

Ag Secretary Calls for Timber



Fuels Emergency Situation Determination.

US Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins released a memo April 3rd to increase timber production and designate an emergency situation on National Forest System lands, including the Monongahela National Forest. The memo was in response to an executive order released by President Trump on March 1 (Immediate Expansion of American Timber Production).

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

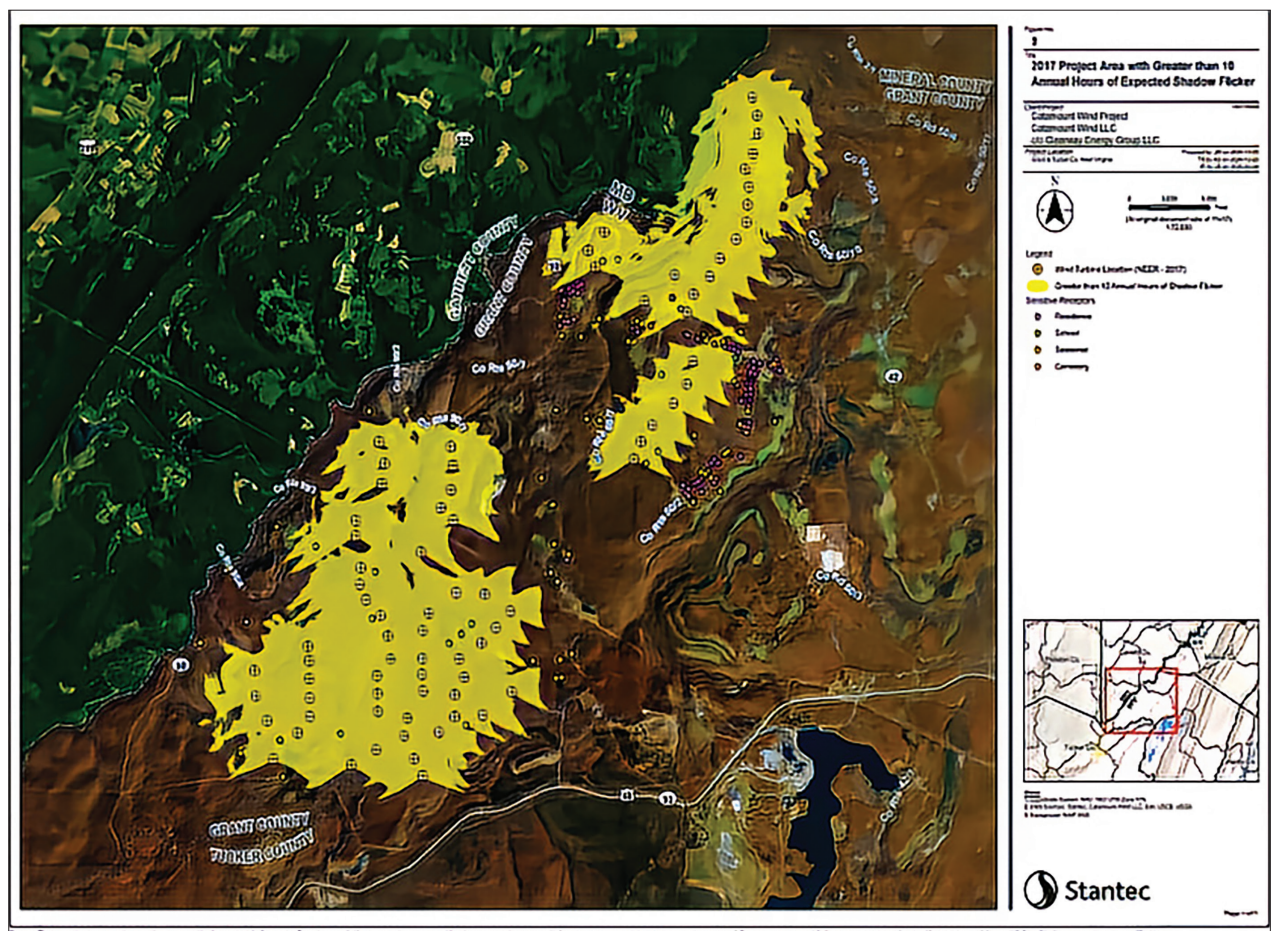
The United States Department of Agriculture Office of the Secretary in Washington D.C. released a memo from Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins dated April 3rd in which effective immediately, the depart-

ment would increase the production of timber and designate an emergency situation on national forest system lands, which are slated to include the Monongahela National Forest.

The Forest Service manages 144 million forested acres in 43 states, including over 100,000 acres of

the Monongahela National Forest in Tucker County. Of the 144 million acres, the Forest Service memo states that 43 million acres have been identified as suitable for timber production. There was no information available as to what number of acres

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Catamount Wind, LLC was denied an application to modify their existing permit to add additional turbines to power their facilities at Mt. Storm. The Public Service Commission of West Virginia only recently released a written order on a hearing held February 5th in Charleston.

Wind Turbines Application Denied in Tucker County

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

The Public Service Commission of West Virginia in Charleston has received a permit application from Catamount Wind, LLC for a Waiver of Requirement to Obtain a Modification or Amendment of its Sitting Certificate or, in the alternative, Petition for a Modification of its Sitting Certificate to add additional wind turbines to it facilities at Mt. Storm Wind Force, LLC.

When asked if he had knowledge of the proposed project, Tucker County Commission President Mike Rosenau said he has spoken to Cata-mount a few times on the subject and the company seems to want to work with the community on the project.

"I've spoken to the company a couple of times and they really seem to want to work with the community," Rosenau said.

While most of the turbines will be located in Grant County, a small portion will be located in Tucker County, according to documents filed with the Public Service Commission. The site of the proposed turbines will be along the Grant/Tucker County lines near Mineral County.

The Public Service Commission of West Virginia met in Charleston April 8th on the matter of the application. In the Commission's written order on the matter, the Commission states that, "Catamount's proposed changes to the facility appear to be substantial as they alter the number of turbines, their locations, the sweep of their blades, and the generation capacity of each turbine. More importantly, the turbines proposed are significantly taller than the 2017 modifications." The statement goes on to say that the proposed turbines are slated to be located in areas where turbines cur-

rently do not exist.

Sitting Rule two states in the written order that, “Because the Modified Project will materially modify the engineering design and footprint of the Original Certificate and the 2017 modifications, the Commission should deny Catamount’s request for a waiver to obtain a modification to its Sitting Certificate.”

In the Order section of the written order, the Commission writes, “IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Cata-mount Wind, LLC’s Application for Waiver of Requirements... is denied, as the proposed modifications are material, pursuant to the Commission’s Sitting Rules”

A public comment hearing on the matter has been set for June 4th at 4 p.m. in the Howard M. Cunningham Hearing Room at the Public Service Commission Building, 201 Brooks Street in Charleston.



Davis, County Continue Airbnb Fight

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

The Town of Davis continues its fight with Airbnb over the information it has and Tucker County needs to distribute Hotel/Motel money. Town of Davis Mayor Al Tomson said he recently sent a strongly worded email to the company and threatened legal action if satisfaction was not obtained.

"I did send a pretty strong email to Airbnb saying that West Virginia code requires you to do the things that we are asking for and we will probably take legal action if you don't comply," Tomson said.

The result was a virtual meeting with the company scheduled for Friday, April 11th. There was no word on the outcome of the meeting with the company.

West Virginia Code 7-18-10 referenced by Tomson states that, "The hotel operator on or before the fifteenth day of each month, prepare and deliver to the taxing authority a return for the preceding month, in the form prescribed by the taxing authority. Such form shall include all information necessary for the computation, collection and subsequent distribution of the tax as the taxing authority may require. A remittance for the amount of the tax due shall accompany each return. Each return shall be signed by the hotel operator or his duly authorized agent."

In the past, Tomson has stated that the Town has encountered issues with prompt reporting with

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ROAD CLOSURE

County Route 1 (Limestone Road), Tucker County, will have delays Beginning Tuesday, April 22, 2025, through Friday, April 25, 2025, for paving

TUCKER COUNTY, WV - County Route 1 (Limestone Road), Tucker County, will have delays from 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. beginning Wednesday, April 23, 2025, through Saturday, April 26, 2025, for paving. Work will begin at the intersection of County Route 1 (Limestone Road), and Scales Road. Work will end at the Tucker and Preston County line. Emergency vehicles, school buses and United States Postal vehicles will be accommodated; all other motorists are to expect delays or to seek alternate routes.

Davis Eyes Police Force



Mayor of the Town of Davis Al Tomson, pictured, has been in negotiations with Tucker County officials for the use of off duty Tucker County Sheriff Deputies as a police force for the Town.

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

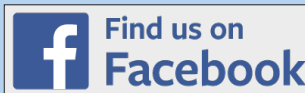
There may soon be men in uniform patrolling the streets of Davis. The Town of Davis has been in talks with Tucker County to acquire off duty Tucker

County Sheriff Deputies as Town Law Enforcement Officers. Mayor Al Tomson met with the Tucker County Commission, Tucker County Sheriff Jake Kopek and other County

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News of Record

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

- **Madeleine Malia Ings**, of Davis, was charged with one count of Battery. According to the complaint, on Thursday, April 3, Deputy B.M. Gidley received a message to call regarding a Battery that occurred on Tuesday, April 1. He then contacted the victim and she advised that she was punched in the face at the Best of Canaan laundry area by the accused, who was there helping with housekeeping duties. The victim advised there was three other witnesses who observed the altercation take place. The deputy then set up a time to meet and receive the victim's statement along with other witnesses. He was also advised that the accused was from the Q&A program located in Canaan Valley. He contacted the COO of the program and he advised Gidley that he was aware of the situation and they would cooperate fully with anything he needed. Gidley needed to set up a meeting with the accused the next day in Canaan.
- On Friday, April 4 Gidley sat down with the accused and she was read her Interview and Miranda Rights Form which she understood and signed. The conversation was recorded and in summary the accused did admit that she did punch the victim in the face over job duty and responsibilities. He then spoke with a witness that was there from the Q&A

who agreed to talk to him about what happened. He recorded the conversation and the witness stated "the accused was complaining about hours and went into the laundry room and got into a co-worker's face then started screaming then backed up and swung on the victim." Later the same date Gidley went to speak with another witness of the incident and obtained a handwritten and signed statement from her. She stated the accused came into the laundry room yelling and getting into another co-worker's face and walked away then came back and punched the victim in the face.

- On Monday, April 7 Gidley met with the victim and another witness who advised him in her recorded statement that "the accused got into a heated argument over job responsibilities when she flipped out and came at her and punched her with a closed fist in the face." They then left the room and went into the office area to advise their manager of what happened. On this same date Gidley received a witness statement which was recorded and in summary the witness stated, "they were in the laundry room and the accused got upset and started screaming and then punched the victim in the face."

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

- **Brendan Miller**, Black Fork District, all of Lot 11

Riverbend Subdivision, 2.21 acres to Adam David Gregory, \$280,000.

- **Tucker County Board of Education**, Black Fork District, 2.11 acres Old Parsons High School to Tucker County Building Commission.
- **Lloyd F. Gray**, Dry Fork District, Unit 142, Building #3, Deerfield Village Condominium to Ian Thompson and Jessica Thompson, \$300,000.
- **Mark S. Oliveira and Dianna L. Oliveira**, Dry Fork District, Quitclaim Deed Unit A6 Week 6 Land of Canaan Resort to Mark S. Oliveira and Dianna L. Oliveira Trust, Mark S. Oliveira, Trustee and Dianna L. Oliveira, Trustee.
- **Western Pocahontas Properties Limited**, Fairfax District, 0.29 acres and 0.24 acres surface property with plat attached to MH & EF LLC.
- **MH & EF LLC**, Fairfax District, 0.07 acres, Lot 10B Rivertrails Subdivision with plat attached to Curtis Bailey Layman and Janet Corrinne Layman, \$185,000.
- **Billy L. Kling, Sr. AKA Billie L. Kling, Sr. and Josephine Kling**, St. George District, Lot #7, 4.07 acres Sugarlands Subdivision to Timothy P. Knotts, \$150,000.
- **Michael Fike**, St. George District, 70 acres Mill Run to H. Eugene Fike and Debra L. Fike.
- **Teresa White**, St. George district, 70 acres Mill Run to H. Eugene Fike and Debra L. Fike.

TIMBER PRODUCTION

Cont. From Front Page 1

in Tucker County were slated for timber production.

Executive Director of the Tucker County Development Authority Steven Leyh said he sees timber as intrinsically tied to the history of Tucker County. However, he is cautious of what the memo and declaration will mean for the future of Tucker County and its woodlands.

"Here in West Virginia, forestry is both a cultural tradition and a key part of our economy, particularly in the hardwood sector," Leyh said. "Through my work, I've seen how responsible timber production can support jobs, strengthen supply chains and attract investment. If implemented thoughtfully, this initiative could help boost our regional economy and reinforce the long-term viability of our forest products industry."

Leyh went on to say, "That said, it remains to be seen how this will impact Tucker County specifically. The emergency designation streamlines some environmental review processes, so it's essential that any increased activity comes with transparency, local input and a commitment to sustainability. West Virginians take great pride in their public lands – not just for economic value, but for recreation, tourism and quality of life."

Judy Rodd, Director of Friends of the Blackwater, said she feels that the increased logging activity will be detrimental to the area and increase flooding, damage infrastructure and endanger wildlife such as the bats, the Cheat salamander, WV northern flying squirrel and brook trout.

"It will be a disaster," Rodd said. "It will increase flooding, damaging people's houses and our roads. It will also flood the market with cheap trees, hurting private property owners who will have to sell their timber at rock bottom prices. The whole Blackwa-

ter Watershed is particularly prone to flooding due to steep slopes and has the highest amount of rainfall in the State of West Virginia. It is a mistake to do this. There is no disaster in our eastern forest."

The memo released by Secretary Rollins outlined an increased risk of fire and insect infestation in the forests. The memo quoted a 2023 study by Wildfire Hazard Potential for the United States that identified 66,940,000 acres of National Forest Service lands that were high or very high fire risk. A further 78,800,000 acres of NFS lands, the memo stated were at risk or already experiencing insect or disease infestations.

"These threats – combined with overgrown forests, a growing number of homes in the wildland-urban interface, and more than a century of rigorous fire suppression – have all contributed to what is now a full-blown wildfire and forest health crisis," the memo writes.

The memo states that immediate response is needed to protect public health, safety and critical infrastructure, as well as the rural communities that surround the forests and protect the forests.

Emergency actions outlined in the memo include salvage of dead or dying trees, harvest of trees damaged by wind or ice, sanitation harvest of trees to control insects or disease, reforestation or replanting of fire impacted areas, removal of hazardous trees in close proximity to roads and trails, removal of hazardous fuels, restoration of water sources or infrastructure, reconstruction of existing utility lines and replacement of underground cables.

The memo was a response to an Executive Order by President Trump from March 1st titled Immediate Expansion of American Timber Production (EO 14225). In the EO, the President writes that the production of timber and timber products are essential to the well being of the nation and that the United

States is abundant in timber resources that exceed our domestic need, "but heavy handed Federal policies have prevented full utilization of these resources and made us reliant on foreign producers."

The EO further states, "Our inability to fully exploit our domestic timber supply has impeded the creation of jobs and prosperity, contributed to wildfire disasters, degraded fish and wildlife habitats, increased the cost of construction and energy, and threatened our economic security."

The EO outlines a timeline with deadlines at 30, 60, 90, 120, 180, and 280 days for adoption of various tasks including increasing timber production, reducing time to deliver timber, decreasing timber supply uncertainty, complete a strategy for forest management by working with the Endangered Species Act and categorizing timber thinning.

The EO outlines streamlined permitting guidelines for relevant agencies along with an Endangered Species Committee to examine the "timely consideration of exemption applications where possible."

The Parsons Advocate reached out to the Monongahela National Forest for comment, but have not received a reply as of press time.

DAVIS

Cont. From Front Page 1

officials April 9th to discuss the matter following the Tucker County Commission meeting.

Tomson said that the recommendation that came out of the meeting was that the County furnish the cruiser, uniforms, supplies, and assorted equipment and Davis would create their own police force utilizing off duty Sheriff Deputies. While the equipment and manpower would be supplied by the County, the deputies would be working for and paid by the Town of Davis while on duty.

"I'm going to work on that recommendation and see if we can bring it to fruition," Tomson said.

Tomson said that Thomas also shares many of the same law enforcement issues that Davis has and has considered approaching Thomas Mayor Jody Flanagan to see if the City would be interested in a police share program with the Town of Davis.

"The other thing is I am going to talk with Jody Flanagan in Thomas and see if there might be interest in

maybe sharing because they have a lot of the same issues that we have," Tomson said.

While the Town police force would be enforcing such things as traffic laws, since the deputies would be working for the Town, they would be capable of enforcing Town ordinances as well, Tomson said. Many of the ordinances already on the books have lacked enforcement due to not have the manpower to do so, the Council has debated in recent months. The formation of a police force would assist in such efforts.

"The goal is really because they would be working for the Town, they can actually enforce Town ordinances, too," Tomson said. "So its not just a matter of someone speeding 50 miles an hour down William Avenue. They can also write a ticket for someone who has grass that is this long in their yard. So there are some benefits for doing it that way and we would have a little bit more say in what they say and how they do it."

AIRBNB

Cont. From Front Page 1

in some cases months worth of data being submitted at once and no identifying information as to which check or address each check was assigned to. Tomson has also stated in the past that much of the information that has been supplied by the company has been unintelligible and has required hundreds of hours to try to disseminate.

"All the statute says is the taxing authority, which is the Town of Davis, we need to get the detail that we need from Airbnb," Tomson said. "That's in West Virginia Code 7-18-10."

Tomson credited Tucker County Prosecuting Attorney

Savannah Hull Wilkins with the idea for the strongly worded email. Tomson also said that should the virtual meeting not yield results, Wilkins is willing to approach the West Virginia Attorney General with the matter for resolution.

"Savannah has suggested that I send that last email to Airbnb," Tomson said. "I did. It got their attention. If they don't work with us on Friday, she's prepared to take this to the Attorney General. So we're going to get some results one way or another, finally. Its a problem we've had for over a year now."

THANK YOU FOR READING THE PARSONS ADVOCATE

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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.

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OBITUARIES

Melvin O. Owens

Melvin O. Owens, 96, a resident of Parsons, passed from this life Thursday, April 17, 2025, at Garrett Regional Medical Center in Oakland, MD.

Melvin was born Tuesday, March 5, 1929, on Limestone, a son of the late John Randolph Owens and Lela Pearl King Owens Shrader. On May 7, 1949, in Oakland, Md, he married Dolley Louise Shahan Owens who preceded him in death May 31, 2015.

Left to cherish Melvin's memory are five children, Mary Linton of Thornton, Douglas Owens and wife, Sandi, of Parsons, Steven Owens and companion, Diana Newsome, of Morgantown, Paul Owens and wife, Karen, of Amity, AR, and Mark Owens of Parsons, a sister, Jean Myers of Auviltown, seventeen grandchildren, several great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren, and several nieces, nephews, great nieces and great



nephews.

Preceding Melvin in death besides his parents and wife, were two sons, Melvin Bruce Owens and Timothy Owens, a grandson, Chad Owens, a great-grandson, Seth Owens, six brothers, Junior Owens, Edmund Owens, James Owens, Allen Roy Owens. Samuel "Bruce" Owens, and David Owens, five sisters, Geraldine King Strait, Gertrude Owens Forte, Laura Owens Waybright, Susan Owens Wallis, and Norma Owens Nestor Holt, and a son-in-law, Denzil Linton.

Melvin attended the schools of Tucker County and obtained his GED while serving in the United States Army. He had been employed with Rayon Company in Painesville, OH, Parsons Tannery, Pete Frazee, and retired as a technician for the Forest Service.

Melvin was a true farmer, enjoyed hunting and was a dedicated member to his church, the Parsons Seventh Day Adventist Church.

A visitation was held at the Hostetler Funeral Home on Monday, from 5pm until 7pm.

Funeral services was held at the funeral home chapel on Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at 2pm.

Pastor Roger Curtis will officiate, and interment will follow at Macedonia Cemetery. The Hostetler Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements for Melvin O. Owens. Send online condolences to the family at www.hostetler-funeralhome.com.

Gerald Helmick Parks Jr.

Our beloved husband, brother, uncle, cousin, and friend Gerald Helmick Parks Jr. of Charlotte died April 4, 2025.

Gerry is survived by his husband Jon Middleton; his sisters and brothers-in-law Dana Gray of Staunton, VA, Cathy and David Loevner of Wilson, WY, and Anne and Craig Watkins of Charlottesville, VA; brothers- and sister-in-law Bill Middleton of Chestnut Hill, PA and Joe and Lee Ann Middleton of Charlotte; eleven nieces and nephews; cousins; many friends; and his loyal dog Sebastian.

Gerry was born March 5, 1955 in Elkins, WV to Gerald Helmick Parks Sr. and Ruth Coffman Parks. The third of four children and the only boy, he was lovingly referred to as "The King" by his doting sisters. He was raised in Davis and St. Mary's, WV and later Lynchburg and Amherst, VA and graduated from Amherst County High School. He was a proud graduate of the University of Tennessee (Go Vols!), where he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta (Fiji) fraternity and earned a degree in business administration.

For 32 years, Gerry worked for Martin's Herend Imports of Sterling, VA. He loved his job and



the people he worked for and with. He was a successful regional sales manager whose territory consisted of the Carolinas, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. Despite covering a large geography, he was genuinely interested in his many customers. He knew them and their families and was present at joyful and sad events in their lives. He was more than a sales rep, and they were more than customers; they were friends, and Gerry cherished and was cherished by them.

Gerry's great-grandfather was one of the founders of Miners & Merchants Bank in Thomas, WV, where Gerry served as a director from 2012 until December 2024, resigning only because of his illness. His family's historical connection to the bank meant a great deal to him, and he was very proud of his work on the board.

Jon and Gerry spent 28 years together enjoying a life filled with love, travel, parties, volunteer work, family, friends, dogs, and fun. Gerry was thoughtful, kind, generous, funny, loving, good-hearted, and so genuinely filled with joy that you felt joyful just being with him. It is no exaggeration to say he was dearly loved by everyone in his life. We will never know another like him, and we will miss him always.

A private interment service for family will be held at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Charlotte.

Gerry's family is deeply grateful to his caregivers on 2 South Healthcare at The Sharon for their devotion not only to Gerry but also to his family and friends.

If you would like to honor Gerry, please consider a donation to one of the following organizations: Crisis Assistance Ministry [crisisassistance.org], Via Health Partners (formerly Hospice & Palliative Care Charlotte Region) [via-giving.org/donating], St. Peter's Episcopal Church [st-peters.org], The Sharon at SouthPark [thesharon.org/giving], or The Glioblastoma Foundation [glioblastomafoundation.org].

Paul R. Myers



Paul R. Myers, 88, of Beach City passed away on Monday, April 14, 2025 at his home.

He was born in St. George, WV on January 19, 1937 to the late Arlie W. and Henrietta (Hershman) Myers and on December 20, 1958 he married Ruby Mullins, and she survives.

He moved to Wooster, Ohio in 1955 to work for Nelson Tree Service for 12 years, and began working for Verizon in 1966 as an installer/repairman. He retired from Verizon after 30 years.

Paul was well known in the community. He served the Lord faithfully beginning as a deacon at Nold Avenue Baptist Church in Wooster. When he moved to Beach City he saw the need and was one of the founders of Faith Baptist Missionary Church in Wilmot in 1992. He served in many areas for the church, from deacon, treasurer, Sunday school teacher, song leader, and lawn service.

He was a strong, quiet man of faith, values and family. He shared his Christian faith with many through his witnessing for the Lord. He enjoyed traveling back to his "home place" in Tucker County, West Virginia. He enjoyed spending time with his family, bluegrass gospel music, beekeeping, and hunting.

In addition to his wife, Ruby, he is survived by children, Ray (Linda) Myers, Becky (James) Fisher, Juanita Myers, and Tim (Mary) Myers; grandchildren, Leah

(Wendyl) Swartzentruber, Jessica (Shawn) Myers, Matt (Morgan) Myers, Bryan (Keri) Brown, Brandon (Tori) Brown, JP (Shannon) Fisher, Toshia (Jeremy) Shaffer; 15 great-grandchildren; siblings, Beatrice Long, Kenneth Myers, Karl Myers, Junior Myers, and Walter Myers.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a son, Jeremiah Myers; brother, Alton G. Myers; sisters, Buelah and Beryl Shahan.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 11:00 am at Faith Baptist Church, 775 W. Main Street, Wilmot, OH 44689, with Pastor Cliff Hartley officiating. Burial followed in Welty Cemetery. Friends called on Wednesday, April 16, 2025 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Spidell Funeral Home in Brewster.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Paul, please visit our floral store.

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What's? Happening

Free Friday

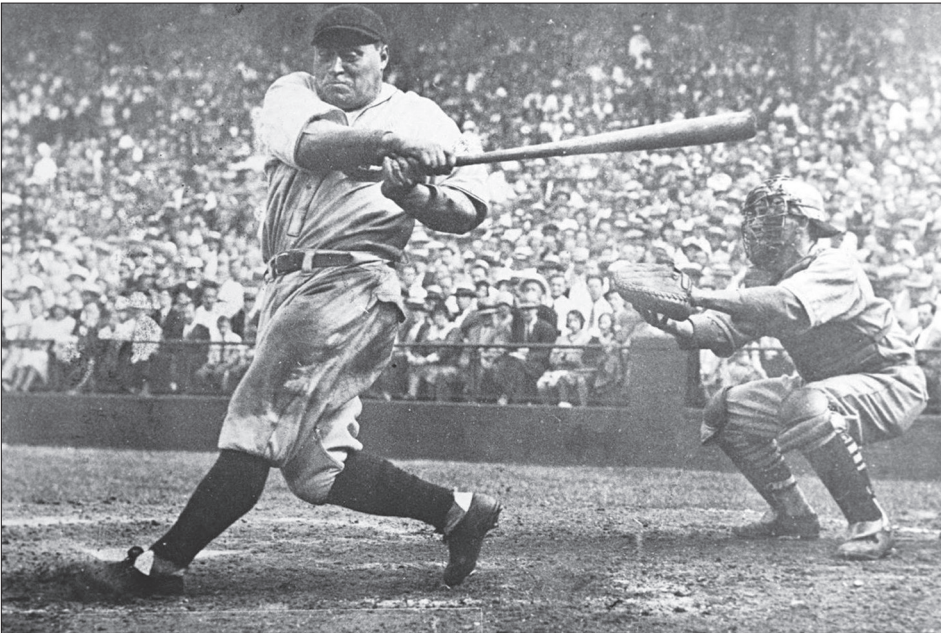
Free Friday will be held April 25, 2025, at the First United Methodist Church in Parsons at 6 pm. This month, Free Friday is sponsored by the Tucker County Family Support Center, in memory of Seth Underwood. They will be serving creamed chicken over biscuits, mashed potatoes, green beans, coleslaw, desserts and drinks. Everyone

is welcome.

!!BINGO!!

\$250.00 GURANTEED JACKPOT!

APRIL 27, 2025 at St. Thomas Aquinas Social Hall next to the Catholic Chuch in Thomas. Doors opne at 2pm. Games start at 3pm. Raffles to be sold. Concessions available. Payout based on number of players. Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 2010.



April 26, 1900: Baseball great Lewis Robert “Hack” Wilson, whose 1930 single season runs-batted-in record stands today, was born in Pennsylvania. He started his pro career with the Martinsburg Blue Sox. He returned to Martinsburg after his retirement and is buried at Rosedale Cemetery.

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

April 23, 1857: Andrew S. Rowan was born in Gap Mills, Monroe County. Rowan, a military officer, was chosen as the messenger when President William McKinley wanted to send a message to Cuban General Calixto Garcia during the Spanish-American War. The 1899 pamphlet A Message to Garcia made the incident famous.

April 24, 1865: McNeill’s Rangers surrendered to Union troops at New Creek (now Keyser). The Confederate guerrilla force probably never numbered more than 100 men at any time but managed to inflict regular damage on Union operations.

April 25, 1863: About 1,500 Confederate soldiers under Gen. William “Grumble” Jones advanced through Greenland Gap, a deep pass through New Creek Mountain in present Grant County. The Confederates encountered 87 Union soldiers who held off several assaults before finally surrendering.

April 25, 1923: Union leader Arnold Ray Miller was born at Leewood on Cabin Creek in Kanawha County. In December 1972 he defeated Tony Boyle to become president of the United Mine Workers.

April 26, 1816: General Alexander Welch Reynolds was born in Lewisville. He served in both the U.S. and Confederate armies. After the war, Reynolds accepted a commission as a colonel in the forces of the khedive of Egypt, which ruled Egypt under the Ottoman Empire.

April 26, 1937: The first West Virginia highway historical marker was installed in Charleston, detailing the many travels of our state capital.

April 27, 1758: Fort Upper Tract in present-day Pendleton County was destroyed by an Indian attack during the French and Indian War. The next day, Delaware and Shawnee warriors destroyed Fort Seybert in the same county.

April 27, 1978: An accident at the Willow Island Power Station on the Ohio River killed 51 men. The scaffolding that had been erected

for use in the construction of a new cooling tower collapsed, sending the workers plunging to the ground.

April 28, 1884: Musician Henry Reed was born in Peterstown, Monroe County. Reed was a legendary West Virginia fiddler whose repertory contributed to the old-time music revival in the last half of the 20th century.

April 28, 1914: An explosion at the Eccles No. 5 mine in Raleigh County killed 174 men. The mine connected with Eccles No. 6, operating in another coal seam. Nine men in No. 6 died of injuries and of afterdamp, the deadly gas left after a mine explosion.

April 28, 1920: The Monongahela National Forest was created by presidential proclamation. It is the only national forest completely within the boundaries of West Virginia.

April 28, 1924: An explosion ripped through the Benwood coal mine south of Wheeling, killing 119 miners.

April 28, 1948: Watt Powell Park opened in Charleston. About 8,000 people, including Governor Okey L. Patteson, attended the city’s inaugural game in the Class A Central League. After the 2004 season, Watt Powell Park was replaced by what is now known as GoMart Ballpark, and the old park was demolished in 2005.

April 29, 1863: Confederate General William E. “Grumble” Jones waged a battle at Fairmont that involved a force of 500 regulars, home guards and volunteers. The Confederates prevailed, burning the personal library of Francis Pierpont, governor of the Restored Government of Virginia, and exploding an iron railroad bridge across the Monongahela River.

April 29, 1924: Playwright, teacher, and actress Ann Kathryn Flagg was born in Charleston. She is best remembered for her play Great Gettin’ up Mornin’, which was broadcast by CBS-TV in 1964.

e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia is a project of the West Virginia Humanities Council. For more information contact the West Virginia Humanities Council, 1310 Kanawha Blvd. E., Charleston, WV 25301; (304) 346-8500; or visit e-WV at www.wvencyclopedia.org.

By Teri Cayton

The Parsons Advocate

Here we go again people. Two more people that should be taken out behind the woodshed and have some sense knocked into them. Police in Gilmer County, WV were called out on numerous complaints of a small child on the roof of a home crying and shivering from the cold. YES, PEOPLE I said a child on the roof approximately 12 feet off the ground. When the police arrived a man at the residence “was completely unaware of the child being on the roof” and “did not answer” when law enforcement asked how to get to the child.

Officers went inside and had to unlock several doors to reach the child, including the child’s bedroom door which they had to unlock from the outside. When they entered there was a one-year-old child inside the room and everything was covered with feces and urine. The window was broken and officers finally retrieved the child from the roof. At this point no parents were found. Both children were covered from the waist down with urine and feces and there was feces caked on the walls.

During later interviews, the parents a

Momma Said

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

By Teri Cayton
The Parsons Advocate



25-year-old woman and a 29-year-old man said they were asleep during the incident and had not checked on the children in nearly 16 hours. OH MY GOD a three-year-old and a one-year-old and not checked on for the better part of a whole day. They both were charged with child neglect creating risk of injury and conspiracy and are being held on \$50,000 cash-only bail. They should be made to spend their life in a cell with no bathroom and see how they like it.

Momma Said, “I don’t think a whoopin’ out back the woodshed would be enough if I were the judge.” These people should not be allowed to breed, even animals do not treat their young this way. Actually, the children would have a better chance at life being raised by wolves.

Best Peach Crisp

INGREDIENTS

Peach Filling

- 6 cups sliced peaches, peeled or unpeeled
- ½ cup granulated sugar
- tbspc. cornstarch

Topping

- 1 cup old fashioned rolled oats
- ½ cup all-purpose flour
- ½ cup brown sugar
- ½ tsp. cinnamon
- ½ tsp. salt
- ½ cup unsalted butter, cold and cut into pieces

INSTRUCTIONS

Peach Filling

- Preheat the oven to 350°F. In your baking dish (can use an 8×8” pan, 8” round pan, 9×9” pan, 9” round pan, 7×11” pan, basically you can use any dish that is 2 to 2.5 quarts) combine the sliced peaches, sugar and cornstarch. Toss with a spoon or spatula to combine.

Topping

- In a mixing bowl combine the old-fash-

ioned rolled oats, flour, brown sugar, cinnamon, salt and cubed cold butter.

Use your fingers or a pastry cutter to cut the butter into the mixture. Mix until it is “sandy” in texture, it is okay if there are pea sized clumps of butter! Use your hands to squeeze the mixture together.

- Use your fingers to break the topping into clumps and evenly distribute the topping all over the peaches.

- Bake for 40-45 minutes. Check to see if the crisp is bubbling and if the topping is golden. If those two things have not occurred, bake for 10-20 additional minutes. The bake time will depend on what size pan you used. I baked my crisp for 60 minutes in an oval 7×11” pan.

- Allow the crisp to cool for 10-15 minutes and serve with or without vanilla ice cream.

- NOTE: You can substitute other fruit for the peaches, apples, blueberries, blackberries, pears, etc. whatever your taste.

Super Crossword RE-SOUNDING DUOS

ACROSS

- 1 Gourd-shaped rattle
7 Cognizant
12 — -no replay
15 Alaskan island
19 Greeting in Apple ads
20 Gourmet mushroom
21 Paddle-propelled surfboards
23 BOX + BISCUITS
25 Family of writer Ralph Waldo
26 Main character on “Saved by the Bell”
27 MARRY + WIDER
29 Yearned (for)
32 — Jima
34 Basil-based sauces
35 SHANTY + OWNERS
40 Suds maker
44 Golf bag peg
45 That, in Peru
46 Grain staple
47 Winnie-the-Pooh creator
50 Fix the spine of, as a book
53 CLONK + BUNGLE
57 “Rashomon” director Kurosawa
58 Rate — (be judged as perfect)
59 Vamooses
60 Annoy
61 CLEANSER + SCOW
64 Norway’s biggest city
65 Positive votes
66 Je ne sais —
67 Finish
69 Prime draft status
71 Prefix with sphere
74 Radiance
77 PIGGY + CONCH
83 Siouan tribe
84 Successor of mono
86 — Reader (magazine)
87 Fool in the opera “Pagliacci”
88 SWAT + SCOURGE
91 Gives a lift to
92 Ancestry
93 Punk/folk singer DiFranco
94 Hamm of soccer
96 Bar “rocks”
97 Filmflam

- 98 OFFICIATED + IGNITE
103 Hammy actor
107 Turn — dime
108 Prenatal test, informally
109 BARBARIAN + FARM
115 Poetic foot
117 Fire-resistant material
118 ANISTON + J.M.
123 Repelled by
124 Animator Tex
125 Boston hockey team
126 Nimble
127 Survey info
128 “Let’s wager on that”
129 Game venues

DOWN

- 1 1997 sci-fi spoof, briefly
2 Pal, in Paris
3 Sprinted
4 Bowled over
5 Quebec’s home
6 “Ride On” rock band
7 “Better Call Saul” channel
8 “Yippee!”
9 Duncan of Obama’s Cabinet
10 Wetland plant
11 Snow queen in “Frozen”
12 Stockholm citizens
13 Ovine babies
14 Plain to see
15 Booth or Oswald, notably
16 Defeated by decision in boxing, for short
17 Fork point
18 World power until ‘91
22 Slangy ending for switch
24 Slips on sleet, say
28 “Weekend Edition” aier
29 Of the stars
30 Insolently bold
31 — jeebies
33 “— Man” (1994 hit for Salt-N-Pepa with En Vogue)
36 Flanders on “The Simpsons”
37 Recline lazily
38 Pops
39 LAX guesses
41 Song from the ‘50s, e.g.
42 “It’s the end of —”
43 Big wheel’s benefits
47 Rock-clinging mollusk
48 Praline nut
49 Followers of lambdas
51 Baghdad citizen
52 Half of Mork’s “Bye!”
54 That woman
55 Sgt., e.g.
56 “ER” figures
58 Texas or Kansas city
62 Pooch’s ID
63 Suffix with depend
65 “Yippee!”
68 Hip-hop dance of the 2010s
70 This, in Peru
71 Copies
72 Moral tenet
73 2016 Disney film
75 No. like “first” or “third”
76 Spider snare
78 Suffix of 75-Down numbers
79 2015 Marvel film
80 Naval officer
81 Chinese nut
82 Be beaten by Jamaican pop music
85 Snowman in “Frozen”
89 Gravesite site
90 Having one flat, musically
91 Nasty
95 Grant- — (financial subsidy)
98 Yankees’ rival
99 Fumble
100 Cause injury
101 Actress Hedy
102 Stain or soak
104 Jumble
105 Writer Joyce Carol —
106 Govt. bond
109 Sheep cries
110 Abbr. on an invitation
111 Rival of Lyft
112 Tact — at (criticize sarcastically)
113 Actress Campbell
114 News site for techies
116 “Dancing Queen” group
119 “Science Guy” Bill
120 — Tin Tin
121 Stuck — rut
122 Suffix with lion

Weather Totals

Apr. 8 - Apr. 15, 2025

Nursery Bottom
Parsons

Temperature

Max 77° F
Min 20° F

Precipitation

Week 0.79"
April 3.17"
2025 13.57"

Snowfall

New Snow 0"
Snow on ground 0"
Winter Total 47"

U.S. Forest Service

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To Whom It May All Concern,

I request that any and all permits, including the air permit, be pulled immediately for the proposed Fundamental Data Ridgeline project.

This project has been mired in secrecy from the get-go, and it continues to this day. Our local officials have been unable to get any clear answers on this project as they have been stonewalled all across the board. As a former bank auditor this lack of transparency bodes ill of many red flags. This is unacceptable.

The Ridgeline project would require ten to fifteen million gallons of water per day. The Thomas-Davis area cannot handle that type of demand. Last year we had a severe drought on top of this mountain which caused our water sources to drop drastically. Both communities were scrambling to provide potable water to the residents. Don't even think of tapping into the aquafer. After that would dry up the surface ground and cause sinkholes to appear which would drive down property values and drive away our tourists, which is our main source of income. The use of local water is unacceptable.

Once the water is used where will it be flushed into? Pendleton Creek is in the line of fire of the project. This creek empties Blackwater

Canyon, the crown jewel of the State of West Virginia, and the Blackwater River. from thence it moves on to the Cheat River. Friends of Blackwater has spent \$3,000,000 cleaning up Beaver Creek which dumps into the Blackwater at Davis, and \$12,000,000 on the North Fork of the Blackwater River. Friends of Cheat have spent a lot of money cleaning up the Cheat River. Up here on top of the mountain we love our trees, and we love our clean water. Negating efforts to clean up our waters is unacceptable.

The application for this project is heavily redacted. This is unacceptable. Another red flag. What is being hidden from public view?

The air permit lists emissions of carbon dioxide (CO2), carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen oxides (NOx), sulfur dioxide (SO2), volatile, organic compounds (VOCs), particulate matter (PMs), hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) and lead. This constitutes toxic chemicals that would pollute the environment causing cancer and other diseases in our children and all our residents. The pollution generated by the facility would drive down property values. This is unacceptable.

As best as can be determined the

only jobs available to keep our young folks here would be jobs that do not provide a livable wage such as janitors and security detail. This is unacceptable.

According to new State law, the county would only receive 30% of the taxes from the Ridgeline project. Also, only 10% of the power produced could be sold to the wholesale market which would help reduce electric bills for the citizens. This is unacceptable.

The site of Ridgeline would include the storage of 30,000,000 million gallons of diesel fuel. The tanks have a propensity to leak and pollute the surrounding affected area. What if they caught fire? Both towns would certainly be decimated. This is unacceptable.

A woman from the Virginia area who has a second home spoke at a public meeting on Sunday. She is affected by the same type of facility with noise pollution. She said there is constant humming noise 24/7, and there is light pollution as well. We like our dark skies up here on this mountain. We do not need the noise pollution.

Representatives from Ridgeline were offered the opportunity to participate in our public meeting. They were offered to be there in person, by web cast and by phone. They failed to do so. Senators Shelley Moore Capito and Randy Smith should have been at that meeting but were not.

More red flags. This is unacceptable.

Finally, due to the height of the facility in would negatively impact the view shed of both communities and drive down property values.

To summarize, the only thing I see in the Ridgeline project is all negative: carcinogenic air pollution, lack of a suitable water source, air pollution, noise pollution, lack of well-paying local jobs, an unfair share of the resulting tax structure, the potential for severe water and land pollution resulting in a Brownfields site, a negative impact on the view shed, the potential for an environmental disaster, the potential for an oil tank explosion of epic proportions, and abundance of secrecy and stonewalling. This is unacceptable.

I do not want the Ridgeline project in Tucker County, West Virginia. It must be stopped now.

Yours,
Joseph W. Dumire
282 Brown Street
P.O. Box 415
Thomas, WV 26292-0415
jwdumire@outlook.com

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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.

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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LEGAL

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.

LEGAL

I have before me the accounts of the Executor or Administrator of the
estates of the following deceased persons:
Deceased Personal Representative(s)
Donna L. Cosner Pamela S. Cosner
1st publication 4/23/25 PO Box 46
2nd publication 4/30/25 Thomas, WV 26292
Paul E. Clute Cheryl D. Clute
1st publication 4/23/25 328 Pennington Trailer Ct.
2nd publication 4/30/25 Hambleton, WV 26269
Ashley N. Novallis Michelle Crakes
1st publication 4/23/25 7665 Serenity Drive
2nd publication 4/30/25 Dublin, OH 43017
Allen J. Crossland Naolmi Sharon Crossland
1st publication 4/23/25 PO Box 38
2nd publication 4/30/25 Davis, WV 26260
Patricia E. White Pat A. Nichols
1st publication 4/23/25 PO Box 201
2nd publication 4/30/25 Parsons, WV 26287
And
Helen Rhodes
142 Spruce Street
Parsons, WV 26287
Claims against any estate must be filed within sixty days of the date of
first publication. Any person seeking to impeach or establish a will must
make a complaint to the Tucker County Commission, Tucker County
Clerk, 211 First St., Suite 205, Parsons, WV. Any person objecting to
the qualifications of the personal representative, or the venue or juris-
diction of the court must file a statement with the County Commission
within sixty days after the date of first publication or thirty days of ser-
vice of the notice, whichever is later.
ATTEST: SHERRY SIMMONS, TUCKER COUNTY CLERK

LEGAL

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATES
To the Creditors and Beneficiaries of the following decedent’s estate:
ROSALEA N. KNOTTS
Erma Snyder, Executrix
A Final Settlement for the above captioned estate has been presented
before me by the Fiduciary of said estate for approval, which report
is retained in my office at 14 S. Randolph Ave., Elkins, West Virginia.
I have approved the Report as presented and will file it with the Hon-
orable County Commission of Tucker County, West Virginia, on or after
May 5, 2025.
Any person having any interest in said estate may appear before the
Honorable County Commission to protect their interests as they may ap-
pear or else may be forever thereafter barred from asserting such interest.
Given under my hand 17th day of April, 2025.
/s/ John J. Wallace, IV
John J. Wallace, IV
Fiduciary Commissioner
Tucker County, West Virginia

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, adminis-
trators, 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 delin-
quent 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 \$ 102.89
interest, for tax year ticket number 2021 - 10891.
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for \$ 0.00
ticket number
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2022 - 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, \$ **1,310.68**
certified or personal check.
**You may redeem at any time before May 31, 2025, by paying the above total less
any unearned interest.**
Given under my hand March 4, 2025
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Nonentered Lands of CLAY County, State of West Virginia
**Please return this letter and payment to the
West Virginia State Auditor’s Office, County Collections
Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568**

LEGAL

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 High-
ways through the Bid Express Bidding Service (www.bidx.com) and by sealed proposals (only when prequali-
fication 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 down-
loaded 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’ licence 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 advertise-
ment, without the necessity of renewing such advertisement. The deferment, delay, postponement, and the date
that proposals will be received and publicly opened will be available on www.bidx.com.
The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways hereby notifies all bidders that it will
affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enter-
prises 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

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 High-
ways through the Bid Express Bidding Service (www.bidx.com) and by sealed proposals (only when prequali-
fication 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 down-
loaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the constructions of the following project(s):

Call	Contract	State Project	Federal Project	Description
027	2021000242	S399-STRIP 25 02	HSIP-2025(091)D	PAVEMENT MARKINGS 2025 APD CORRIDOR STRIPING STATEWIDE COUNTY: STATEWIDE

DBE GOAL: 7% 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’ licence 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)
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prises 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.

often. The first sign of roof damage typically is a leak that is noticeable from the indoors. It may include a browned spot on the ceiling or even pooling water in the attic. Leak from storm damage or something minor like a water intrusion through a nail hole or from a lost shingle typi- cally can be repaired easily enough. However, additional indicators may necessitate a complete roof over- haul. Here are some signs a roof is in need of repairs or replacement.

- Sagging roof: If the roof is sag- ging, it could be due to excess loads, such as water-damaged shingles or even weakened roof structure. A professional will need to restore the integrity of the roof.
- Cracking and buckling: It is likely that shingles will have to be replaced if there is cracking or if shingles are buckling and warping.
- Exposed nails: Exposed nails may rust and contribute to a leaky roof, says Family Handyman. How long the nails were exposed could indicate if the roof can be repaired or if everything should be redone.
- Lost granules: Asphalt roofing shingles have small granules on the surface. Over time these granules will slowly degrade and fall off. If there are many granules in gutters or if one can see that portions of the shingles are bare, it is likely time for a new roof.
- Visible light: Homeowners who can see light streams coming into the home need roof repair. This is indicative of holes, cracks or spaces in the roof.
- Growth on the roof: Mold and mildew on the roof is a sign that the roof needs to be repaired or replaced. Such growths contribute to rot that jeopardizes the integrity of the roof.

A durable roof protects a home from the elements. Various symp- toms signal that it is time to repair or replace a roof.

Signs a roof must be repaired or replaced



The exterior components of a home, such as the siding and the roof, help to protect its occupants from the elements. While many roof- ing materials can last for decades, at some point in time homeowners will likely have to repair or replace the roof on their home.

Roof wear and tear may not always be so evident, particularly because most homeowners do not make it a point to get on their roofs very

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Eastern WVCTC Workforce Education Hires Two New Staff Members



Moorefield, W.Va. – The Workforce Education Department at Eastern West Virginia Community & Technical College (Eastern WVCTC) has welcomed two new staff members: Lacey Koontz as student services coordinator for Workforce Education and Rachael Hyre as an Allied Health instructor.

Lacey Koontz, a Moorefield native, joins Eastern WVCTC as the student services coordinator for Workforce Education. She is married and has two daughters, Anna and Natalie. Koontz earned her Associate in Applied Science in individualized career studies from Southern West Virginia Community & Technical College. She later earned a Regent Bachelor of Arts degree from West Virginia University in December 2014.

This marks Koontz's return to Eastern WVCTC. She previously worked there for thirteen years, from 2007 to 2020, holding multiple positions across departments, including the Business Office, Student Services, and Workforce Education. After leaving Eastern, she worked for the Hardy County Schools system.

Outside of work, Koontz stays busy with her daughters' activities. "My girls keep me busy with all their activities, so I don't have too many hobbies!" she said. She also serves as co-president of the Moorefield Women's Club and assistant coach for the Moorefield Middle School volleyball team.



Rachael Hyre, Allied Health Instructor

When asked what she enjoys most about being back at Eastern, Koontz said, "I'm excited to be back at Eastern. I love working with students and am excited to help them achieve a new goal through Workforce trainings!"

Rachael Hyre has been hired as the Workforce Education Allied Health instructor. She is from Cumberland, Maryland, and resides in Old Fields with her husband, Bryan. Hyre is a proud stepmom to her son, Jason, and a doting "Nana" to her granddaughter, Laura Elizabeth. She graduated cum laude from Allegany College of Maryland, earning two Associate of Applied Science degrees, one in social science/education and the other in medical assisting, with a certification in medical billing and coding.

Hyre is a Certified Medical Assistant (AAMA) with over 27 years of experience in the healthcare industry. She is also a longtime member of the American Association of Medical Assistants. She comes from a family of healthcare professionals and started her healthcare



Lacey Koontz, Student Services Coordinator-Workforce Education

journey as a teen volunteer in Cumberland, MD. She has worked in many different areas in the industry, from administration and care management to clinical patient care.

When asked what she enjoys most about Eastern, Hyre said, "I have enjoyed interacting with students to help facilitate their future goals in Allied Health. I also love the friendly atmosphere that Eastern provides."

About Eastern's Workforce Education Department Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College's Workforce Education Department, based in Moorefield, offers a variety of affordable short-term training, in-person, hybrid, and online, that allows quick certification and entry into the workforce. Choose from areas such as agriculture, CDL Class A, B & more, healthcare, industrial, and welding. To learn more about training programs, email WorkforceED@easternwv.edu or call 304-434-8000 ext. 9413.

Decorated Cardboard Box Race



BRIAN DOLLINGER, ASHLEY HUANG, TONIA DOLLINGER AND JETHRO PENCE

The winning entry in the Timberline Mt. Decorated Cardboard Box Race was "The Mighty Unicorn" piloted by Jethro Pence, Fredericksburg, Va and Tonia Dollinger of Alexandria, Va.



JETHRO PENCE AND TONIA DOLLINGER

The Mighty Unicorn was designed and engineered by Pence, Dollinger, Ashley Huang, Brian Dollinger for the annual race at Timberline Mountain on March 15. The team are second homeowners at Timberline

Mountain and enjoy visiting most weekends in Tucker County.

The Mighty Unicorn is on display at the Snow Sports Museum of WV on Rt 32 in Canaan Valley.

Keep seasonal allergies in check

There is much to look forward to when springs arrives. Daily hours of sunlight increase while temperatures continue to climb. Blooming flowers and leaves budding on trees also add some awe-inspiring color back into the landscape. Even though there's much to enjoy about spring, one side effect of so much foliage in bloom is the return of seasonal spring allergies.

Many people find they cannot enjoy the sunshine and balmy temperatures of spring because of seasonal allergies. Hayfever, or allergic rhinitis, is a common spring allergy. The American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology indicates allergies are the sixth leading cause of chronic illness in the United States. More than 50 million Americans suffer from allergies each year. The Aerobiology Research Laboratories says allergens in the air across Canada have been rising in many cities over the last 15 years.

While there is no cure for seasonal

allergies, there are steps individuals can take to live with them more comfortably.

- Stay indoors on dry, windy days. It's better to go outside after it rains, which clears pollen from the air.
- The ACAAI urges individuals to modify indoor environments to keep allergens out. An HEPA filter in HVAC systems can better trap spores.
- Consider vacations near the ocean or other bodies of water, as pollen counts tend to be lower in these areas.
- Delegate lawn mowing and other tasks that involve stirring up allergens to someone else. If you must do gardening and landscaping, wear a face mask to filter out some allergens.
- Close windows or doors when pollen counts are especially high.
- Wash hair and clothes when coming indoors to rinse out allergens that would transfer to pillowcases or furniture.
- Speak to an allergist who can recommend medications or other treatments



that can improve seasonal allergies. Corticosteroids reduce inflammation and antihistamines can help reduce sneezing or itchy eyes.

Seasonal allergies are a potential pitfall of the spring season. However, there are remedies that can help alleviate the suffering.



MEDIA ADVISORY: Question Corridor H at public hearing on Earth Day, April 22

WARDENSVILLE, W.Va.—The West Virginia Division of Highways and Federal Highway Administration will hold a public information session and hearing on the proposed Wardensville-to-Virginia line section of Corridor H on Tuesday April 22, from 5 to 8 p.m. at East Hardy High School in Baker, West Virginia.

The 7-mile segment from Wardensville to the Virginia state line would divert visitors from the town of Wardensville’s Main Street historic district, slice through its well-head- protection area and carve a path across the George Washington National Forest.

Opponents have long questioned the need for the project, citing low traffic on completed sections, and Virginia’s lack of plans to extend the four-lane highway east of the state line along Route 55 to interstates I-66 and I-81. WVDOH estimates the Wardensville-to-Virginia and the

still-pending Parsons-to-Davis section in Tucker County would cost about \$1.5 billion to construct through steep, environmentally sensitive terrain.

Because the hearing falls on Earth Day, conservation and community groups are urging people of all ages to attend, learn more about the details, and speak up for protecting the region’s forests, streams and small-town character.

“Earth Day is a reminder of what makes the Potomac Highlands so special—clear streams, intact forests, vibrant small towns, and endless opportunities to explore the outdoors,” said Olivia Miller, program director of the West Virginia Highlands Conservancy. “A massive highway like this just doesn’t fit with what makes this region unique. Before we spend billions of public dollars to a massive highway that would fragment our national for-

est lands—and that Virginia hasn’t agreed to finish—we need to ask whether it will truly benefit our communities or threatens the very things that make people want to live, play, and work here. It’s time to seriously consider more affordable, less destructive alternatives that better serve the people who call this region home.”

Whether or not citizens are able to attend the April 22 hearing, they can submit public comments by addressing Ms. Sarah Runyon, Deputy Chief Engineer, WVDOH, 1900 Kanawha Blvd. Bldg. 5 Room 820, Charleston, WV 25305, or by going to the Corridor H page of WVDOH’s website.

For additional information, visit WVDOH’s Corridor H page: <https://transportation.wv.gov/highways/major-projects/Corridor-H/Pages/default.aspx> Learn more about community concerns at savewardensville.org

Yards of the Month - April.



Todd and Cathy Lee of Blackman Flats recognized as "Yard of the Month" for spring's beauty.



Mill Race Park recognized as the "Business Yard of the Month".



Jennie Bennet showcases the elegance of blooming dogwood trees and Easter.

Cruising through Parsons to select the "Yard of the Month" is a delightful tradition for the Mountaineer Garden Club members, offering a chance to appreciate the town's beautiful landscapes. While April often brings vibrant floral displays, this year the blooming trees are equally captivating.

The residential selections for April highlight this spring's arboreal beauty. Todd and Cathy Lee of Blackman Flats have created a stunning scene with their home enveloped by colorful blooming trees, accented by a carpet of tulips. In Parsons, Jennie Bennet's property showcases the elegance of multiple

flowering dogwood trees alongside cheerful blooming Easter eggs.

For the Business "Yard of the Month," the City of Parsons and its dedicated Park Crew were recognized for maintaining the community's fresh, springtime appeal.

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SPORTS

Lady Mt. Lions Beat Bulldogs, Delayed Against Rams



Keisha Arnold covers the bag to attempt the out.

By: Adam Freeman
The Lady Mt. Lions battled the Southern Garrett Rams at home this past week, however it was eventually the weather that decided the game rather than the score. Tucker found themselves in a hole in the bottom of the 7th inning as the rain began to pour. Tucker would load the bases with no outs and the top of the order up to bat when the lightning began striking and the game had to be postponed. The two teams will resume play when Tucker travels to Southern, they will finish the first contest before the start of

the second. The Mt. Lions would end their week with a home game against the Tygarts Valley Bulldogs. Tucker would dominate the matchup and lead from start to finish. Sutton Pase would go 2-4 at the plate and drive in a game high three runs, Ava Shaffer would go 3-3 at the plate notching two doubles. Sophomore righty Peyton Hicks got the win off the rubber facing 23 batters, throwing 66 aces in the contest. Tucker will return to action as they travel to Pendleton County to take on one of the top teams in single A, first pitch is set for 4:30pm.



Makenna Evans gets ready for the play.



Lela Wright taking first.

Tucker Track Hitting Their Stride Taking Home Multiple Gold Medals

By: Adam Freeman
The Tucker County High School Track team continues to build on their successful season. The Mt Lions competed in two meets this past week, the first being at Buckhannon Upshur High School where Reid Kisamore continued to shine, bringing home three individual gold medals, Nate Ricottilli brought home gold and Lela Wright, Estoria Chase, Mayah Gross and Raven Matthews all brought home gold on the lady’s side. The Mt. Lions also competed at Keyser High School, where on the boy’s side Kisamore brought home two more golds, Nate Ricottilli finished with one gold and Cameron Judy as well. The girls’ team was well represented by Lela Wright and Estoria Chase, both grabbing golds. The track team will be back on the course on Tuesday April 22 nd at Southern (MD).
Buckhannon 4/15: Reid Kisamore- 1st in 100m dash, 1st in 200m dash, 1st in Long Jump; Nate Ricottilli-1st in 400m dash; Cameron Judy-2nd in 3200m run; Allen Collar- 2nd in 110m High Hurdles; Ryan Scott- 3rd in 110m High Hurdles; Lucas Barb, Oliver rchuletta, Nate Ricottilli, and Reid Kisamore-2nd in 4x100m relay; Lucas Barb, Oliver Archuletta, Keelyn Eichelberger, and Nate

Ricottilli-1st in 4x200m relay, 3rd in 4x400m relay; Alex Collar, Lynk Suesli, Ryan Scott, and Cameron Judy- 3rd in 4x800m relay; Lela Wright-2nd in 100m dash, 3rd in 200m dash, 1st in 100m high hurdles; Estoria Chase-2nd in 1600m run, 1st in 3200m run; Mayah Gross-3rd in 100m high hurdles-1st in 300m hurdles; Addi Moats, Lela Wright, Estoria Chase, and Mayah Gross-2nd in 4x400m relay; Rachel Hile, Addi Moats, Kenah Griffith, and Mayah Gross- 2nd in shuttle hurdle relay; Raven Mathews-1st in shot put.
Keyser 4/17: Reid Kisamore- 1st in 100m dash, 2nd in 200m dash, 1st in long jump; Nate Ricottilli- 1st in 400m dash, 3rd in long jump; Cameron Judy- 1st in 3200m run; Lynk Suesli - 2nd in 3200m run; Logan Kopec, Cameron Judy, Lynk Suesli, and Alex Collar-2nd in 4x800m relay; Lela Wright- 1st in 100m dash, 2nd in 100m high hurdles; Addi Moats-2nd in 800m run; Estoria Chase- 2nd in the 1600m run. 1st in the 3200m run; Mayah Gross-3rd in 300m hurdles; Addi Moats, Lela Wright, Estoria Chase, and Mayah Gross- 2nd in 4x400m relay; Lela Wright, Addi Moats, Kenah Griffith, and Mayah Gross- 2nd in shuttle hurdle relay; Raven Mathews - 2nd in shot put.

Tucker Baseball Gets in the Win Column vs Harman, Fall to Tygarts Valley and Southern



Owen Helmick hustles back to first.

By: Adam Freeman
Tucker’s baseball team had a busy week of games this past week, picking up their first win of the season against the Harman Panthers. Tucker had the bats going early and often and raked in a season high 27 runs to Harman’s 0. The Mt. Lions would then face the Rams of Southern Garrett (MD), Tucker would manage to get on the board, scoring one run but would ultimately fall to the Rams 11-1. The Mt. Lions would finish the week against

one of the top teams in Single A, meeting the Tygarts Valley Bulldogs. Tucker would struggle to get the bats going and the high-powered Bulldogs would run away with the contest with a final score of 12-0. Tucker will return to the ball field on Tuesday, April 22 nd at home against Moorefield at 6pm, and then travel to East Hardy on Thursday, the 24 th at 6pm, they will finish the week back at home against a very good Philip Barbour team on Friday April 25 th at 6pm.



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Good Luck!

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

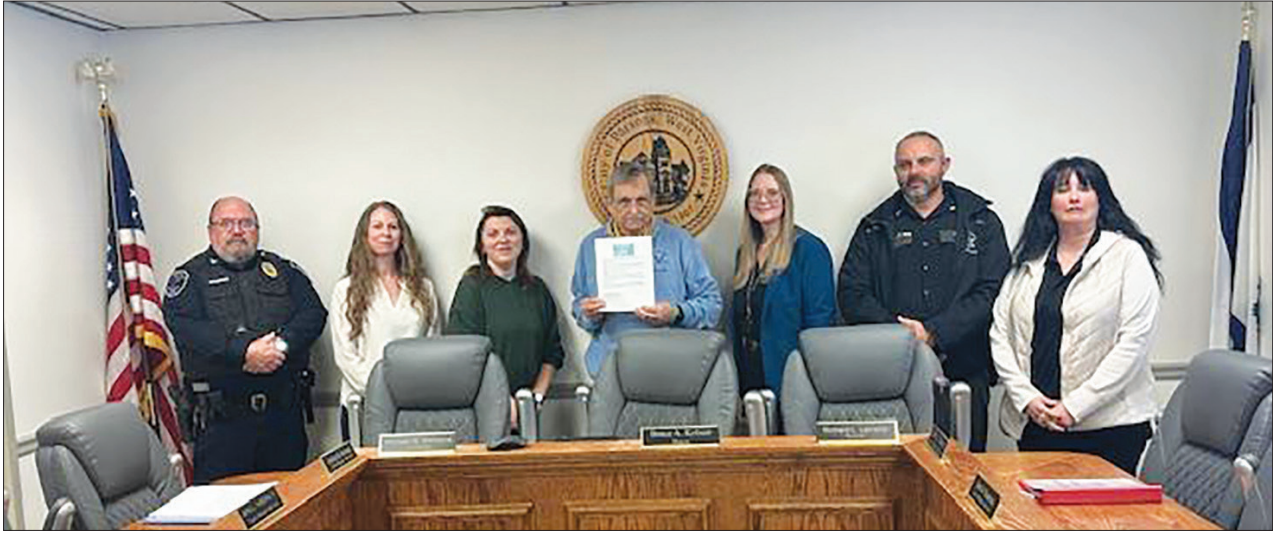


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Parsons Proclaims Sexual Assault Awareness Month



In a proclamation on Sexual Assault Awareness Month, representatives of local law enforcement were on hand for the signing. Pictured from left: Kevin Keplinger, 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.



Simple safety tips for water sports enthusiasts

Bodies of water like lakes, rivers and oceans often elicit fond memories of fun times spent under the sun. Safety should always be a priority when spending time on the water, especially when participating in water sports, including swimming and water skiing.

According to the World Health Organization, more than 40 people die by drowning every hour of every day, which equates to around 372,000 deaths each year. Many of those deaths, the vast majority of which occur in low- or middle-income countries, are preventable, and safety is at the core of drowning prevention. Though drowning incidents are not as prevalent in the United States and Canada as they are elsewhere in the world, the popularity of water sports in both countries underscores the importance of revisiting the various ways to stay safe when out on the water.

- Take water sports lessons. The carefree nature of spring and summer can make it easy for water sports enthusiasts to forgo lessons before trying their hands at water skiing and wakeboarding. But such lessons can teach people techniques that can keep them safe on the water. Courses teach everything from how to get up and out of the water to how to properly handle a tow rope. They also can teach boaters how to navigate waters while towing skiers, tubers and wakeboarders.
- Learn hand signals and go over them before getting in the water. The National Safety Council emphasizes the importance of basic hand signals, which can be used to help boaters communicate with the people they're tow-

ing. Hand signals are vital because water sports tend to be noisy, so nonverbal communication may be the only way boaters can communicate with the people they're towing. Signals can be used to communicate anything from directions of turns to speed requests to the condition of the person being towed. A list of hand signals can be found at www.boaterexam.com/safety/safety-common-hand-signals.aspx.

- Inspect tow lines. The NSC advises inspecting tow lines prior to beginning. Such inspections can confirm that tow lines are not caught in the propeller or wrapped around anyone before the activity begins.
- Wait for the propeller to stop before getting back on the boat. People being towed should always wait for propellers to stop before climbing back into the boat. It doesn't take long for propellers to stop, and those extra few seconds can dramatically reduce risks for accidents or injuries.
- Avoid water sports at night. Visibility is compromised once the sun goes down. That can make it hard for boaters to see any obstacles that might appear in the water, and it also makes it very difficult for them to communicate with the people they're towing. As a result of such difficulties, the NSC urges water sports enthusiasts to only engage in such activities during daylight hours.

Water sports make summer even more fun. Safety should always be the utmost priority for anyone involved in such activities.

Supreme Court Partners with Tyler Technologies on New Appellate E-Filing and Public Access Systems

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – The Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia today announced it has partnered with Tyler Technologies to release new e-filing and public access systems for the Supreme Court and Intermediate Court of Appeals that will debut later this year.

“This improved appellate-level records system is part of our Court’s continued efforts to make our judicial system as accessible as possible,” said Chief Justice William R. “Bill” Wooton. “These new systems will offer similar functionality to our current e-filing system but provide noticeable cost savings for those who use it. It will also enable us to launch an online records search portal so the public can conveniently access and view information on cases brought before the Supreme Court and

Intermediate Court.”

The new system is in the final stages of development and is expected to launch in late summer.

The public access system will also allow the Court to launch a convenient online search portal for appellate case information, similar to the search systems now offered for magistrate and circuit court case information.

The Court is currently working to ensure the transition to the new e-filing system will be as seamless as possible for the state’s legal community. Tyler Technologies and Supreme Court officials will be working to provide training sessions on the new e-filing system for lawyers and their staff. Details on those training sessions will be provided in the coming months.

West Virginia State Historic Preservation Survey and Planning Grants Available

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – An additional opportunity to apply for FY 2025 matching Historic Preservation Survey and Planning Grants is now available through the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) of the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History (WVDACH). Funding for Survey and Planning Grants is appropriated by the United States Congress for preservation efforts through the National Park Service Historic Preservation Fund.

Grant funds are awarded on a matching basis. The deadline for receipt of applications is 11:30 p.m. on Friday, May 16, 2025. Grant information and access to the GOapply on-line grant application portal, are available at <https://wvculture.org/agencies/state-historic-preservation-office-shpo/grants/> or contact Randy Hill at (304) 558-0240 ext. 270 or Randall.Hill@wv.gov.

Certified Local Governments (CLGs), State or local government agencies, not-for-profit organizations, for-profit organizations

or firms, and educational institutions are eligible to apply. Eligible projects include architectural and archaeological surveys, preparation of National Register of Historic Places nominations, heritage education programs relating to preservation activities (i.e. hands-on window or masonry workshops), pre-development activities, and comprehensive planning projects. Funded projects must be completed by Dec. 31, 2026.

A competitive process is used to determine the recipients. An outside grant panel reviews and makes recommendations to the West Virginia Archives and History Commission. The final decision will be made by the Commission. The projects are selected based upon how they best meet the established priorities and criteria stated in the grant application packets. All grant monies must be administered in accordance with federal and state requirements. The announcement of grantees is planned for July 2025, contingent upon receipt of an allocation by the National Park Service.

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Grant County Bank to Host 23rd Annual Relay for Life Golf Tournament



April 15, 2025 [Petersburg, W.Va.] – The Grant County Bank is pleased to announce the 23rd Annual Relay for Life Golf Tournament, scheduled for Friday, May 2, 2025, at Valley View Golf Club in Moorefield, West Virginia. All proceeds from the tournament will directly benefit the American Cancer Society and the Grant County Relay for Life chapter, supporting life-saving cancer research, patient care services, and advocacy efforts.

For more than two decades, Grant County Bank has proudly hosted this annual tournament, uniting the community in the fight against cancer. During the 2024 event, the Bank exceeded its goal, raising over \$14,000 for the American Cancer Society and Relay for Life,

thanks to the support of players and sponsors. “This tournament reminds us of the power of community coming together for something bigger than the game,” said Tournament Chairman Jared Amtower. “Whether you’re a seasoned golfer or just in it for fun, your participation helps drive real progress in the fight against cancer.” The tournament will begin at 9 a.m. and wrap up by 2 p.m., offering a full day of golf, camaraderie, and charitable giving. The \$70 entry fee includes 18 holes of golf, lunch, and access to a range of giveaways and prizes. Players can also compete in special contests, including Longest Drive, Straightest Drive, and Closest to the Pin. A \$10,000 prize will be awarded to any player



who scores a hole-in-one on a designated hole. According to the American Cancer Society, more than 2 million new cancer cases are expected to be diagnosed in the U.S. this year. The 23rd Annual Grant County Bank Relay

for Life Golf Tournament is an opportunity for the community to come together and help provide resources that advance research and support those affected by the disease. Registration is now open and must be completed by Friday, April 25. Teams of four are welcome, and individual players will be grouped accordingly. For more information or to register, contact Tournament Chair Jared N. Amtower at (304) 257-4111.



About The Grant County Bank: The Grant County Bank was chartered as a West Virginia state bank on August 6, 1902, and began operations on August 15 the same year with its first office in Petersburg, WV. The mission of providing financial services and products to families, small businesses, and the agricultural community has served both our customers and the bank well over the years. Subsequently, The Grant County Bank has

expanded its marketplace throughout the Potomac Highlands and now operates a total of seven offices in six counties, including Petersburg, Davis, Canaan Valley, Harman, Riverton, Moorefield, and Keyser. After more than a century of continued service, The Grant County Bank is truly “Committed To The Communities We Serve” and is a subsidiary of Highlands Bankshares, Inc., also headquartered in Petersburg, WV.



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DavisHealthSystem.org/WHC
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