection order, the victim returned to his residence. The officers returned to the WVSP Parsons Detachment to begin necessary paperwork to acquire arrest warrants for the suspects.

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

- **Erma Snyder, Executrix, Estate of Rosalea N. Knotts, Erma Snyder, Betty Largess and Mary Pitzer**, Black Fork District, Rights of Survivorship 168.951 acres to Erma C. Snyder and Mary Pitzer, \$216,666.67.
- **Erma C. Snyder and Ernest L. Snyder**, Black Fork District, 2.66 acres with plat attached to Jason Pitzer, \$16,000.
- **Kevin D. Steen and Catherine M. Steen**, Davis District, Lot #2, Canaan Heights Estates, 20.71 acres to Paul Grosch, \$635,000.
- **Allegheny Forestlands LLC**, Amendment to Assignment and Assumption of Windmill Leases to Allegheny Wood Products Inc.
- **Harper Tyler Kresge**, Black Fork District, Confirmatory Deed Parcel One: 1.40 acres and Parcel Two: .84 acres Fork Mountain to Harper Tyler Kresge.
- **Duke A. McDaniel and Linda L. McDaniel**, Davis District, 5 acres with Description of survey and plat attached to Jennifer L. Norris and Rod Jones, \$250,000.
- **Slopeside LLC**, Dry Fork District, Unit F-2 Northwoods Condominium to Michael Konson and Michelle Konson, \$220,000.
- **Appointee of the Honorable Christal G. Perry, Mark A. Hunt, State Auditor and Avis Alene Angline**, St. George District, 1/3 of ¼ of 1/20 UND. Int. Min. Thunderstruck Run to Mark Myers, \$161.71.
- **Michelle K. Cardi, Kimberly Royce Hern, Shaun Robert Hern and Scott Cale Hern**, St. George District, Parcel 1 containing 1.115 acres to Darren Dwayne Hern.

Highlands Bankshares, Inc. Reports 2025 First Quarter Earnings And Declares Quarterly Dividend

Petersburg, WV - Highlands Bankshares, Inc. (OTC: HBSI) announced unaudited earnings of \$1,384,000 for the first three-month period ended March 31, 2025. This represents an increase of 55% from the \$891,000 earned during the same period in 2024. On a per share basis, net income was \$1.04 for the first three months of 2025, compared to earnings of \$0.67 per share for the three months ended March 31, 2024.

On April 8, 2025, the Board of Directors declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.45 per share to be paid on May 2, 2025 to all shareholders of record as of April 25, 2025. Based upon the current market price and annualizing the dividends paid to shareholders this quarter, Highlands’ current dividend yield is 5.29%.

Jack H. Walters, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the holding company, stated “Highlands is pleased to

report increased earnings for Q1 2025 compared to the year ago period. Earnings were positively impacted by higher levels of net interest income due to growth in our loan portfolio, offset somewhat by higher levels of interest expense on deposits. We appreciate the continued trust of our customers and shareholders and will continue to do our best to serve all of our local communities with quality banking products and great customer service.”

Highlands Bankshares, Inc. operates twelve banking locations in West Virginia and Virginia through its two wholly-owned subsidiary banks, The Grant County Bank and Capon Valley Bank, and offers insurance services through its wholly-owned subsidiary HBI Life Insurance Company.

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PARSONS ADVOCATE LETTERS TO EDITOR POLICY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

OBITUARIES

Nancy Karen Nestor Hipp Schaffer

Nancy Karen Nestor Hipp Schaffer, 63, a resident of Parsons, passed from this life Sunday, April 6, 2025, at her home. She had been in her usual health and death was unexpected. Nancy was born Wednesday, May 3, 1961, in Parsons, a daughter of the late Melvin Lee Nestor and Lucy Jean Harman Nestor. She was twice married. First to John A. Hipp, Sr. and then to Larry L. Schaffer, both of whom preceded her in death. Left to cherish Nancy's memory are three children, Kimberly McVicker and husband, Robert, of Albright,

John A. Hipp and companion, Brittany Mayo, of Parsons, and Brandy Nakamura and husband, Yoshitaka of Kyotanabe, Japan, nine grandchildren, Sean, Cameron, Nicholas, Yusho, Shoya, Mana, Alexandria, Addalyn, and Zane, two brothers, Leonard Nestor and Garrett Nestor of Parsons, and five nephews. Besides her parents and husbands, Nancy was preceded in death by three sisters, Betty Jean "Jeannie" Whitehead, Vickie Bodkins, and an infant sister, Joyce Nestor. Nancy attended the schools of Tucker

County and was proud to be a homemaker often referring to it as her "mission from God". She was an avid reader with a home filled with books. She enjoyed gardening and growing flowers, music, and coloring. She was a homebody that loved her family and taking care of them. Nancy's request for cremation will be honored. The Hostetler Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements for Nancy Karen Nestor Hipp Schaffer. Condolences may be made to the family at www.hostetlerfuneralhome.com.

Tips to boost mental wellness

The most successful health care regimens incorporate a number of variables to help individuals achieve optimal health. Physical health garners considerable attention when developing a health care regimen, but it's equally important that individuals prioritize mental health as well. Mental health has garnered considerable attention in recent years, and that's not solely a byproduct of the pandemic. Prior to the onset of the pandemic, in 2019 the World Health Organization launched the WHO Special Initiative for Mental Health (2019-2023). That's an effort to ensure access to quality and affordable care for mental health conditions in 12 priority countries. The WHO initiative reflects the growing recognition of the importance of mental wellness and its role in overall health. Protecting mental health and boosting mental wellness can have a profound impact on individuals who are struggling with stress, anxiety and depression. The National Council for Mental Well-Being recommends these strategies to boost mental wellness and protect mental health.

- Express your feelings. Individuals should not feel the need to keep their problems to themselves. Speak with someone you trust about your feelings and share details of any problems you may be having. Keeping feelings bottled up inside can compound issues that are already adversely affecting your mental health.
- Establish boundaries. Individuals should not feel compelled to engage in activities they don't enjoy or no longer want to do. It's everyone's right to say "no," and exercising that right can improve mental health for individuals who routinely find them-

selves saying "yes" to activities they no longer enjoy. For example, many working professionals may feel compelled to respond to work emails long after quitting time. That can have an adverse effect on mental health by making individuals feel as though they're constantly working. Answering emails only during working hours can provide the mental break individuals need to unwind and relax.

- Recognize the role that physical health can play in protecting mental health. The National Council for Mental Well-Being notes that physical self-care helps individuals manage symptoms associated with mental health challenges. Eating right, exercising regularly and getting enough sleep can help individuals overcome mental health challenges and reduce risk for conditions such as anxiety and depression.
- Find a healthy hobby. A healthy hobby can quell boredom and serve as a coping mechanism when issues like stress and anxiety begin to feel a little overwhelming. A healthy hobby can serve as a distraction and provide a getaway when individuals feel as though their mental health is suffering.
- Don't hesitate to seek help. Individuals have no issue visiting their physicians when they experience physical symptoms of illness or injury. That same lack of hesitation should be present when mental health issues arise. Mental health professionals can provide the same valuable services for mental health that physicians do for physical health.

Strategies to protect mental health is an important components of health care regimens. Individuals can learn more at mentalhealthfirstaid.org.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Power in My Backyard?

What a surprise to learn of a proposed 500-acre power plant project behind the Landfill near Davis. The permit request is for a plant with more electrical capacity than Mt. Storm, less than two miles from Davis and Thomas! With the months, if not years, of planning required, it's hard to believe every local and state official—it seems—was taken by surprise: not a fault or criticism of the officials, rather, a testament to the planners' ability to keep this quiet. Why choose this location, so close to Davis and Thomas, while thousands of acres of barren, reclaimed land lie adjacent along Rt. 48? There are so many questions, the most basic of which is WHY. Some have inferred a Data Center. This is too remote from the Tier 1 fiber backbone at Ashburn, VA, creating too much latency; plus, there is no reference to running fiber to Ashburn. My guess is cyber-currency mining. Or someone suggested AI, but this again requires connectivity. So many concerns: no public meetings, County Commissioners in the dark, mayors of Davis and Thomas

unaware, local political representatives not advised, and no environmental impact study. It is hard to imagine this project is anywhere near ready for a permit. Let's pick one huge concern: heat. A power plant equivalent in size to Mt. Storm generates a tremendous amount of heat, requiring a lake-size body of water for cooling: Think: Mt. Storm Lake. Where is that on the drawing? Or, perhaps, a cooling tower? Cooling towers can be upwards of 600 feet tall and 300 feet in diameter—but none is depicted in the drawings released so far. I intend this article to alert those who have not heard of this project. Last week, Dan Parks, Country Roads News, wrote an extensive article. There is much too much we do not know. Please ask questions. We, as citizens of Tucker County, deserve to know much more before a project such as this gets the go-ahead. Mayor Tomson has scheduled an open meeting in the Davis Fire Hall this coming Sunday, April 13th, at 2 p.m. William Peterson

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DEADLINE
3PM FRIDAY

THANK YOU!

I would like to thank all my family and friends for attending my 95th birthday party. Thank you for all the gifts, great food, cards and fellowship.

Kenneth Knotts

Senior News

Parsons Senior Center outpost met on April 1, 2025. Sharon Daniels led everyone in reciting the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. Jean Morrison played piano and led the singing of "God Bless America". Happy birthday was sung to Rita Roberts, Sharon Cassidy, and Kenny Knotts. Sharon Daniels read an article about April Fool's Day and read some of Art Linkletter's stories of "Kids Say the Darndest Things". Jean Morrison introduced Ida Mohr who talked of her German family history of several generations living under communism. Mrs. Mohr was accompanied by her mother, Ingrid M. Johnson.

Tim Turner, Senior Center Director mentioned the sign-up for a trip to the Sight N Sound Theater to see the play "Noah" and that a transit company was hoping to expand into this area to provide local trips. Linda Bonner encouraged seniors to sign up to participate in the Senior Olympics coming June 10-13. Door prizes were won by Sylvia Rosenau and Virginia Popio. On April 17 festivities will start at 10:30. The choir will sing, the Easter bunny will arrive, there will be an egg hunt, and there will be an Easter bonnet parade. Bring your decorated bonnet and join in the fun. For questions, call the center at 304-478-2423.

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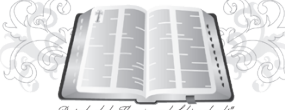
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DEADLINE 3PM FRIDAY

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WEST VIRGINIA HUNTER EDUCATION CLASS

Classes will be held at the
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Deadline is May 15, 2025 by 4:00 P.M.

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HOTEL/MOTEL FUND APPLICATIONS

Applications for Hotel/Motel funds are now available from the Tucker County Parks and Recreation Board.

Organizations in the county that would like to be considered for funding should email msagace@gmail.com, or call the county Commission office at 478-2866.

Send all applications to the Tucker County Parks and Recreation Board, PO Box 205, Parsons, WV 26287.

Applications are due by May 31, 2025

THANK YOU FOR READING THE PARSONS ADVOCATE

TUCKER COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY OFFICER/CASE MANAGER – FULL-TIME POSITION

Tucker County Community Corrections is currently accepting applications for a full-time Officer/Case Manager. A degree or prior experience in the field of criminal justice is preferred but not required.

POSITION SUMMARY:
The Officer/Case Manager will be responsible for providing supervision, case management, and rehabilitative services to individuals under community supervision. This role requires strong organizational, communication, and interpersonal skills, as well as a commitment to supporting client rehabilitation and reintegration.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:
• Conducting intake assessments and maintaining an assigned caseload
• Administering drug and alcohol screenings
• Providing community supervision and conducting in-home visits
• Coordinating with community resources to secure services and referrals
• Preparing detailed reports, correspondence, and maintaining accurate case records
• Performing other duties as assigned

QUALIFICATIONS:
• Degree in criminal justice or a related field preferred
• Previous experience in case management, corrections, or human services is a plus
• Strong written and verbal communication skills
• Ability to work independently and manage multiple responsibilities
• Commitment to confidentiality, ethical conduct, and public safety

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:
Interested applicants should submit a resume by April 30, 2025, to:
Tucker County Community Corrections
Attn: Dustin Luzier
213 First Street
Parsons, WV 26287
For additional information, please call 304-478-2833.
Tucker County Community Corrections is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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HEALTH/MEDICAL
IF YOU HAD KNEE OR HIP REPLACEMENT SURGERY and suffered an infection due to use of a Bair Hugger (Blue Blanket), between 2020 and the present time, you may be entitled to compensation. Call attorney Charles H. Johnson 800/535-5727
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car to Peddle. Easy three step process. Instant offer. Free pickup. Fast payment. Call 1-844-640-0583
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SAFE STEP. NORTH AMERICAS #1 WALK-IN TUB. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-844-803-1282
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DATA CENTER

who will listen,” Rosenau said.

Tucker County resident Nathan Sander said that he had only learned of the proposed project in the past week to week and a half and has tried to educate himself to the best of his ability with what little information on the project has been available. It was a sentiment shared by both the public and officials at the meeting. Rosenau said that he, too only learned of the project in the time frame.

“We came to implore you guys to exert whatever control you all have on State officials, whomever, whatever can be done on behalf of the community, on behalf of Tucker County and West Virginia,” Sander said.

Sander discussed the issue with tax revenue generated by the center. Under HB 2014, as it was passed by the State House, no tax revenue would go to the local governments, only the State, Rosenau said.

“The fact is Senate Bill 2014 passed the House of Representatives as it stood,” Rosenau said. “Which would mean there would be no tax revenue coming to the County. There would be no County, any type of influence, any type of zoning, any type of ordinance, anything we could do. Nothing could be placed, the State would have full control.”

Rosenau encouraged those at the meeting to follow the proceedings on the State Senate floor and to contact State elected officials on HB 2014. The County Commission had print outs available for the public with contact information of all House and Senate members for the public to contact on the issue and made it known that they have been in contact with as many members as they could on the issue to let them know Tucker County’s stance on the matter.

“The administrator ran off all the information for the House side and the Senate side,” Rosenau said. “So individuals can contact their offices if they choose to, to voice your concerns because all of this is on the State level.”

Rosenau said his main concerns on the issue are the lack of local input. Rosenau also said he did not like the State taking all the revenue from the local governments.

“The thing that I don’t like about the whole scenario is, is the way it passed the House is, we get no revenue at all to our County,” Rosenau said. “We have no say in anything

where it can be located, where it can’t be located, any of that. I’ve got an issue with that. Those are the problems I really have with it is there is really no local input into this decision.”

However, Rosenau said that on the Senate side there had already been amendments made to the Bill, but did not give any specifics on them. Rosenau said that it was still too early to say whether he was for or against the amendments or whether the amendments would even stay in the Bill. According to Rosenau, the bill would likely be in and out of committee several times in the Senate prior to passage depending on the number of amendments that the Bill would encounter.

“Its too early to even say whether I’m for that amendment, I’m against that amendment or what the end result will even be,” Rosenau said.

Rosenau said he understands property rights and the rights of property owners to do what they will with their own property, but this project is different because it has widespread implications to the entirety of the Tucker County area. “I understand this is their property, just like its your property,” Rosenau said. “But this is different, this affects our entire County.”

The County has no deed transfers recorded for the proposed property for the project as of the morning of the meeting, according to County Clerk Sherry Simmons. The property is currently owned by Western Pocahontas, according to Rosenau.

Resident Debbie Hatfield also voiced concerns during the meeting. Hatfield asked if there was more the Commission could do at the State level to make Tucker County voices heard. According to Hatfield, she felt that the residents would not be heard or taken as seriously as the Commissioners would. Rosenau said that he and the other Commissioners had been in contact with Charleston on the issue repeatedly and that Tucker County needed to be a united voice on the issue. Rosenau said that both the Commission and the residents needed to be heard in Charleston in order to make a difference.

“I think that its important that the public both within the County and across the State recognize because this hasn’t even really made it onto the State news,” Hatfield said. “People across the State, we as residents of the County are just beginning to hear about it, the State residents don’t know about it.”

The West Virginia legislature had a deadline of midnight on Saturday, April 12th to conclude all business, meaning that HB 2014 would need to be passed by the Senate prior to midnight on Saturday to be made into law. With the rapid deadline and no local forewarning, local officials only learned of the project with less than two weeks to contact State officials to object to HB 2014. Data centers and HB 2014 are intrinsically tied together as HB 2014 includes language explicitly designed to pertain to build and bring data centers to West Virginia.

HELP WANTED
CEMETERY SEASONAL GROUNDSKEEPER

The City of Parsons is seeking a seasonal groundskeeper to care for and maintain the Parsons City Cemetery. Duties may include but are not limited to custodial duties, emptying and disposing of trash, removing fallen tree debris and litter, painting, weed-eating, and cutting grass. This will be a five day a week position for eight hours per day.

Candidates must be at least 18 years of age, a citizen of the United States, have a high school diploma or equivalent, and should possess a valid West Virginia Driver’s License with good driving history. Compensation for this position is \$10.00 per hour with no fringe benefits, except for free membership to the Wellness 24 Fitness Center.

Interested individuals may pick up an application at the Parsons Business Office, located in the Charles W. “Bill” Rosenau Municipal Building, 341 Second Street, Parsons, West Virginia, from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. (EDT), Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Applications will be accepted until a qualified pool of candidates is established, or the position is filled.

Legal Disclosure – The City of Parsons does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy or gender identity), national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, retaliation, parental status, military service, or other non-merit factor.

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WE PROMISE TO HAVE TIMES OF PRAYER EVERY DAY.

Prayer doesn’t belong in our school just for some pre-determined, scheduled time. Prayer belongs in our school whenever needs arise. This trains our children to look beyond themselves and towards the Source of our (their) faith and strength.

WE PROMISE TO TEACH YOUR STUDENT BIBLICAL MORALITY EVERY DAY.

We live in a society where many young people are growing up without any direction as to right and wrong. Our children need to know God’s unchanging absolutes that are taught in His Word. If they aren’t taught the right way to live, the world will teach them otherwise.

We promise to teach your student the meaning of godly, Christian character. We believe in training students to be responsible, diligent, determined, decisive, loyal, punctual, grateful, truthful, forgiving, patient, serving, and kind. This is teaching that goes into the heart and mind. This is the teaching that leads to our next generation of responsible and giving community members.

WE PROMISE TO SUPPORT YOU AS A PARENT.

The Christian school is to be an extension of the home, and we strive to train your child in the same godly way you would train him if you could be by his side every day. We will not undermine you.

We promise to keep an “open door” to you for better communication. We value our parents’ thoughts, concerns, and opinions. You’ll find us willing to listen and wanting to help you as you face problems and difficulties. We are here to serve you and your family.

A PROMISE IS A PROMISE!

CHECK US OUT AT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE, LITTLE KANAWHA VALLEY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL AND AT WWW.LKVCHRISTIANSCHOOL.COM

Also, visit www.hopescholarshipwv.com for a tremendous opportunity of receiving a \$4900+ scholarship available to every WV student who is entering kindergarten in 2025 or is currently enrolled in public school. Open Enrollment for new students at LKVCS is available now. Curriculum costs are waived for new students if they are enrolled prior to May 23, 2025. We offer a Christ-centered, highly academic, and life-skill driven education to the children of our school. We surround our children with the teachings from God’s Word in grades K4-12th. Children in the K4/K5 program learn their letters, sounds, blends, and numbers, along with cursive handwriting skills. That education builds to a solid foundation as they go through each grade level. Students receive a diploma upon graduation and are eligible for all the scholarships and college acceptances as any other WV graduate. We are here for the families who want a Christ-centered quality education that nurtures not only what is taught within the classroom walls, but the life skills necessary to be responsible community members who will take pride in a job well-done. Our prayer and hope is that if this appears to be the place for your child and your family, you will contact us today with your questions.

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LKVCS, Inc., shall admit students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded and made to the students at this school. The school shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, athletic or any other programs administered by the school.

HELP WANTED
SEASONAL GROUNDSKEEPER

The City of Parsons is seeking a seasonal groundskeeper who will perform general maintenance to all parks and recreational facilities. Duties may include but are not limited to custodial duties, emptying and disposing of trash, removing fallen tree debris and litter, cleaning restrooms, painting, weed-eating, and cutting grass. This will be a three day a week position for 8 hours a day.


Candidates must be at least 18 years of age, a citizen of the United States, have a high school diploma or equivalent, and should possess a valid West Virginia Driver’s License with good driving history. Compensation for this position is \$10.00 per hour with no fringe benefits, except for free membership to the Wellness 24 Fitness Center.

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Request for Proposal

From Contracting Firms interested in the Renovation of the Davis Town Hall, Davis, WV.

Plans and specifications are available at the Davis Town Hall, Davis, WV.

Request for Proposals should be submitted to the Davis Town Hall no later than 4 p.m. on May 2, 2025.

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF WEST VIRGINIA
CHARLESTON

CASE NO. 25-0077-E-CS-PW
CATAMOUNT WIND LLC

Application for Waiver of Requirement to Obtain a Modification or Amendment of its Siting Certificate or, in the alternative, Petition for a Modification of Its Siting Certificate

NOTICE OF FILING

By an Order issued in Case No. 01-1664-E-CN on August 29, 2002, the Public Service Commission of West Virginia (Commission) granted Mt. Storm Wind Force, LLC (Mt. Storm) a Siting Certificate for the construction and operation of a 250 MW wholesale electric generating facility consisting of 166 wind turbines and related interconnecting transmission facilities in Grant and Tucker Counties (Original Project). By an order issued in Case No. 16-1117-E-CS-PC on May 3, 2017, the Commission approved Mt. Storm’s proposed modifications to the Siting Certificate by reducing the number of turbines from 166 to 72 plus 5 alternates, increasing the total blade tip height to 498.7 feet for 65 and 426 feet for 7 of the 72 turbines, and reducing the generation capacity of the project from 250 MW to 150 MW (2017 Project). Neither the Original Project nor the 2017 Project were constructed. Pursuant to an ownership change, the Siting Certificate is now owned by Catamount Wind LLC (Catamount).

On February 5, 2025, Catamount filed an Application requesting that the Commission determine that its proposed modifications to the 2017 Project are not material and do not require modification of the Siting Certificate; or (ii) in the alternative, modify the Siting Certificate to incorporate the proposed revisions to the Project (Application). The proposed changes to the Project consist of:

- Reducing the number of approved turbines from 72 to 37 at 44 possible locations.
- Increasing the total maximum blade tip height from 426 feet and 498.7 feet to 639.8 feet.
- Installing all of the power collection lines from each turbine to the Project substation underground.
- A 10-mile transmission support line of less than 200 kV from the Project substation to the William Substation in Tucker County, approximately 7 miles of which will be co-located with an existing transmission line to the William Substation. Turbines will be located a farther distance from the Town of Bayard than proposed in the 2017 Project.

Further information concerning the Application is available in the case file at the Commission’s offices at 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia, or on the Commission’s website, www.psc.state.wv.us, under Case No. 25-0077-E-CS-PW.

The Commission has scheduled a public comment hearing where you can voice your support for the Project or express any concerns. The public comment hearing will be held at 4:00 p.m. on June 4, 2025, in the Howard M. Cunningham Hearing Room, Public Service Commission Building, 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia.

Public comments may be also filed online at <https://www.psc.state.wv.us/scripts/onlinecomments/default.cfm> by clicking the “Formal Case” link or by sending them to Karen Buckley, Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323. Please include the case name and number at the top of this Notice in your comments.

If a formal evidentiary hearing is needed, it will be held at 9:30 a.m. on June 5, 2025, in the Howard M. Cunningham Hearing Room, Public Service Commission Building, 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia.

Anyone desiring to protest the Application or intervene in this case must file a written protest or request to intervene within thirty (30) days of the date of the publication of this notice. Anyone requesting a formal evidentiary hearing in this case must also file such request in writing within the same 30-day period and state why a hearing is necessary. Failure to timely protest or intervene can affect your right to protest or participate in future proceedings in this case.

If no substantial protests are received within the thirty (30) day period, the Commission may waive the formal hearing and rule on the Application based on the evidence submitted with the Application and its review thereof. All protests or requests to intervene shall briefly state the reason(s) for the protest or intervention. Requests to intervene must comply with the Commission’s rules on intervention, as set forth in the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, 150 C.S.R. 1. The Commission’s rules are available via a link on the Commission’s Home Page to the website of the West Virginia Secretary of State. All protests, requests to intervene, and requests for hearing must be addressed to Karen Buckley, Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323.

CATAMOUNT WIND LLC

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WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Division of Highways
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service (www.bidx.com) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia until May 13, 2025 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the constructions of the following project(s):

Call Contract	State Project	Federal Project	Description
018	2024470013	S347-219-7.20 00	NFA-0219(434)D
			SLIDE REPAIR W/PILING SENECA TRAIL (PILING WALL) Midpoint of Project COUNTY: TUCKER

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

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

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

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ADVERTISEMENT

Notice is hereby given that Shiloh Quarry LLC, 190 Midstream Way, Jane Lew, WV 26378, has submitted an application for Permit Number Q200495 to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) 47 School Street, Suite 301, Philippi, WV, 26416-1600 in order to add 5.0 acres of mineral removal area. The operation is discharging into an unnamed tributary to Brushy Fork and is located near Moatsville in Clover District of Tucker County, Longitude 79° 49' 16" and Latitude 39° 11' 37" (Coordinates from USGS Topographic Map). Surface of the area associated herewith is owned by: Shiloh Quarry LLC, 190 Midstream Way, Jane Lew, WV 26378 and the mineral associated herewith is owned by Shiloh Quarry LLC, 190 Midstream Way, Jane Lew, WV 26378. The source of the applicant's legal right to enter and conduct quarrying operation on the land to be covered by this application is by: deed. Surface of the area within 500 feet of the permit area is owned by: Shiloh Quarry LLC, 190 Midstream Way, Jane Lew, WV 26378.

Comments on the application shall be in writing and shall identify the applicant and application number and be sent to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) at the address above. Comments received by May 2, 2025, or thirty (30) days from the date of initial date of publication, will be considered.

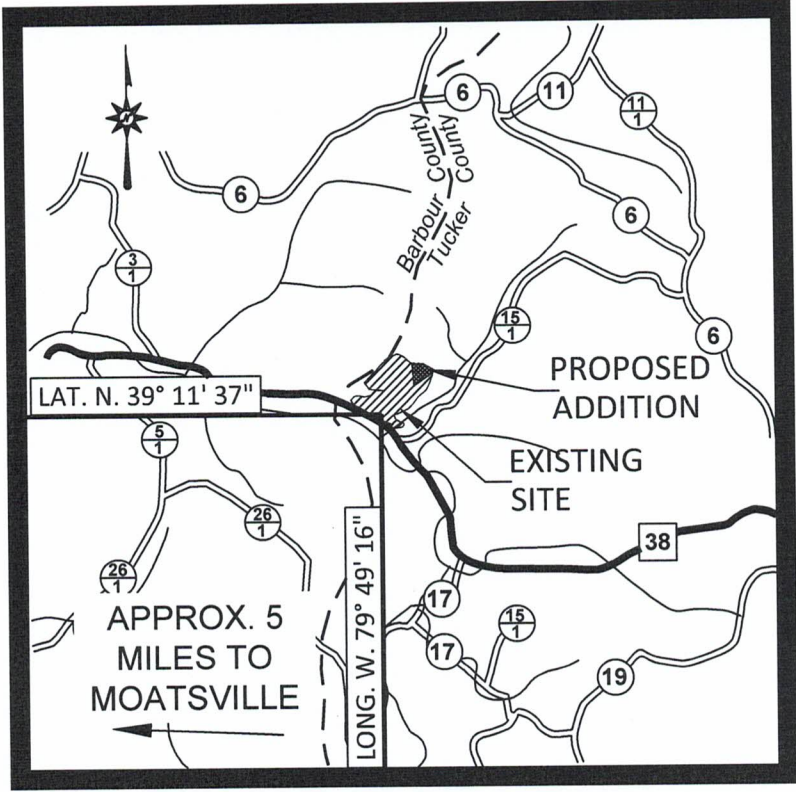
A copy of the application will be available until May 2, 2025, or thirty (30) days from initial date of publication in the DEP Regional Office located at the address above and is available at:

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

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

DEP Telephone No. 304-457-3219

LOCATION MAP



SCALE: 1" = 1 MILE
SHILOH QUARRY, LLC
190 MIDSTREAM WAY
JANE LEW, WV 26378
PERMIT NO. Q200495 - CLOVER DISTRICT
TUCKER COUNTY - WEST VIRGINIA
USGS COLEBANK, WV QUADRANGLE

LEGAL

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2025 - JUNE 30, 2026
LEVY ESTIMATE - BUDGET DOCUMENT

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

MUNICIPALITY OF HAMBLETON, WEST VIRGINIA

In accordance with Code § 11-8-14, as amended, the Council proceeded to make an estimate of the amounts necessary to be raised by levy of taxes for the current fiscal year, and does determine and estimate the several amounts to be as follows:

The amount due and the amount that will become due and collectible from every source during the fiscal year INCLUDING THE LEVY OF TAXES, is as follows:

REVENUE SOURCE

Unassigned Fund Balance	\$	25,152
Assigned Fund Balance (General Fund only)		10,000
Property Taxes - Current Expense		20,073
Tax Loss Restoration		200
Gas & Oil Severance Tax		800
Excise Tax on Utilities		7,500
Wine & Liquor Tax		100
Animal Control Tax		70
Franchise Fees		900
IRP Fees (Interstate Registration Plan)		4,000
Refuse Collection		26,000
Gaming Income		9,200
Interest Earned on Investments		150
Video Lottery (LVL)		80
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE (GENERAL FUND)	\$	104,225

COAL SEVERANCE TAX FUND
REVENUE SOURCE

Assigned Fund Balance (Coal Fund Only)	\$	100
Coal Severance Tax		800
Interest Earned on Investment		1
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE (COAL SEVERANCE FUND)	\$	901

ESTIMATED CURRENT EXPENDITURES

	General Fund	Coal Severance Fund
Mayor's Office	\$ 1,200	\$ -
City Council	600	-
Recorder's Office	200	-
City Clerk's Office	4,800	-
Custodial	500	-
Regional Development Authority	267	-
City Hall	22,716	-
Public Grounds	1,500	450
Fire Department	120	-
Streets and Highways	30,152	-
Street Lights	5,600	-
Streets and Highways	5,000	-
Street Lights	5,000	-
Snow Removal	4,000	-
Garbage Department	28,500	-
Parks & Recreation	2,000	-
Beautification Programs	2,000	-
Cemeteries	-	451
TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES	\$ 104,225	\$ 901

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
COUNTY OF Tucker
MUNICIPALITY OF HAMBLETON

I, Michael A. Griffith, Recording Officer of said municipality, do hereby certify that the foregoing are true copies from the record of the orders made and entered by the council of the said municipality on the 27th day of March, 2025.

Michael A. Griffith
(Signature)

Recorder
Official Title of Recording Officer

www.parsonsadvocate.com

LEGAL

(2022-C-000046 - TUCKER COUNTY - CATO ENERGY LLC)

To: SAGA PETROLEUM LLC, MEGAENERGY INC, MEGAENERGY INC, 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 ST. GEORGE MAP 9999 PARCEL 0110 0077 0000

You will take notice that CATO ENERGY LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2022-C-000046, located in ST. GEORGE District, 55% OF 1/2 M - 128 - 67 - 10, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of SAGA PETROLEUM LLC, 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:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2021 - 10891.	\$	102.89
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number	\$	0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2022 - 10199.	\$	10.18
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	111.49
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	663.19
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	422.93
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	1,310.68

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**

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WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Division of Highways
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service (www.bidx.com) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia until May 13, 2023 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the constructions of the following project(s):

Call Contract	State Project	Federal Project	Description
022	2021000717	S399-STR/IP-25 01	NHPP-2025(119)D
			PAVEMENT MARKINGS INTERSTATE STRIPING STATEWIDE COUNTY: STATEWIDE

DBE GOAL: 10% OF CONTRACT BID AMOUNT. BIDDER MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCE OF MEETING GOAL ON FORM IN PROPOSAL.

REMARKS:

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

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

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

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection Re: UIC Permit Application UIC2D09300081-004

Office of Oil and Gas
601 57th Street SE
Charleston, WV 25304
Phone: (304) 926-0450
Fax: (304) 926-0452

APPLICATION FOR STATE UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL PERMIT
Public Notice Number: UIC-2025-001

Paper:
The Parsons Advocate
219 Central Avenue
Parsons, WV 26287
304-647-5724

The following applicant has applied for a State Underground Injection Control (UIC) Permit for this facility or activity:

Pillar Energy, LLC
1244 Martins Branch Rd.
Charleston, WV 25312

Application Number: UIC 2D09300081-004

Business Conducted: Oil and/or Natural Gas production and/or related activity.

Location: On the waters of Horseshoe Run in St. George District, Tucker County.

1642 Horseshoe Run Rd, St. George, WV 26287
Approximate location: Latitude 39.166773 Longitude -79.628511
UTM North 4336179.5 UTM East 618482.9

Activity: Reissuance of an Underground Injection Control (UIC) Permit for the operation of a non-commercial facility used for the underground injection of approved Class 2 oil and gas waste fluids. The state of West Virginia will act on the above application in accordance with the West Virginia Legislative Rules, Title 47, Series 13, Section 13.24 issued pursuant to West Virginia Code Chapter 22, Article 11 & 12.

The application, draft permit, and fact sheet can be downloaded from <https://dep.wv.gov/oil-and-gas/databaseinfo/Pages/UIC-Pending-Applications-.aspx>. This information is also available for review by appointment, or copies obtained, at a nominal cost, at the Office of Oil and Gas, 601 57th Street SE, Charleston, WV 25304, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on business days.

Any interested person may submit written comments on the draft permit and may request a public hearing within 30 days of the date of publication. Such comments or requests should be emailed to DEPOOGEP@wv.gov with "UIC Comments" in the subject line or a hard copy addressed and mailed to:

Office of Oil and Gas
601 57th Street SE
Charleston, WV 25304
Attn: UIC Program

Comments received within this period will be considered prior to acting on the permit application. Correspondence should include the name, address, and telephone number of the writer and a concise statement of the nature of the issues raised. A public hearing may be held if the Chief considers significant the degree of public interest raised on issues relevant to the draft permit. Interested persons may contact the office identified above at (304) 926-0450 to obtain further information.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
Department of Environment Protection
Division of Water and Waste Management
601 57th Street SE
Charleston, WV 25304
Telephone: (304) 926-0495
Fax: (304) 926-0463

Public Notice No.: BS-034-2025

Publication: Statewide/West Virginia Press Association

Publication Date: April 12, 2025

The West Virginia, Department of Environmental Protection's (WVDEP) Division of Water & Waste Management is proposing to reissue the West Virginia National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Water Pollution Control Permit WV0116025, which covers discharges to waters of the state from small municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s). The agency is proposing that the General Permit be issued for a five-year term.

An MS4 is a conveyance or system of conveyances that is:

- Owned by a state, city, town, village or other public entity that discharges to waters of the U.S.
- Designed or used to collect or convey stormwater (e.g., storm drains, pipes, ditches)
- Not a combined sewer
- Not part of a sewage treatment plant, or publicly owned treatment works (POTW).

This General Permit regulates storm water runoff from MS4s and is designed to prevent stormwater runoff from washing harmful pollutants into local surface waters.

The draft permit and fact sheet are available on the WVDEP website at:

<https://dep.wv.gov/WWE/Programs/stormwater/MS4/Pages/default.aspx>.

The public comment period for the Draft General Permit begins April 17, 2025 and ends on May 17, 2025.

During the public comment period, any interested person may submit written comments on the draft permit and/or request a public hearing. Any interested person may submit written comments on the draft permit. Comments and/or a request for a public hearing shall be made in writing and can be sent Via email to Billy Shirley at Billy.T.Shirley@wv.gov or by regular to:

Attention: Billy Shirley

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Water and Waste Management
601 57th Street SE
Charleston, WV 25304

All comments received by the end of the comment period will be considered prior to the agency making its final decision on the draft General Permit. Comments and/or requests for a public hearing should include the name and contact information of the writer and a concise statement of the nature of the issues raised.

Hard copies are available for review at WVDEP headquarters in Charleston or any of the agency's regional field offices and can be mailed upon request. For more information, contact Billy Shirley at (304) 926-0499, Ext. 43893 or Billy.T.Shirley@wv.gov.

Tomson Speaks to Company Proposing Data Center Near Davis

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Town of Davis Mayor Al Tomson said he spent 30 to 40 minutes speaking with Casey Chapman from Fundamental Data, the company that recently filed an Air Quality Permit for a power plant next to the county landfill near Davis. Tomson's comments on the conversation came as part of his Mayor's Comments during the April 9th meeting of the Town of Davis Council.

“I spent 30 or 40 minutes talking to the gentleman that filed the permit,” Tomson said.

According to Tomson, Chapman is a West Virginia Native who is well acquainted with the Tucker County area and often comes to Canaan Valley for recreation.

“He's a fourth generation West Virginian and his family is from the Charleston area. He still has family there,” Tomson said. “He's come up to the Canaan area to hunt and fish all of his life, so he knows the area.”

Tomson said that one of the biggest take aways from his conversation was that Chapman said that the project was in its early stages.

“The biggest thing about this project that he said was, this is really early days,” Tomson said. “In a hundred steps, this is like step one.”

Tomson said that he had a difference of opinion on the fact because the permit plans seems far too detailed to have been filed for a project that was just in its infancy.

“I had some difference of opinion with him on that one because with the permit being filed, there was an engineering plan that was put together that was quite detailed,” Tomson said. “That's more than just a vague thought of maybe building something someday in some location.”

The current plans submitted were for a power plant, only, Tomson said. Though talk around the community and as far away as Charleston has been surrounding a Data Center project that would be fed by the power plant. Tomson said that the power plant proposed would produce more electricity than nearby Mt. Storm.

“Right now the permit is only for a power plant,” Tomson said. “It would produce more electricity, a little bit more electricity, then all of Mt. Storm Power Plant.”

While the plant may be designed to produce more electricity than Mt. Storm, none of it will be sold to the grid, Tomson said. It is all designed for internal use only.

“So it will produce a considerable amount of electricity and its not going to be sold to the grid,” Tomson said. “Its for internal use.”

The internal use is and the name of the company, Fundamental Data, is where talk of a Data Center begin to emerge. Tomson said that both those factors show strong signs that the power plant is designed to one or more support data centers in the area, especially when given the 500 acres the project is designed to encompass.

“So then the question comes, what's the internal use?” Tomson said. “The hint that I think is the name of the company is Fundamental Data so it makes me sort of believe that they want to build some kind of a data center. Whether its for cloud storage, whether its for crypto coin mining, which is a data center, whether its for artificial intelligence or whatever, its probably going to be one or more data centers that get built because the amount of land that they are looking at is 500 acres.”

The land where the project is slated for is currently deeded to Western Pocahontas, according to County Clerk Sherry Simmons and as of the morning of the April 9th no land deeds had been transferred to Fundamental Data on the land, she said. Tomson also told those present at the meeting the fact that the deeds had not been transferred. Tomson also said the 500 acres of land was also part of Hunting Club land and a member of the public said that a sign with plans for the plant had been seen in the area as far back as September.

“The land right now where they propose building the power plant is owned by Western Pocahontas and the land has not officially been deeded to Fundamental Data, which is the company that filed the permit for the Air Quality to say they wanted to build this power station,” Tomson said.

Tomson said he was not opposed to the construction of the station, only to its proposed location.

“So one of my comments to him was I don't object fundamentally to building this,” Tomson said. “I don't like the location. Its too close to Davis and Thomas where people live.”

According to Tomson, Chapman said the location was chosen next to an existing landfill because the company thought it would be less of a nuisance to the community.

“He said he thought it was a good idea to put it right next to an existing landfill and that it wouldn't bother anybody,” Tomson said.

Tomson said the landfill bothers the community because it is able to be seen and smelled. However, with the addition of a data center and power plant, Tomson said there will be noise and light pollution.

“My comment then to him was, the landfill bothers us because you can see it and smell it,” Tomson said. “But now we factor in noise pollution, light pollution, air pollution, things that are additive tot he nuisance we already have. So it just makes things worse.”

Tomson suggested moving the location a few miles away to near the Mettili Coal Mine due to its location away from residential areas and its already industrial nature. Chapman seemed less than enthused, according to Tomson.

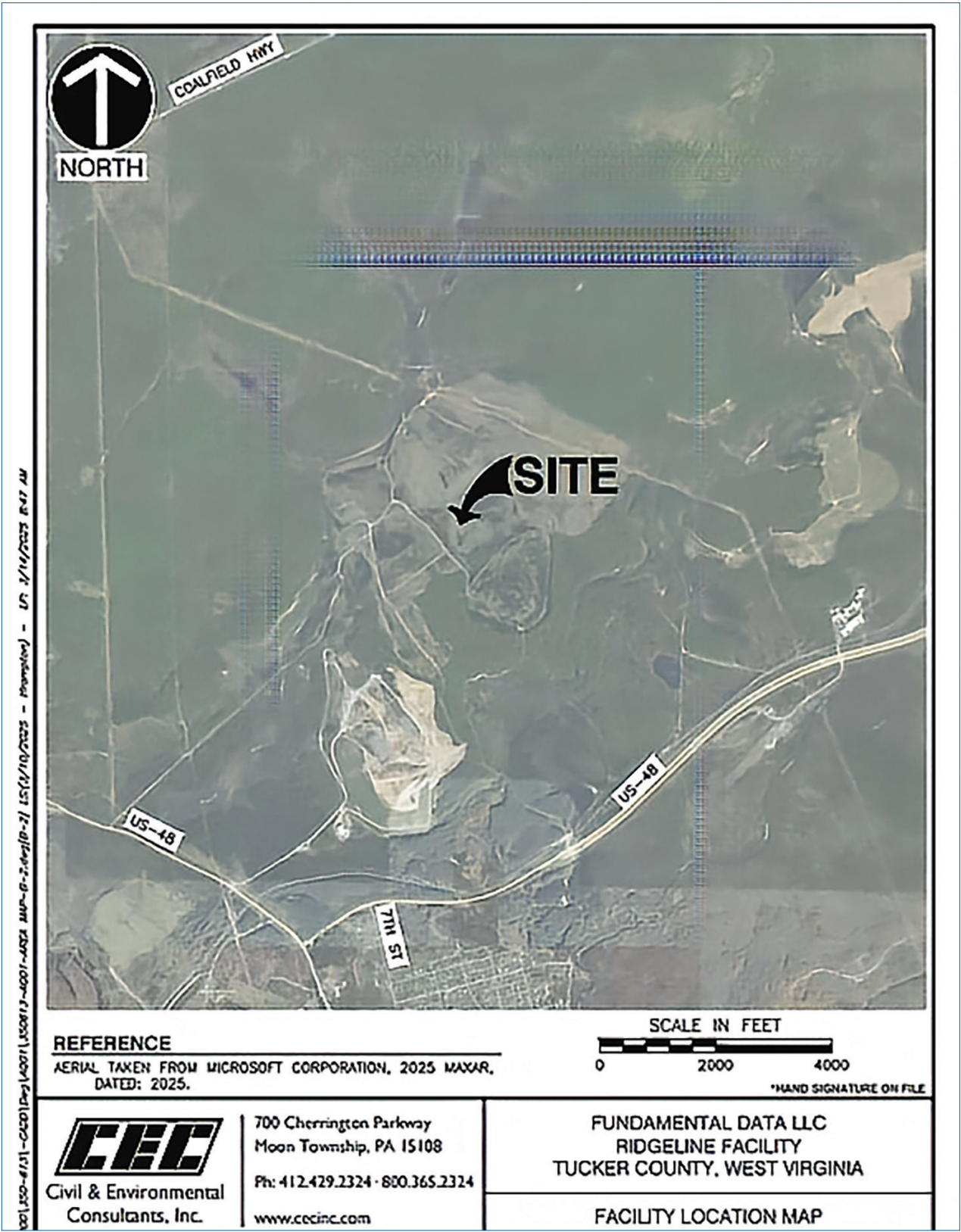
“I was asking the question, why don't you consider putting it where the Mettiki Coal Mine is, you know six or seven miles down the road where nobody's living, its already industrial and its by the Tucker-Grant County line,” Tomson said. “He said, we'll see.”

Davis resident Lori Quattro commented that when Western Pocahontas presented their plans for the area to the residents of Davis, there were plans for the Mettiki area that included a large housing facility. Quattro said she doubted that Western Pocahontas would consider giving up that area for the proposed project.

“When Western Pocahontas was here, they are going to build some big housing facility at Mettiki,” Quattro said. “They're not going to give up that land.”

Tomson pointed out that Western Pocahontas also has plans to build a large residential housing project across from the landfill along 32 across the road from where the current project is slated to be constructed.

“They are also going to build one between Davis and Thomas on the other side of 32 from the landfill,” Tomson



Virginia based company Fundamental Data has proposed construction of a power plant for data centers between Davis and Thomas next to the Tucker County Landfill.

said. “So its like, why do you want this monstrosity?”

Tomson said that people in areas where they are building these data centers have begun to have many complaints about them including the noise, pollution and smells coming from them. In areas where they are connected to the grid, there are vast increases in electrical costs to residents as well, Tomson said.

“People in Manassas and Louden County in Virginia where they are building lots of data centers, the population and the local officials are starting to complain,” Tomson said. “Complaining about land, complaining about noise, complaining about smells, they are complaining about their electric costs going up because those are connected to the grid, as opposed to having their own power station.”

According to Tomson, Chapman said those facilities are using outdated technology that his company does not plan to utilize. Tomson said he was informed the company plans to use state of the art technology that is slated to eliminate many of the issues older data centers have experienced.

“He said, oh, that's old technology they're using,” Tomson said. “We're going to use new technology and none of those things will be an issue. I haven't heard of that new technology yet, so I'm waiting with bated breath.”

Tomson said he also addressed the issue of jobs. There has been a speculation in the area as to whether or not the project would bring many, if any jobs to locals.

“The data center would be very, very automated. It may have a handful of people working there and they are all going to be people who have computer skills and certifications and degrees that give them the knowledge to do that, as well as much of that work will be done remotely,” Tomson said.

Tomson said the power plant itself would employ perhaps 10 to 15 people as guards and maintenance workers.

“The power plant might employ 10 to 15 people,” Tomson said. “Some of them will be security guards, some of them will be maintenance people. So I asked about that and he said, its early to tell.”

“I said some people are saying you are going to bring hundreds of people in for the construction,” Tomson said. “I said, are you going to hire any locals? He said we will try to hire people from West Virginia. That was pretty vague and not specific.”

Much of the construction crews Tomson said he suspected would come from outside the area due to the specialized nature of the work.

“A lot of these plants when they get built, the construction crews come in from outside to build them because they have the know how,” Tomson said.

When asked to address concerns over water in the area, Tomson said Chapman would not discuss the issue. Facilities at both Davis and Thomas are operating at full capacity and would not be able to accommodate the project, Tomson said.

“I did also ask about water and he would not address that with me,” Tomson said. “I said we've had a drought last year. We had to pump from an alternate source. Thomas has also water issues and whether you take from, you can't get water from Davis or Thomas, we're both at capacity.”

Tomson said he was afraid if the facility drilled in the area, it would effect the area streams, creeks and rivers.

“If you drill wells into the aquifer, you're going to effect the balance of the streams that supply the creeks and the rivers where we get our water and that seemed to not be of a concern,” Tomson. “So that was not addressed.”

Local input would have been preferable for the project,

Tomson said. Had local authorities been consulted, alternative locations could have been discussed and options laid out, Tomson said.

“It would have been nice, in a perfect world, for them to have dialogue about the power plant with local people and we could have said before they got too far along, why don't you put it somewhere that's not as objectionable, that people can live with? And they might have considered it,” Tomson said. “But now, they have plans that they don't say they are very firm, but they're relatively firm.”

Tomson said that perhaps a contributing factor in its location was its proximity to a major natural gas pipeline in the area.

“Its right next to a gas pipeline,” Tomson said. “Its going to use as much natural gas as 150,000 homes use in a day. So every day it runs, seven natural gas fired turbines, that's how much natural gas, its going to be using. So proximity to a big gas pipeline is very advantageous.”

“Their backup power source, their backup fuel will be diesel,” Tomson said. “They're going to build three 12 million gallon tanks, each one is a 180 feet in diameter and 66 feet tall and those will be backup. So if the natural gas supply is cut off for some reason, they'll use diesel fuel to power the power plant, the turbines.”

“If they build one data center, it won't use all the power they are going to make which tells me they will build a second and a third and a fourth and a fifth one,” Tomson said. “Because it will be a little data center commune.”

Tucker County has also been at the forefront of the high speed data rollout in the state. Tucker County partnered with Prodigy to help bring high speed internet to areas of the County without access as part of the State of West Virginia's high speed internet roll out program. When asked if he thought this may have played a part in the company's decision, Tomson said he thought it might.

“Possibly. Because the things that they do at the Data Centers hopefully would be connected to some path that takes that information elsewhere,” Tomson said.

Tomson said he supports the creation of data centers for national security interests.

“We have to build them somewhere because AI is really going to be a big part of the future,” Tomson said. “So as part of National Security and National Defense, the problem right now is, there are so many built in very few locations, it presents a vulnerability. So, a terrorist attack or hostile nation could take out a bunch of them very easily because they are co-located. So we need to spread it out. I mean there are some National interests that say we need to do this and that is why I am saying we need to do this, consider building this, just not right here.”

Tomson said he invited Chapman to attend the Town Hall meeting the Town of Davis scheduled for Sunday April 13th.

“I have invited the gentleman from Fundamental Data to the Town Hall Meeting, the public meeting on Sunday,” Tomson said. “I offered for him to come to meeting and speak. I said if you send me a document, I'll read it on your behalf or if you would call on the telephone, I'll hold the microphone to the telephone and people can hear you speak that way. He said he would think about it. So I don't know if he will show up or not.”

Tomson said that there was a public comment period on the Air Quality Permit filed by Fundamental Data open at the DEP through April 15th.

“In the big scheme of things, we don't have a dog in this fight except, the people that live in Davis are going to be affected and that bothers me,” Tomson said.

Professional Project Manager Zena Raye.

Tomson supplied the meeting with information as was best known at this point. The Air Quality Permit submitted by Fundamental Data to the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection was highly redacted. Tomson and other Tucker County officials have been researching the project since news first dropped 10 days prior to the meeting. Raye also assisted Tomson with the research for the meeting.

Rosenau took the brunt of the crowd's ire during the meeting. Several in attendance accused him of not doing enough at the State level to stop the project and to stop the passage of House Bill 2014 that was closely tied to the project. During public comment, one member of the public came to the County Commissioners' defense and said that the Commissioners fight for Tucker County, but they still have to work with those in the State House, as well.

West Virginia Senate President Randy Smith also was the subject of heavy criticism from those present due to his support of House Bill 2014. Many of the public present felt that Smith should have been at the meeting to answer their questions and many more felt betrayed by the actions the State Legislature took in enacting the measure that would allow the formation of centers such as the one proposed in Tucker County.

Commissioner Fred Davis said that his personal “gut feeling” was that nothing would come of the project and equated it to the hyper loop project that never came to fruition. Davis also said that he was afraid that all the issue would do was divide the community.

“If we're going to fight, we need to fight about what matters,” Davis said.

Shoenfeld and Tomson along with several members of the public expressed the need for an email campaign. Tomson presented those in attendance with an information sheet with information on the project, as well as contact information for the DEP and Casey Chapman with Fundamental Data, the company that filed the Air Quality Permit with the DEP for the project. The DEP is currently in a

public comment period on the Air Quality Permit for the project and Tomson encouraged those in attendance to contact the DEP to voice their questions, concerns, or support for the project.

Raye said she had created a document outlining how she reverse engineered what she could of the project from what is known. The document was shared with Tomson and the I Love Canaan Facebook Page. Raye questioned why a company would knowingly propose a project in an area where the watershed could not support the water needs and why the community was not engaged early in the planning process.

“I put in there the reverse engineering of what I saw in there of that permit and what gave me questions,” Raye said.

Steve Leyh, Executive Director of the Tucker County Development Authority, was also on hand at the event and spoke on his thoughts of the project and the implications of the veil of silence surrounding it. Leyh said that even the Development Authority had no prior knowledge of the project and was just as surprised by its announcement as the rest of the County. Leyh said that there are projects happening throughout the County that are bringing in job opportunities and this could be one, but with the lack of dialogue and the lack of listening to the concerns of the community, there are too many concerns. Leyh also said that it was a private company dealing with a private land owner and was not something that the Development Authority or County Commission could control. Leyh encouraged those present to reach out to leaders in Charleston to let their voices be heard on the issue.

“This project came out of the blue and usually that doesn't happen with real projects,” Leyh said. “Usually projects you start talking about months in advance. So when this happened and the County Commission didn't know about it and they called me and said did you know anything about that? That's a red flag. Usually good companies want to be transparent, even if they aren't at a point where they are able to be transparent, when they are ready to put something in the paper, generally

they want to have conversations with your County Commission, with your Mayor, with your Development Authority. They want to talk because they know they need to be part of this community... Its also really important that all of you know that real companies that do real things generally don't shove it down your throat.”

Resident Mike Swinson said that he and his attorney wife had researched Fundamental Data and discovered that the company had only been developed for the Tucker County project. According to Swinson Fundamental Data and Chapman's parent company has no projects on the scale being proposed for the Tucker County project and no clients on the scale of Google or Amazon needed for it.

“He formed it just for this project,” Swinson said. “Here's from public records, his main company is called Caseco LLC and he has 0 projects in his portfolio of this scale. He only does residential/light commercial. There's nothing in there on this scale.”

Justin Greer, a Computer Engineer and Architectural Designer spoke during the public comments about data centers. Greer said that data centers are not decreasing in power, but are instead increasing. According to Greer, power consumption has increased over 20%. Regardless to whether it would be a closed or open loop system, Greer said, the center would use massive amounts of water. There was also a point made by Greer about how the center would address its need for data access in an area that currently has limited internet and data access.

Contacts supplied by Tomson at the meeting are as follows:

DEP: West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Air Quality (DAQ), 601 57th St., SE, Charleston, WV 25304 or email: DEPAirQualityPermitting@WV.gov phone: (304) 926-0499 ext. 41281 or contact Jerry Williams at the DEP at jerry.williams@wv.gov or phone: (304) 414-1214.

Fundamental Data: Casey Chapman: Purcellville, VA, (540) 338-8271 or email: Cchapman@fundamentaldata.com

How motorcyclists can stay safe while riding



Many people are drawn to motorcycles because of the intensity and excitement riding provides. Motorcycles are fun and routinely draw attention from other motorists.

What motorcycles add in terms of speed and excitement, they may lose in safety, especially when compared to cars and trucks. The National Transportation Safety Board says motorcycle riders and their passengers have the highest risk of fatal injury among all motor vehicle users. Per mile traveled, motorcyclist fatalities occur nearly 28 times as often as passenger vehicle occupant fatalities in traffic crashes.

Thankfully, the risks associated with riding motorcycles can be reduced with some simple safety precautions.

Gear

Motorcycle riders can improve the barrier between themselves and the road with the proper gear. Quality leather jackets and pants, helmets, gloves, and nonskid boots can protect the body from severe injuries.

Improve visibility

Reflective tape added to clothing can help motorcyclists become more visible to other drivers; otherwise, wear bright clothing colors. Also, riding with others as a group increases visibility.

Familiarize yourself with the bike

Motorcycle riders are not advised to take an unfamiliar bike into busy traffic. If the bike has never been ridden before, become familiar with its handling and responsiveness in a

controlled area that isn't full of traffic before taking it on the open road.

Stay out of blind spots

Consumer Reports says roughly two-thirds of all motorcycle accidents are caused by a car driver violating a motorcycle rider's right of way. Motorcycle riders should never assume a driver sees them. Staying out of blind spots and steering clear of turning vehicles can help.

Adjust for weather

Riding in the rain or in other difficult conditions is more risky since the roads are slippery. Slow down or keep the bike at home in inclement weather.

Remove distractions

Stow cell phones away so your attention is not drawn away from the road.

Remain sober and alert

Don't ride while under the influence of alcohol or drugs (including over-the-counter if they cause drowsiness). Also, do not drive while drowsy, as it is just as dangerous as driving while intoxicated.

Be aware of obstacles

Motorcyclists need to be very careful about road obstacles, more so than other drivers. This includes uneven road surfaces, fallen branches, oil slicks, and/or wet spots. Consumer-Safety.org says a motorcycle has less contact with the road than a car, making it more likely to skid out of control or throw a rider from the bike.

Motorcycle riders need to be more cautious on the road because they are at increased risk for injury.



How drivers can help fight distracted driving

As recently as two decades ago, many drivers never would have imagined answering phone calls through their automobiles or spending time at stoplights strolling through their social media feeds. But such is the reality for modern drivers, who must now contend with myriad distractions while behind the wheel.

Distracted driving now poses a significant threat to drivers, their passengers and pedestrians. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, distracted driving was responsible for the deaths of more than 3,100 people in the United States in 2019. Data from Transport Canada's National Collision Database indicates that distracted driving contributes to an estimated 21 percent of fatal collisions in Canada.

A growing reliance on smartphones to do everything from play music to provide driving directions to check work emails has made it harder than ever for drivers to ignore their devices. Though the temptation to pick up the phone may prove hard for motorists to overcome, the following are some strategies they can embrace en route to becoming safer, less distracted drivers.

- Support legislation that polices distracted driving. Many community leaders have attempted to curb distracted driving by introducing legislation designed to penalize drivers who are caught with their eyes on their devices and not on the road. The National Conference of State Legislatures reports that there are currently 24 states that prohibit drivers from using handheld cellphones while driving. Such laws are effective. In fact, a 2010 study published in the journal Traffic Injury Prevention found that driver

handheld phone use was estimated to be 24 to 76 percent lower up to seven years after handheld phone bans took effect in Connecticut, the District of Columbia and New York. Such figures indicate the far-reaching impact of legislating against distracted driving and underscores the importance of supporting such legislation.

- Lead by example. A recent study from AAA found that electronics use is the leading source of distraction for teenage drivers. Parents can set a positive example for their children by turning their notifications off when they get behind the wheel so they aren't tempted to respond to an alert or incoming message. If necessary, parents can place their phones in the glove compartment prior to starting their vehicles. Setting such an example increases the likelihood that kids recognize the dangers of combining driving and devices.
- Recognize devices aren't the only distractions. The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety notes that devices alone don't tell the story of distracted driving. Drivers can easily become distracted by adjusting a radio, eating and drinking while behind the wheel, grooming, and interacting with passengers. Drivers must not discount the impact that all of their behaviors can have on their ability to pay attention behind the wheel. When driving, stick to driving. If drivers need to do anything else, like take a sip of water, eat lunch or adjust their car stereos, they should do so only after pulling off the road and putting their vehicles in park.

Distracted driving poses a significant threat to anyone on the road. But it's a threat that can be eliminated entirely when drivers are motivated to do so.

SPORTS

Track Continues Strong Start Under New Coaching Staff



Coach Haden Wamsley



Kisamore launches into the long jump.



Coach Wesley Strawderman

By: Adam Freeman
The TCHS Track and Field team continues to have a successful start to their season. Under first-year head coaches, who just a few years ago dawned the black and gold themselves. Haden Wamsley and Wesley Strawderman; Haden is a Junior at Davis and Elkins College studying Special Education and Wesley is also a Junior at Davis and Elkins College studying Math Educa-

tion. These two young men have the track team off to a successful start. This past week Tucker completed at Elkins High School on April 11th, bringing home two gold medals, seven silver medals, and four bronze medals. The team will be back in action on Thursday April 17th at Keyser High School.
Nate Ricottilli- 2nd in 400m dash; Reid Kisamore- 3rd in Long jump; Cameron Judy- 2nd in

3200m run; Reid Kisamore, Oliver Archuleta, Luke Barb, and Nate Ricottilli-2nd in 4x100m relay, 2nd in 4x200m relay; Lela Wright-2nd in 100m dash, 3rd in 200m dash; Addi Moats-3rd in 400m dash; Estoria Chase- 3rd in 1600m run, 1st in 3200m run; Mayah Gross- 2nd in 300m Hurdles; Raven Mathews- 2nd in Shot put; Addi Moats, Lela Wright, Estoria Chase, and Mayah Gross- 1st in 4x400m relay



Ava Shaffer, looks to get a lead off.

Mt. Lions’ Softball Goes 1-2 in Bub Rigglesman Tournament at Moorefield

By: Adam Freeman
The Lady Mt. Lions Softball team spent the weekend in Hardy County playing in the Bub Rigglesman Tournament at Moorefield High School. The Mt. Lions first matchup was against Class AAAA Spring Mills. Tucker fell 13-4, only managing six hits in the bout, two from P. Hicks, and one from S. Pase , M. Evans, I. Bennett and R. Herron. Tucker would then move on to face the North Marion Lady Huskies in the second matchup. The Lady Mt. Lions prevailed in this pulling out the win 8-5. P. Hicks collected the win, facing 23 batters while giving up just 7 hits. Senior, A. Shaffer collected the save. Tucker gathered a pair of doubles from A. Shaffer and S. Pase, with P. Hicks getting a triple. Tucker’s run would end in the following matchup against the Lewis County Minute Maids. Tucker was in the game early, but Lewis County would ultimately pull away 16-6. Tucker collected just 4 hits in the game; A.Shaffer, P. Hicks, M. Evans, and C. Nicholas each collected a hit in the contest. Senior Ava Shaffer was selected to the tournament’s all-tournament team. Tucker will return to the diamond on Monday, April 14th at home against Southern Garrett (MD) at 5:30pm.

Wildcat Softball Takes the Win 18-3 Over Central Preston

By: Adam Freeman
The Lady Wildcats Softball team took on Central Preston Middle School last week at Camp Kidd. The Wildcats started off slowly notching one run in the first inning but held the Lady Squires scoreless after one. Tucker got the bats rolling in the second getting in six runs to Preston’s one. The Wildcats would continue the trend and roll in six more while holding Central scoreless to hold a 13-1 lead after 3 innings played. Tucker Valley would put the game away early, scoring five more runs while the Squires only managed two for a final score of 18-3 in favor of the Wildcats. Mia Lambert would find home plate four times, while Morgan Simmons, Avery Decker, and Aryanna Neville all found their way home three times. Tucker Valley will be back in action on April 15th at Barbour County, first pitch is set for 6:00pm.

Unique moments in baseball history

Few sports cherish their histories as much as baseball. Avid fans of America's pastime are seemingly born with some knowledge of the game's extensive history, which is an undeniable testament to the popularity of baseball over the last century and a half. As Major League Baseball prepares for yet another exciting postseason, here are some unique moments in the history of America's pastime.

- Jackie Robinson breaks the color barrier (1947): Jackie Robinson forever changed the landscape of American professional sports when he started at first base for the Brooklyn Dodgers on April 15. In so doing, Robinson broke the color barrier, becoming the first African American to play in an MLB game. The end of racial segregation within professional baseball was a moment so significant that MLB continues to celebrate it and honor Robinson every April 15.
- Babe Ruth is sold to the New York Yankees (1920): In a trade that some baseball fans insist resonated into the 21st century, cash-poor Boston Red Sox owner Harry Frazee sold George Herman "Babe" Ruth to the New York Yankees for \$125,000. Now remembered largely for his prowess as a home run-hitting slugger, Ruth also was a dominant pitcher during his days with the Red Sox, winning 20 games in both 1916 and 1917. The sale of Ruth is still considered the worst trade in professional baseball history and might have contributed to Boston's lengthy World Series title drought, which lasted from 1918 until 2004.
- Joe Dimaggio's streak begins (1941): Though the game would end in a 13-1 defeat for Yankees outfielder Joe DiMaggio and his teammates, a first-inning, run-scoring single by DiMaggio on May 15 marked the beginning of one of the greatest accomplishments in MLB history. That single was DiMaggio's first hit in what would become a 56-game hitting streak. It was a record at the time and remains so today.
- Tommy John goes under the knife (1974): Though it didn't happen on the field, in hindsight Tommy John's then-revolutionary surgery would be one of the game's more impactful events, forever changing the game of baseball. John, a pitcher for the Los Angeles Dodgers in 1974, was 13-3 when he was forced to leave a game against the Montreal Expos with an apparent elbow injury. Doctors soon discovered John had a torn ulnar collateral ligament, a potentially devastating outcome for John, as the injury had effectively ended the careers of countless pitchers before him. However, John ultimately gave the go-ahead to Dr. Frank Jobe to perform a revolutionary operation on his arm. Though his recovery was long and slow, John eventually found his way back onto the mound, pitching into the late 1980s and ending his career with 288 wins. "Tommy John Surgery" is routinely performed today and pitchers typically are back on the mound within 12 to 15 months of their surgeries.
- The Cubs win the World Series (2016): Attempting to capture their first World Series title since 1908, the Chicago Cubs didn't make it easy on themselves. Or their fans. In winning the deciding seventh game 8-7 in 10 innings, the Cubs became just the sixth team in MLB history to come back from a 3-1 series deficit to win a best-of-seven World Series. The game 7 victory ended the longest championship drought in North American professional sports history.



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2025 Opening Dates Announced for Monongahela National Forest Recreation Sites

Elkins, W.Va., April 7, 2025 — Below are the 2025 opening dates for developed recreation sites on the Monongahela National Forest. The information is intended to be effective through Memorial Day (May 26, 2025) but may change based on local conditions or new information. We expect to have an updated schedule of open recreation sites in early June that will cover site operations through the end of July. Please visit the Mon’s Recreation Conditions Report at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/recmain/mnf/recreation> for the most current information.

Campground and picnic shelter reservations for some sites may be made at www.recreation.gov. Dispersed camping opportunities are not included in the information, below, but are available in many areas of the Forest year-round. Visitors can contact ranger district offices listed for details.

Important safety reminder - the lack of cell phone service on the Monongahela National Forest is something to consider when trip planning, but with a little preparation, you can unplug and still have a safe and fun trip. Learn about recreating safely and responsibly on your national forest at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/visit/know-before-you-go/responsible-recreation>.

Opening dates for recreation sites on Cheat-Potomac Ranger District (304-478-2000) in the Elkins and Parsons areas:

- Bear Heaven Campground – April 15
- Horseshoe Recreation Area – May 13
- Lower Gladly Dispersed Camping (Forest Road 162) – Area opens when snow-free; toilets open April 15
- Stuart Recreation Area – April 18

Opening dates for recreation sites on Cheat-Potomac Ranger District (304-257-4488) in the Petersburg and Seneca Rocks areas:

- Big Bend Campground – April 8
- Dolly Sods Picnic Area – April 15, weather permitting
- Forest Road 19 in the Dolly Sods area – April 1, weather permitting
- Forest Road 75 in the Dolly Sods area – April 15, weather permitting
- Gandy Creek Dispersed Camping (County Route 29) - Area opens when snow-free; toilets open April 15
- Gatewood Group Campground – April 18
- Jess Judy Group Campground – April 8

- Red Creek Campground – April 15, weather permitting
- Seneca Rocks Discovery Center – April 4, through May 18 Friday - Sunday from 9:30am to 5:00pm, May 19 through Sept. 1 daily from 9:30am to 5:00pm
- Seneca Rocks Picnic Area – April 1
- Seneca Shadows Campground – April 8
- Spruce Knob Lake – Lake open year-round; toilets open April 15
- Spruce Knob Lake Campground – April 18
- Spruce Knob Observation Tower – Area opens when snow-free; toilets open April 15

Opening dates for recreation sites on Greenbrier Ranger District (304-456-3335) in the Bartow area:

- Gaudineer Knob Picnic Area – Area opens when snow-free; toilets open April 15
- Island Campground – April 15
- Lake Buffalo – Lake open year-round; toilets open April 15
- Laurel Fork Campground – April 15
- Little River Dispersed Camping (Forest Road 17) – Area opens when snow-free
- Middle Mountain Cabins – April 15
- Mower Tract Dispersed Camping (Forest Road 227) – Area opens when snow-free
- Old House Run Picnic Area – April 15
- Stonecoal Dispersed Camping (Forest Road 209) – Currently closed for construction.

Opening dates for recreation sites on the Gauley Ranger District (304-846-2695) in the Richwood area:

- Bear Run Dispersed Camping (Forest Road 223) – Area opens when snow-free
- Big Rock Campground – April 18
- Bishop Knob Campground – May 5
- Cranberry Campground – April 18
- Cranberry Glades Boardwalk – Boardwalk open year-round; toilets open April 18
- Cranberry Mountain Nature Center – April 15, Thursday - Monday from 9:00am to 4:30pm with an earlier closing time on Sunday of 4:00 pm
- Cranberry River Developed Dispersed Campsites – Area opens when snow-free; toilets open April 4
- Falls of Hills Creek – Area opens when snow-free; toilets open April 18
- North Bend Picnic Area – May 5
- Summit Lake – Lake open year-round; toilets

- open April 4
- Summit Lake Campground – May 5
- Third Bridge and North Bend Dispersed Camping (State Route 55) – Area opens when snow-free
- Williams River Developed Dispersed Campsites (sites #1 to #6, #8 to #20) – Area opens when snow-free; toilets open April 4.
- Woodbine Picnic Area – May 5
- Opening dates for recreation sites on the Marlinton-White Sulphur Ranger District (304-799-4334) in the Marlinton area:
- Day Run Campground – April 18
- Highland Scenic Highway – Road opens when snow-free.

- Pocahontas Campground – June 2
- Rimel Picnic Area – April 18
- Tea Creek Campground – April 18
- Williams River Developed Dispersed Campsites (sites #21 to #30) – Area opens when snow-free; toilets open April 4
- Williams River Fishing Pier – Area opens when snow-free; toilet open April 4

Opening dates for recreation sites on the Marlinton-White Sulphur Ranger District (304-536-2144) in the White Sulphur Springs area:

- Anthony Creek Dispersed Camping (State Route 21/2) – Area opens when snow-free
- Blue Bend Recreation Area – Campground and small pavilion opens April 18. Large Pavilion opens May 17.
- Blue Meadow Group Campground – May 23
- Hopkins Mountain Fireman’s Cabin – April 11
- Lake Sherwood Recreation Area boat ramp and trailhead – open year-round
- Lake Sherwood Recreation Area entrance road dispersed camping (State Route 14) – opens when snow-free
- Lake Sherwood Recreation Area West Shore Camping Loop – May 19
- Lake Sherwood Recreation Area remaining campground loops, group camping, picnic area, picnic pavilion and swimming beach – May 20. Day Use fee will be charged beginning May 19.

For more information about recreation facilities, contact the District Office near the location you would like to visit. Contact information is listed at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mnf/about-forest/offices>.
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Vandalia Health Physician to Represent WV at National Conference for Family Medicine

ELKINS, W.Va. (April 10, 2025) – Vandalia Health Davis Medical Center is pleased to announce that family physician Catherine M. Chua, DO, will serve as West Virginia's Women's Constituency Representative for the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) National Conference of Constituency Leaders (NCCL), April 24-26, in Kansas City, MO.

Founded in 1947, the AAFP is one of the largest national medical organizations, representing more than 129,000 family physicians, residents and medical students across the United States. The organization champions health equity, access to care and the pivotal role of primary care in improving individual and community health outcomes.

The NCCL, an annual leadership development event hosted by the AAFP, brings together members from five underrepresented groups within family medicine—women, minorities, new physicians, international medical graduates and LGBTQ+ physicians and allies. NCCL provides a platform for representatives to voice their perspectives, develop leadership skills and influence AAFP policy and direction. Delegates at NCCL participate in resolution writing, leadership training, and policy discussions that help shape the future of the organization and the specialty.

“I’m honored to represent West Virginia as the women’s constituency delegate at the AAFP’s



Catherine M. Chua, DO

National Conference of Constituency Leaders,” Dr. Chua said. “This is an important opportunity to bring forward the voices of women in family medicine, advocate for equitable health care policies and

help shape the future of our profession on a national stage.”

“We are incredibly proud of Dr. Chua's appointment as West Virginia’s representative, which reflects her dedication and commitment to advancing the interests of women in family medicine,” said Ronald J. Andro, MSHSM, MSHE, BSN, RN, Senior Vice President of Davis Health System and Chief Administrative Officer of Davis Medical Center. “Dr. Chua’s leadership, clinical excellence and dedication to advancing inclusive care make her an outstanding advocate for women in family medicine—not only in our state, but across the country.”

For more information about family medicine at Vandalia Health Davis Medical Center, visit DavisHealthSystem.org/Medical-Services/Family-Practice.

About Vandalia Health System: Vandalia Health, headquartered in Charleston, is a multi-state health system with locations across West Virginia as well as in Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Made up of CAMC Health System, Davis Health System and Mon Health System, Vandalia Health has 17 hospitals, over 190 ambulatory locations, more than 13,000 employees and more than 2,000 doctors and advanced practice providers. For more information or a map of locations visit vandaliahealth.org.

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.



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TOMSON TALKS

Cont. From Front Page 1

“House Bill 2014, and I will try to summarize and do it some justice, its an unconscionable degree of government overreach by the State of West Virginia,” Tomson said. “They are usurping all local authority from municipalities and the County and I mean all.”

Tomson said that local authorities have no control over any aspect when it comes to data centers under the measure. Even such routine powers such as code enforcement and permitting is taken from locals under the measure, Tomson said.

“You can't do zoning, you can't do an ordinance, you can't do a code enforcement, you can't do any inspections, you can't do any permits,” Tomson said. “They even have a section on horticulture which means we can't even ask them to plant a tree. So that's how onerous the restrictions are in that particular piece of legislation.”

Tomson said that a Senate Committee added an amendment that would give county governments 30% of the appreciated property tax revenue to try to appease the angry local governments after representative from many counties arrived in

Charleston to air their grievances over the measure.

“This is big news, it affects many counties, this House Bill 2014 and the reason the amendment was put in was because many county officials were in Charleston yesterday at that subcommittee and they were really angry and complaining,” Tomson said. “And I think they heard at least the opinions of the counties to say that you can't give us the issues, take away total authority from us and take all the money, too. You have to give us something. So they threw them a bone and said you can have 30% of the appreciative value of property tax, maybe, if it stays in.”

Tomson said under the initial House version of the Bill, all tax revenue went to the State. This version passed the House with no amendments or changes. Tomson said the Bill was similar in theory to tax incremental financing.

“I'm going to talk first about how the legislation was originally crafted,” Tomson said. “Its similar to tax increment financing or TIF. You look at the property value today before you do anything to

it. That land is zoned as timber so there is almost no tax revenue collected from that property because of the zoning that it has and that would establish the value or the money that would go to the county.”

Under the initial House version of the measure, anything after July first would go to the State, Tomson said.

“After 1 July, anything that gets built, doesn't count in the county's assessment,” Tomson said. “Everything built after 1 July, which could be a billion dollars worth of building, would be assessed and taxed for property tax and all the money would go to the State.”

Tomson laid out how the money would be appropriated under the original House bill.

“That money would go and there would be a portion that, this is the original write up of the Bill, 60% of that money would go to reducing the State Income Tax, 15% of it would go to Economic Development Closing and Promotion Fund, 15% would go to the Electric Grid Stabilization and Security Fund and 10% would go in the State's General Fund,” Tomson said. “So 100% of that appreciative value would go to the State. You notice I didn't say county at all in any of that.”

The Bill passed the House with no amendments where it went to the Senate. A Senate Committee attached an amendment giving counties 30% of tax revenue col-

lected, according to Tomson. However, Tomson did not have specifics on how the remaining 70% of the money would be divided at the State level under the Senate proposal.

“The Bill went from the House, where it passed, to the Senate,” Tomson said. “Yesterday, it went to Committee..and they did an amendment and they said that 30% of the money would now go to the county. So that's the amendment to the original Bill. That changes the percentages that I just rounded off, but I don't have the changes.”

The Bill has until midnight on Saturday, April 12th to pass prior to the end of the State's legislative session to become law.

“It must pass, if it is going to pass, by midnight Saturday because that is when the legislative session ends,” Tomson said.

Tomson encouraged those in attendance at the meeting to contact their legislators regarding the issue, especially Senate President Randy Smith who represents Tucker County.

“I would encourage anybody either that is concerned about this to contact basically their legislature people,” Tomson said. “And I think probably the most important person to contact is the President of the Senate Randy Smith. And I say that for two reasons, he's the President of the Senate, but also his jurisdiction is Tucker County, as well as some other Counties. So he should be very concerned.”

PARSONS PARKS AND RECREATION PRESENTS:

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TURNER'S TIDBITS



This is a photo of the fourth Fairfax Stone. A new monument was made on August 12,1910. It is marked as follows: On the south face is inscribed on the structure, Fx 1746 on the north face the date 1910. The name comes from Thomas Lord Fairfax who owned all the land lying between the Potomac and the Rappahannock rivers. The first stone was set in 1746 by Thomas Lewis, a surveyor employed by Lord Fairfax. This was the point for the western dividing line between Maryland and West Virginia. The stone was used in determining three West Virginia counties: Preston, Grant and Tucker as well as Garrett County Maryland. Ideas, comments, suggestions, or items to share contact Tim Turer (304) 478-3389.

DEADLINE 3PM FRIDAY

Hello Spring

PARSONS CITY CEMETERY ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN UP WEEK

APRIL 21 - 25, 2025

Any weathered or out-of-season flower arrangements must be removed during this week. All new flowers should not be displayed until after the week of clean up. When displaying flowers, we strongly urge everyone to use permanent vases. Flowers displayed directly in the ground may be damaged by our mowing and trimming equipment. We take every effort possible to protect items on display at each gravesite; however, we will not be held responsible or liable for items that are damaged or stolen.

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