





## Cont. From Front Page 1

“Although the Air Quality Board did not vote to reclassify the project as a major source of pollutants, which would have triggered a more transparent process involving air quality modeling and environmental impact assessments, Tucker United will continue to fight this proposal,” said Cris Parque, from Tucker United. “We will never stop advocating for the safety and well-being of our community.”

**Cont. From Front Page 1**

The FBI under the Trump Administration has been releasing scores of documents relating to the Epstein investigation.

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



# SPORTS

## Lady Mt. Lions Post Big Win Over Pocahontas, 76–42



Peyton Cross with the rebound and put back score (Photo by Brittany Channell)



Coaching staff celebrates with their team at the time out (Photo by Brittany Channell)



Makenna Evans gets the defender off her feet (Photo by Brittany Channell)

By: Adam Freeman

In the lone-high school basketball matchup of the week, the Lady Mt. Lions of TCHS played host to the Lady Warriors of Pocahontas County. Pocahontas came into the matchup 13–1, with their only loss coming to one of the top-ranked teams in Single-A, Tug Valley. Tucker pounced on Pocahontas from the opening tip, dropping 25 first-quarter points and holding the Warriors to just 7. Tucker’s pressure defense and hustle mindset were on full display as they continuously forced turnover after turnover. The Lady Mt. Lions would hold an impressive 32-point advantage over their opponent with a 46–14 lead at halftime. The one-sided tilt slightly evened out after the half, with Pocahontas finding some offensive rhythm and both teams scoring 15 points each as Tucker’s lead remained

unchanged at 61–29. TCHS would kick it into cruise control for the final period, as Pocahontas would never be close in the matchup and Tucker posted a dominant and impressive win, 76–42.

*Evans 18 pts, 10 reb, 4 ast, FT 6–10; Kitzmiller 15 pts, 6 reb, 3 ast, FT 2–4; Gross 9 pts, 5 reb, FT 2–2; Moats 9 pts, 5 reb, 5 ast, FT 2–2; Hicks 9 pts, 4 reb, FT 0–2; Carroll 8 pts, 4 reb, 4 ast, FT 4–6; Cross 6 pts, 8 reb, FT 2–3; Shaffer 2 pts, 1 reb.*

*3-point field goals (10–35)  
Kitzmiller (3) Hicks (3) Evans (2) Moats (1) Gross (1)*

With the victory, Tucker improves to 12–2 overall, with postseason play looming soon. They will return to action on Tuesday, February 10, at 6:00 p.m. as they host the Tygarts Valley Lady Bulldogs.

## Lady Bears Sweep South Preston and Capon Bridge

By: Adam Freeman

The Lady Bears of Davis Thomas Middle School picked up a pair of quality wins last week. DT started the week with a suffocating performance over South Preston. Davis Thomas held their opponent to single-digit scoring in three quarters and scoreless in another, while DT poured in 47 for themselves. The Lady Bears picked up the win with a final score of 47–12. Addy Johnson led all scorers with 19 points, followed by Morgan Simmons with 12 points and Harper Wilt with 8 points.

To finish off the week, DT would play a much closer matchup against the

Wildcats of Capon Bridge. The Lady Bears held a slight advantage after one period, leading 8–6, and trailed by one at the halftime break, 16–15. Davis Thomas would hold the Wildcats to just one point in the third period while scoring 11 to take back the lead at 26–17. Capon Bridge would make a run in the fourth, outscoring DT 9–8, but the Lady Bears would prevail, 34–26. Johnson led the team in scoring with 15 points, followed closely by Simmons with 13 points and Wilt with 6 points.

Davis Thomas will return to play on Tuesday, February 10th, for a home bout with Belington Middle.



Nolan Luzier brings the ball into the front court.

## Davis Thomas Bears Go One-for-Two in Last Week’s Matches

By: Adam Freeman

The Davis Thomas Bears boys basketball team played two games this past week. To start the week DT took on South Preston Middle, the Bears hung close through the first period as they trailed 11–7. South Preston pulled away slightly before the half holding a narrow 6-point lead at 20–14. The Bears found themselves only down 6 and very much in contention for the win heading into the final period. South Preston would outscore the Bears 23–2 to end the game with a Davis Thomas loss at 57–22. Nolan Luzier led the scoring efforts with 10 points, Elijah

O’Brien scored 5 points and Kevin Kerr finished with 3 points. The Bears would finish their week with a matchup with Capon Bridge, DT would hold a small lead after the 1st period at 5–4. After the first period DT would score 13 points in each of the final 3 quarters and never trailed to Capon Bridge on their way to a 44–38 victory. Kerr had himself a big night for the Bears, dropping 21 points, Luzier had 11 points with O’Brien, Westyn Huffman and Jarrett Dearborn scoring 4 points each. The Bears will play again on Tuesday February 10th at home against Belington Middle.

THANK YOU FOR READING



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

Super Crossword

Answers

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O	C	T	A	V	I	A	L	A	L	A	L	A	T	O	P	H	A	T
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S	E	V	E	L	D	I	N	S	M	O	D	E	L	R	O	C	K	E
C	L	I	M	B	I	N	G	S	P	U	R	E	S	S	B	R	O	
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N	A	S	A	L	S	S	Y	N	T	A	X	B	E	N	E	A	T	

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# What’s ? Happening

## Lenten Services 2026

- Feb 12 Susie Metzner
- Feb. 19 James Snyder
- Feb. 26 Kevin Hostetler
- March 5 Mont Miller
- March 12 Donna Bolinger
- March 19 Julie Davis
- March 26 V.J. Davis
- April 2 Bill Hardy

Luncheon will be provided from noon to 1 p.m.

## Buckwheat Dinner

There will be a Buckwheat Dinner at St. John's Church, in Parsons, on Saturday, Feb. 14 from 4 - 6:30 p.m. \$12 donation for adult meal and \$6 for children 12 and younger. Carry out orders call 304-478-2620.

- Meal A - 5 buckwheat cakes, 2 cakes of sausage, 1-4 oz. gravy & 1 biscuit.
- Meal B - 4 biscuits, 2-4 oz. gravy & 2 cakes of sausage.
- Meal C - 4 pancakes, 2 cakes of sausage, 1-4 oz. gravy & 1biscuit.

Sponsored by St. John's Men.

## Food Handler’s Class

Sanitarian James Snyder announced that the Tucker County Health Department will be conducting Food Handler's Training Classes at the Senior Center in Parsons, on Wednesday, Feb. 18 at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Individuals attending the class will be issued a food handler's permit which will be good for two years. A \$10 registration fee will be collected upon admittance. The classes will start promptly, and late arrivals will not be admitted.

## WV Hunter Education Class

A WV Hunter Education Class will be held at Mount Grove Community Center located at Mount Grove Community Center in Eglon. Students must be 10 years old to register for class and may bring a packed lunch to class. Students must attend both days.

Classes are on Sat, March 21 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday, March 22 from 1-5 p.m. You can register at register-ed.com.



Feb. 13, 1977: Football wide receiver Randy Moss was born in Rand, Kanawha County. After two All-American seasons at Marshall University, he went on to a hall of fame career in the National Football League.

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.

Feb. 11, 1903: Artist Grace Martin Taylor was born in Morgantown. She produced an immense body of work in various styles and enjoyed a lengthy career at the Mason College of Music and Fine Arts in Charleston.

Feb. 11, 1904: Clarence Watson Meadows was born in Beckley. His mother hoped he would become a Baptist minister, but he ultimately entered politics, becoming the 22nd governor of West Virginia.

Feb. 11, 1911: The Charles Town Opera House opened. The 500-seat the-

ater ushered in an era of entertainment and service lasting more than 30 years.

Feb. 11, 1923: Eight members of the Black Hand were arrested in Harrison County. The Black Hand was the name and symbol of an underworld society of Italian immigrants that extorted money from other Italian immigrants.

Feb. 11, 1935: The first houses in the Tygart Valley Homesteads were ready for occupancy. One of three resettlement projects in West Virginia, the homesteads were intended to provide a new start for unemployed farmers, miners and timber workers.

Feb. 11, 1949: Singer and pianist Ethel Caffie-Austin was born in Bluefield, and raised in Mount Hope. As “West Virginia’s

First Lady of Gospel,” she performed around the world, taught countless students, earned the Vandalia Award and founded the West Virginia Black Sacred Music Festival.

Feb. 12, 1867: Barboursville was incorporated by an act of the state legislature. Originally the county seat of Cabell County, it lost that honor after the C&O Railway was completed to Huntington.

Feb. 12, 1899: Karl Dewey Myers was born in Tucker County with severe disabilities. He never attended school but educated himself through persistent self-study. He was named the state’s first poet laureate in 1927.

Feb. 13, 1800: Gen. John Jay Jackson Sr. was born near Parkersburg. He served in the Seminole Wars as a member of Gen. Andrew Jackson’s staff. As a delegate to the statehood conventions, he at times supported but ultimately opposed the founding of West Virginia.

Feb. 13, 1913: Labor leader Mother Jones was arrested in Charleston after supporting union miners on Paint Creek and Cabin Creek.

Feb. 13, 1923: Chuck Yeager was born at Myra, about seven miles from Hamlin. In 1947, in a Bell X-1 rocket airplane dropped from a B-29 bomber, Yeager became the first person to break the sound barrier by flying 700 miles per hour.

Feb. 14, 1866: Grant County was created and named for Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, who later became

See HISTORY page 7

By Teri Cayton

The Parsons Advocate

It is officially Blue Cold in West Virginia. It has been cold long enough that the big icicles that form on hillsides along the highway have gotten thick enough that they have turned blue. **Momma Said**, “That is cold enough to rival hell freezing over.”

So, all those things that you said would happen when it got that cold, you better get your list out and get to work. This has been the longest sustained cold snap we have had in some time. I can honestly say that the ground has finally frozen, along with the river and me!

I can’t say it has been bad but it is just so dry that nothing is melting. It warms up just enough for the snow to start melting and then freezes everything again overnight. My driveway is just two ruts

## 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



frozen solid. The whole thing is just a sheet of ice. But no worries because I had a mother that taught me how to drive on bad roads and I am not afraid.

I just worry about everyone else and that is the scary part. Just want to say a frosty “HEY” to all the folks down south that are getting frost on the tail feathers. Sorry to hear about all the crops being affected though. **Momma Said**, “Bundle up, stay warm and safe and don’t take any chances that you don’t have to.”

## King Ranch Chicken Casserole

### Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 medium white onion, diced
- 1 medium red bell pepper, diced
- 1 medium green red bell pepper, diced
- 1 (10.75-ounce) can condensed cream of mushroom soup
- 1 (10.75-ounce) can condensed cream of chicken soup
- 1 (10-ounce) can diced tomatoes with green chili peppers (such as Ro-Tel)
- 1 cup chicken broth
- 2 tablespoons sour cream
- 2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon ancho chili powder
- 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1/4 teaspoon chipotle chili powder
- 1 whole chicken cooked, deboned and shredded, divided
- 8 ounces shredded cheddar cheese, divided
- 10 (6-inch) corn tortillas, quartered, divided

### Instructions

- Preheat the oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit.

- Heat oil in a large skillet over high heat. Add the onion and bell peppers. Stir for 2 minutes, or until the vegetables are warmed through. Remove from heat.
- In a large bowl, mix the sauteed vegetables, cream of mushroom and chicken soups, diced tomatoes, chicken broth, sour cream, cumin, ancho chili powder, oregano, and chipotle chili powder until well-combined.
- Assemble the layers in a 9×13-inch baking dish, in the following order: A little bit of sauce, just to line the bottom of the dish, Chicken, Sauce, Cheese, Tortillas, Chicken, Sauce, Cheese, Tortillas, Sauce, and Cheese
- In total, there should be 3 layers of sauce (not including the bottom), 2 layers of chicken, 3 layers of cheese, and 2 layers of tortillas. Divide the measurements accordingly.
- Bake the casserole for 40 minutes, or until the cheese bubbles. Increase the temperature and broil the casserole until the top is golden, about 2-3 minutes.

## Super Crossword

### NBA PLAY

#### ACROSS

- 1 Relatives of pistachios  
8 Mail-related  
14 Baio and Turov  
20 Wife of Nero  
21 Fingers-in-ears syllables  
22 Headwear for Mr. Peanut  
23 Golden State hoopster who lives for Saturdays and Sundays?  
25 Existence  
26 Days of yore, archaically  
27 Ruling group  
28 Schlepped through the entrance  
30 Ballesteros of golf  
33 Groom, e.g.  
35 Exemplary Houston hoopster?  
38 San Antonio hoopster scaling a mountain?  
42 Suffix with lion  
43 Guy in the fam  
44 High peak  
45 Heavenly  
46 Health club  
49 Gyro bread  
49 Semi fuel

- 51 Cowardly Denver hoopster?  
55 “Mom” actress Jaime  
58 Start eating pollution  
59 Org. against pollution  
60 Redding of R&B  
61 Event for stunt pilots  
64 — -Z (total)  
65 Foot part  
68 Brooklyn hoopster using a rod and reel?  
71 Phoenix hoopster preparing a typeface for printing?  
74 Frau’s “Oh!”  
75 Girl in the fam  
76 Name originally proposed for Utah  
78 Gas guzzler  
79 Reindeer kin  
80 Notion, to Fifi  
81 Damsels  
84 Los Angeles hoopster originally from New England?  
90 Train in the pool  
92 All excited  
93 Mtn. stat

- 94 Tested for fit  
97 “— culpa!”  
98 “Stillmatic” rapper  
99 Footed vase  
101 Sacramento hoopster holding power?  
103 Eco-conscious Charlotte hoopster?  
107 Livy’s lang.  
108 Words in an analogy  
109 Some nobles’ domains  
110 Jamaican pop genre  
112 Baby wolf  
114 Justification  
116 Chicago hoopster devoid of spontaneity and emotion?  
122 Sock with diamond patterns  
123 “Seinfeld” character  
124 Shrunkn Asian lake  
125 Some vowel sounds  
126 Phrase structure  
127 Lower than

#### DOWN

- 1 Mooing beast  
2 High card

- 3 Fr. holy woman  
4 Olajuwon of the NBA  
5 Daredevil  
6 Power sources with spinning sails  
7 Tearful  
8 Strategize  
9 Rowers’ tools  
10 35mm camera inits.  
11 Alteration pro  
12 Not silently  
13 Huge  
14 Directs  
15 Buyable apartments  
16 Vision-related  
17 Have high aspirations  
18 Bit of ink art  
19 Pigpen  
24 Flying needs  
29 Collect bit by bit  
30 Cousin of a jack mackerel  
31 Oval-shaped  
32 Spiteful  
34 Even one  
35 Capital of Bavaria  
36 One-named Deco master  
37 Exactly  
39 Pollen eaters  
40 “Get ‘em, Spot!”

- 41 Syllable after “oom”  
46 Broiling bar  
47 Church seat  
48 Club  
50 Meeting period, informally  
52 Picked  
53 — pot (sinus-cleaning product)  
54 “Once — a time ...”  
56 Dillydallies  
57 Dark half of a Chinese circle  
60 Birds — feather  
62 News aggregation website  
63 Precipitous  
64 “— girl!”  
65 Giant waves  
66 Paid more than  
67 Musician Brian  
69 Capri, e.g.  
70 Adidas rival  
72 Pro —  
73 Celtic speaker  
77 Piece for seven  
79 Heart test, for short  
80 Ailing  
82 Apathetic response

- 83 Ding- —  
84 Light half of a Chinese circle  
85 Lab gelatin  
86 Horse feed holders  
87 Body of rules  
88 Verdi’s “— tu”  
89 Fix illegally  
91 Pudding starch  
95 China’s Zhou  
96 Day, in Peru  
99 Open, as a new rug  
100 Some French wines  
101 Make a new digital image of  
102 Dry dog food  
104 Class that’s a cinch  
105 “Blue” singer LeAnn  
106 Hockey great Cam  
110 Capital of Yemen  
111 Lego alternative  
113 — Bator  
114 Jogged, e.g.  
115 History unit  
117 Smack  
118 Taxi  
119 D.C.’s nation  
120 Tennis call  
121 “— di-dah!”

## Weather Totals

Jan. 27 - Feb. 3, 2026

### Nursery Bottom Parsons

#### Temperature

Max 33° F  
Min -10° F

#### Precipitation

Week 0.06"  
January 3.74"  
February 0.01"  
2026 3.75"

#### Snowfall

New Snow 1.5"  
Snow on ground 4"  
Winter Total 27"

U.S. Forest Service

## Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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# Obituaries

## Charles Daniel “Joe” Thompson

Charles Daniel “Joe” Thompson, age 71 years, a resident of Parsons, WV, departed this life Friday, January 30, 2026, at his home.

He was born Saturday, July 17, 1954, at Bangor, MA, a son of the late Henry Olin Thompson, Sr. and Carol Jean Foster Thompson. On February 22, 1982, at Parsons, WV, he was married to the former Marilyn Crites, who preceded him in death December 29, 2024.

Surviving are one brother, Foster Allen Thompson of Parsons; and several nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death are one brother, Henry Olin Thompson, Jr. and one sister, Patricia Ann Bright.

He was a graduate of Par-



sons High School with the class of 1974. Joe joined the United States Air Force and was stationed in Dover Delaware and Spang Germany. In 1987, he enlisted and worked in Advanced Culinary Arts with the United States Army. He was a military history enthusiast and enjoyed talking with people, telling

military stories. Joe was a very interesting and compassionate man, who will be missed.

The family received friends at the Lohr & Barb Funeral Home of Parsons on Thursday, February 5, 2026, from 10 AM until 12 Noon. Mr. Thompson was then moved to the Parsons City Cemetery for a graveside service, where the WV Army Honor Guard, and the Tucker County Veterans Assoc. conducted full military honors. The Reverend James Snyder officiated and interment followed. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is honored to be in charge of the arrangements for Charles Daniel “Joe” Thompson. Condolences may be expressed to the family at [www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com](http://www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com).

## Eldred Duane Bright

Eldred Duane Bright, a loved father, brother, grandfather and great grandfather, 91 passed peacefully from this life on Thursday, January 29, 2026.

Eldred, a longtime resident of Dry Fork, WV, was born on Tuesday, July 3, 1934. He was the son of the late Buddy Bright and Ruth Carr Bright. For 45 years, he was happily married to Shirley Ann Kyle Bright, who preceded him in death.

Left to cherish Eldred’s memory are five children, Susan Garcia and husband, Roberto, of Aurora, IL, Beverly Brown and husband, Porter, of St. Cloud, FL, Lois Smith and husband, Richard, of Newport News, VA, Michelle Draper and husband, Neal, of Yorktown, VA and Eldred “Kipp” Bright and wife, Julie, of Lindley, NY, a sister, Shirley Farrow of Pennsylvania, fourteen



grandchildren and nineteen great-grandchildren, several nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Besides his parents and wife, Eldred was preceded in death by a daughter, Lisa Ann Bright Eye, and a sister, Linda Helmick.

Eldred was an avid outdoorsman who loved hunting in the mountains and had a deep love for being from West Virginia. He enjoyed taking his grandchildren on four-wheeler rides, took pride in his

garden and was a loving pet owner throughout his life. Most of all, Eldred loved spending time with his family, sharing stories, watching football and enjoying good food. Eldred had been employed in maintenance for Guest Services at Camp Peary, VA. He was a former member of Brights Chapel Church.

Visitation was held at the Hostetler Funeral Home on Thursday, February 5, 2026, from 6pm to 8pm. Funeral services were held at the funeral home chapel on Friday, February 6, 2026, at 11am. Rev. James Snyder officiated, and interment followed at the Brights Chapel Cemetery at Dry Fork. The Hostetler Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements for Eldred Duane Bright. Send online condolences to the family at [www.hostetlerfuneralhome.com](http://www.hostetlerfuneralhome.com).

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Corridor H

A recent article about Corridor H appeared in the Tucker County Observer. The article was written by Robbie Morris, chairman of the Corridor H Highway Authority, a state entity created to oversee the development, promotion, and construction of Corridor H in West Virginia. His Observer article addressed the segment between Parsons and Davis. Morris's article warrants a response.

#### Splitting the towns of Davis and Thomas

Morris correctly stated that the WV Division of Highways (DOH) responded to public input and relocated the Davis interchange to near the current end of the 4-lane. Not acknowledged: the plan should never have had the interchange at Rt. 32; the change should not have been necessary: local citizens simply pointed that out.

Morris suggested that DOH mitigated the negative effects of splitting the two towns by having Corridor H pass under Rt. 32 as an underpass. Rt. 32 traffic exiting Corridor H would arrive via a feeder road from the new intersection. Citizens proposed moving the intersection east to eliminate years of construction disruption between Davis and Thomas. If DOH adds an underpass, it simply shifts the construction issues from an intersection to an underpass; construction will still be disruptive and will impact residents for years.

In the paragraph about moving the Davis intersection, Morris referenced access to the High School. He specifically responded to the issue of having to make left-hand turns to access the school, which he claimed DOH had remedied. This is not the issue citizens raised! The left-turn issue concerns Davis-Thomas Elementary Middle School.

#### Thomas Bypass

The Thomas Bypass was recently added to a drawing of the old ROPA (Revised Original Preferred Alignment) as “a possibility” to keep trucks off Thomas’ streetst; The ROPA itself contains no Thomas Bypass. The bypass has not been included on official drawings, although it was shown unofficially last fall. It was amended from its original depiction to route all Davis-traffic going north around Thomas. Downtown Thomas traffic will require a left-hand turn across traffic near the ballfield. One might envision a simple left-turn lane on the northbound roadway, but frequent winter fog and snow often

reduce visibility to near zero—a seriously unsafe condition. Will a stoplight be needed?

A similar dangerous condition exists at the bypass intersection on the north side of Thomas: should there be another traffic light? A major issue: Thomas does not want all traffic to bypass it; that would be totally destructive to local businesses. Thomas wants the ever-increasing number of through trucks off the main streets. Importantly, the bypass cost is not included in any project cost estimate. There has not been any assurance from DOH that the bypass will be built.

#### Bypass traffic scenario

Picture a truck coming from Moorefield, bound for Oakland. The truck exits the interstate at the newly located Davis interchange, takes a feeder road to Rt. 32, then turns right on Rt. 32 to proceed 0.7 miles to a stoplight (?) at the ballfield before turning right and taking the bypass around Thomas. No problem: The issues arise while traveling in the other direction.

A truck coming from Oakland bound for Moorefield will enter the bypass north of Thomas, then make a cross-traffic left turn before proceeding to the ballfield. It will then make a second left-hand cross-traffic turn before driving 0.7 miles to make a third cross-traffic left-hand turn to take the feeder road out to the Davis intersection. Another traffic light?

NOTE: ALL north and southbound Corridor H traffic will now be forced onto a 0.7-mile stretch of Rt. 32 between Davis and Thomas—requiring, for safety, potentially two traffic lights! There is a superior alternative: the Northern Route.

#### Bridges

Morris suggests that the historic coke ovens and Blackwater Canyon challenges can be addressed with a wide-span bridge, but the cost has not been shown. Local citizens are suggesting a route that doesn’t require such an expensive, single-arch, wide-span bridge over the Blackwater Canyon. DOH asserts that this bridge will not be visible or audible from the pristine environment of Blackwater Falls State Park, Lindy Point, or Douglas Falls; however, it will certainly be visible from many other tourist attractions. There is another route Corridor H can take—the Northern Route that removes all these concerns of extraordinary bridge cost, sight, and sound.

#### Cost and Inconvenience

## Robert Andrew Knotts

Robert Andrew Knotts, age 65 years, a native of Tucker County, WV and a resident of Staunton, VA departed this life Sunday, January 25, 2026, at the Princess Margaret Hospital, Nassau, Bahamas.

He was born Wednesday, August 10, 1960, at Parsons, WV, a son of the late Junior Ray Knotts and Cornell Elizabeth Gooding Knotts. On July 30, 1983, in Milton, WV at the Union Baptist Church, he was married to the former Jeannie Annette Godby, who survives. Robert regularly and repeatedly told Jeannie that she was the gift he had prayed for, and God had sent him.

Also surviving are one son, Anthony Joseph Valdez; three daughters, Alaina Knotts Roane and husband Michael, Tessa Lynette Quesenberry and husband Jared and Marla Knotts Snoddy and husband Chad; one brother, Tim Knotts; and nine grandchildren, Chase, Micayla, Carter, Sydney, Evelyn, Carolyn, Tucker, Cecelia and Lydia

Preceding him in death are one son, Curtis Andrew Knotts; one brother, Donald Knotts; and two sisters, Elizabeth Evans and Geraldine Auvil.

He was a graduate of Parsons High School with the class of 1978. He was a Veteran of the United States Army from 1978-1982 and US Army Reserves from 1982-1986 and US National Guard



from 1986-1990. He was a former employee of Dominion Energy, where he retired after working for thirty-six years. Robert was an active member of Memorial Baptist Church where he served as deacon and greeter. He also participated in many mission trips and volunteer opportunities in his community and beyond. Robert was often found working diligently in the background, preferring to remain behind the scenes. Robert looked forward to turkey and deer hunting and helping on the family farm back home in Sugarlands, WV. He loved this time of connection with family and friends. He enjoyed sharing his craft of apple butter and salsa making with others. Robert and Jeannie enjoyed traveling together and were blessed to take several “trips of a lifetime,” including to the Grand Canyon, Europe, and Israel. They also spent many weekends camping with their family. He was a world-renowned s’mores maker. Robert loved the Lord and sought His audience every morn-

ing. He started his day on his knees in prayer, praying faithfully for his family, friends and all those around him. He studied his Bible daily, meditating on Scripture and studying the commentary. Robert’s heartfelt desire would be for anyone learning of his passing to hear the message of God’s love for each of us and desire to be in relationship with Him.

The family will receive friends at the First Baptist Church in Parsons, WV on Monday, February 9, 2026, from 4 PM to 7 PM. On Tuesday Morning, February 10, 2026, friends may call from 9 AM until 11 AM the funeral hour. Pastor Cecil Hines, The Reverend Mike Winters, and the Rev. Todd Godby will officiate and interment will follow at the Parsons City Cemetery at Parsons, WV where full military honors will be provided by the WV National Guard Honor Guard Program and the Tucker County Veterans Association. There will be a Celebration of Life at the Memorial Baptist Church, 224 Taylor Street, Staunton, VA 24401 on Saturday, February 21, 2026 at 11:00 AM. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is honored to be in charge of the arrangements for Robert Andrew Knotts. Condolences may be expressed to the family at [www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com](http://www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com).

## Andrew Adam Cale

Andrew Adam Cale, 21 years, a resident of Moore, WV, departed this life Friday, January 30, 2026, at his home. Death was sudden and unexpected.

He was born Tuesday, March 23, 2004, at Elkins, WV, a son of Jerry Dale Cale and Jacqueline Gail “Jackie” Mullenax Cale, who survives at St. George, WV.

Surviving are his girlfriend, Emma JoLee Hebb of Moore; one sister, Lesley Nicole Cale; six brothers, Wesley Scott Cale, Jr. and wife Alicia, Zachary Robert Cale, Aaron Carl Cale and wife Kelly, Brandon Michael Cale and wife Tara, Austin Cole Clark and Mason Joshua Corbitt; maternal grandfather, Donnie Mick and Dawn and Chuck Schadewald. Andrew recently reconciled with his biological



mother, Brandi Lynne Corbitt, who survives.

He played football in his younger years and was a member of the 4-H. He attended Tucker County High School and finished his diploma with Penn Foster in 2025. He had previously worked for Warren Judy Construction, Oakland Walmart and recently was employed at Hinchcliff Lumber Co. Andrew enjoyed playing his PS5 and reading his bible. He

was an avid outdoorsman and a natural explorer who enjoyed hunting, fishing, traveling and hiking with Emma. Andrew loved his animals dearly and would often volunteer at the animal shelter. He was very kind and compassionate and will be missed immensely.

The family received friends at the Lohr & Barb Funeral Home of Parsons, WV on Friday, February 6, 2026, from 3 PM until 5 PM, at which time a Celebration of Life was held. Reverend Kevin Arbogast officiated. Cremation followed.

The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is honored to be in charge of the arrangements for Andrew Adam Cale. Condolences may be expressed to the family at; [www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com](http://www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com).

The ROPA from many years ago is purportedly “less expensive.” One has to ask: less expensive than what? The only ROPA price we have seen does not include the new Davis interchange and feeder road, nor does it include the Rt. 32 underpass; it does not include the Thomas bypass; it does not include the newly designed wide-span bridge over the Blackwater Canyon. What is the ROPA cost when these additional costs are included? I suggest the Northern Route will be less expensive and completed sooner, with significantly less impact on local communities..

How about we factor in the inconvenience and disruption of constructing an underpass near the landfill? And the forever inconvenience of many more trucks and much more traffic that will be present on the local road, Rt. 32 between Davis and the ballfield’s Thomas bypass traffic light.

#### Suggested “Northern Route” concept—considering only traffic flow

The more reasonable plan is for Corridor H to veer right, toward the north, near the current end of the 4-lane, connecting with Rt. 219 on the north side of Thomas. Corridor H then continues across the north fork of the Blackwater, on a much simpler, less expensive bridge. The road then connects with the ROPA route near Douglass. There is no longer a need for an additional Thomas bypass; this road will serve as the Thomas bypass! Zero additional truck traffic is routed onto Rt. 32 between Davis and Thomas.

#### Current ROPA design—traffic flow pattern

As planned per the ROPA underpass modification, Corridor H will continue along its current path past the Davis inter-

section and pass under Rt 32 near the landfill. All local traffic will exit at the Davis intersection and take a feeder road to Rt. 32. Trucks, in fact, all vehicles going to Oakland will pass through Thomas.

#### Issues

There will be challenges with the Northern Route, of course. Concerns have been raised about the Thomas watershed, but DOH is mandated to mitigate any water issues; highways are built over watersheds worldwide. As an added benefit, this project should ameliorate the known challenges with Thomas’s current water supply system. Some properties may need to be displaced. This happens in all construction projects.

A Northern Route is not new: DOH has shown a Northern Route concept drawing with an alignment that connects to the original ROPA, but, as described above, notably bypasses Davis and the Blackwater Canyon.

A new issue is the prospect of a power plant/data center that will partially sit on land where the Northern Route passes from the Davis to the Thomas intersections. For many reasons, opponents of the power plant location want the power plant moved further east, out Rt. 48. Moving the power plant less than a mile from its proposed location would facilitate construction of the Northern Route. As an added bonus, construction and power plant traffic will stay off Rt. 32.

Many sources indicate that the Northern Route is the locally preferred alternative. DOH has promised new information this month, February 2026. We look forward to what they share.

William Peterson  
Davis, WV



HISTORY

the nation’s 18th president.

**Feb. 14, 1968:** Former Governor W. W. “Wally” Barron (1961-65) and several close associates were indicted for public corruption. Barron was acquitted, but all of his co-defendants were convicted. Barron later served prison time for jury tampering in the initial trial.

**Feb. 15, 1898:** Musician John Homer “Uncle Homer” Walker was born in Mercer County. Among the last in a tradition of Black Appalachian banjo players, he played the five-string banjo in the claw-hammer style.

**Feb. 15, 1930:** Sara Jane Moore was born in Charleston. On Sept. 22, 1975, Moore attempted to assassinate President Gerald Ford in San Francisco.

**Feb. 15, 1975:** Elizabeth Kee, the state’s first female member of Congress, died in

Bluefield. Kee was elected to Congress in 1951 after the death of her husband, John. She retired in 1965 and was succeeded by her son, James.

**Feb. 15, 2011:** The Lady Bobcats of Summers County High School won their 89th consecutive game, setting a state basketball record for girls or boys. They went on to win 105 straight.

**Feb. 16, 1821:** Morris Harvey was born near Prosperity in Raleigh County. Harvey’s gifts to the Barboursville Seminary led to its name being changed to Morris Harvey College in 1901. The institution is now known as the University of Charleston.

**Feb. 16, 1917:** The legislature established the West Virginia State Colored Tuberculosis Sanitarium for the care of Black patients. It was built at Denmar in Pocahontas County.

West Virginia Department of Human Services Announces closure of LIEAP Application Period

Charleston, W.Va. – The West Virginia Department of Human Services (DoHS) announced today that it will stop accepting applications for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) at the close of business on Monday, February 9, 2026, due to the exhaustion of regular LIEAP funding.

All applications submitted through the PATH portal by February 9, 2026, as well as mailed applications postmarked on or before that date, will continue to be accepted and processed.

For further assistance or questions, please contact your local DoHS office, or call the Office of Constituent Services’ Client Services Unit at 1-800-642-8589,

or email [osaclientservices@wv.gov](mailto:osaclientservices@wv.gov).

The West Virginia Department of Human Services (DoHS) provides a wide range of necessary and life-saving services to many West Virginia residents. DoHS includes the Bureau for Social Services, Bureau for Medical Services, Bureau for Child Support Enforcement, Bureau for Family Assistance, Bureau for Behavioral Health, Office of Drug Control Policy, Commission to Study Residential Placement of Children, Family Protection Services Board, Catastrophic Illness Commission, and the WV Women's Commission.

For more information, visit [dohs.wv.gov](https://dohs.wv.gov).

Winter Storm Update: DoHS Extends Reporting Deadline for SNAP Food Loss Replacement

Charleston, W.Va. - The West Virginia Department of Human Services (DoHS) today announced it has received approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to extend the 10-day reporting period for the loss of food purchased with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. This temporary policy applies in all 55 counties.

The extension applies to current SNAP recipients who lost food as a result of the severe winter storm system Fern, which began impacting West Virginia on January 25, 2026. The storm caused widespread power outages, hazardous travel conditions, and communication disruptions across the state. Local DoHS offices in all 55 counties were closed for at least two business days during the height of the event.

For households receiving SNAP benefits in any county, the reporting deadline has been extended through February 14, 2026, giving families additional time to request replacement benefits.

Households may qualify for replace-

ment benefits if they:

- Are West Virginia residents;
- Currently receive SNAP benefits;
- Lost food due to a power outage lasting more than four hours; and
- Submit a signed affidavit.

To request replacement benefits or obtain additional information, contact your local DoHS county office or call the Office of Constituent Services’ Customer Service Hotline at 1-877-716-1212.

The West Virginia Department of Human Services (DoHS) provides a wide range of necessary and life-saving services to many West Virginia residents. DoHS includes the Bureau for Social Services, Bureau for Medical Services, Bureau for Child Support Enforcement, Bureau for Family Assistance, Bureau for Behavioral Health, Office of Drug Control Policy, Commission to Study Residential Placement of Children, Family Protection Services Board, Catastrophic Illness Commission, and the WV Women's Commission.

For more information, visit [dohs.wv.gov](https://dohs.wv.gov).

CONSUMER ALERT: Attorney General McCuskey warns consumers about tax scams

Charleston, W.Va. — Tax season is here and if you are getting a refund, scammers could be trying to steal it before you can claim it. That is why West Virginia Attorney General JB McCuskey is warning consumers to be wary of emails or texts promising a tax refund. If you get a text or email about a “tax refund” – especially one that asks you to click a link – know that it is a scam designed to steal your personal identity, your actual tax refund or both.

Texting and email are essential communication tools. Unfortunately, they are also used by scammers to target potential victims. “Tax refund” scams are emails or texts that appear to be from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) or a state tax office and claim that they’ve “processed” or “approved” your tax refund. They tell you to “verify your identity” to receive the money and ask you to click a link to enter personal identifiable information such as your Social Security number and bank account number. This is a phishing scam designed to trick you into giving scammers your personal and financial information.

*If you get a message like this:*

- **Know that the IRS and state tax offices do not reach out by text, email or by social media to confirm your information.**
- **Do not respond or click any links.** To check on the status of a pending tax refund, visit [USA.gov](https://USA.gov) to learn how to find out if you are really getting a federal or state tax refund.
- **Report and delete the message then block the number or email address.** Use your phone’s “report junk” option or forward unsolicited texts to 7726 (SPAM) and mark unwanted emails as junk or spam. Delete the message once you have reported it.

There are signs that indicate an email or text is fake. Consumers can follow these tips to avoid becoming a victim.

*Look for:*

- Emails that do not include a name, telephone number, or other verifiable contact information.
- Claims that there is a problem with your payment information or account.
- Incorrect or unusual grammar.

**Feb. 16, 1951:** Second Lieutenant Darwin Keith Kyle of Boone County died during an intense exchange against Chinese forces in Korea. He was awarded the Medal of Honor.

**Feb. 17, 1735:** Morgan Morgan of present-day Berkeley County was commissioned a captain of militia in the 201st Field Artillery, which is considered the oldest military unit in the United States.

**Feb. 17, 1930:** Tunney Hunsaker was born in Kentucky and later became Fay-

etteville’s long-time chief of police. He was also a boxer and, in 1960, lost to a young Muhammad Ali (then known as Cassius Clay) in Ali’s first professional bout.

*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](http://www.wvencyclopedia.org).*

Small Game Hunting, Trapping Seasons Close Feb. 28 WVDNR reminds trappers to electronically check their catches within 30 days of season closing



Charleston, W.Va. — The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) is reminding hunters and trappers that seasons for several small game and fur-bearing species are set to close on Feb. 28.

Hunting seasons closing at the end of the month include squirrels, ruffed grouse, cottontail rabbit, snowshoe hare, raccoon, red and gray fox and bobcat. Trapping seasons that will close include raccoon, red and gray fox, bobcat, mink, muskrat, otter, skunk, opossum, coyote and weasel.

Trappers who harvest a beaver, bobcat, fisher or otter must electronically check their catches within 30 days after the close of their respective seasons. A WVDNR-issued game check confirmation number must be recorded in writing with the trapper’s name and address and stay attached to each pelt or whole animal until sold, tanned, processed into commercial fur or mounted. Trappers must also obtain a Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) seal for each bobcat and otter pelt they plan to sell out of state. All bobcat and/or otter pelts being

sold by licensed fur dealers must have a CITES seal from the state where the animal was harvested before being sold on the international market. CITES seals may be obtained from the Elkins Operations Center or a local WVDNR district office.

The WVDNR is also reminding trappers about its otter research project. Trappers who harvest a radio-tagged otter should report the tag number and return the transmitter to the District 4 office in Beckley. Trappers who deliver a legally harvested and electronically registered skinned otter carcass to a WVDNR district office will be eligible to receive a \$20 gift card. More information about the project can be found on page 5 of the West Virginia Hunting and Trapping Regulations Summary.

Hunters and trappers 15 and older are required to have a valid West Virginia hunting license and form of identification while hunting. To purchase a hunting and trapping license, visit [WVhunt.com](http://WVhunt.com). For more information about small game and furbearer season dates and limits, visit [WVDnr.gov/hunting-seasons](http://WVDnr.gov/hunting-seasons).

Mountaintop Health Center Hosts First-Ever Blood Drive Despite Winter Weather

Thomas, W.Va. — Mountaintop Health Center and Pharmacy, part of Preston-Taylor Community Health Centers (PTCHC), successfully hosted it’s first-ever blood drive on January 27, 2025, in partnership with the American Red Cross. Despite unfavorable weather conditions, more than 25 community members turned out to donate blood.

Brittany Carr, the event organizer and a pharmacy technician at Preston Taylor Pharmacy in Thomas, said she was encouraged by the strong community response.

“I was pleasantly surprised at the turnout,” Carr said. “We even had a few walk-ins for the event.”

Carr emphasized that hosting events like the blood drive aligns with PTCHC’s mission to serve local residents.

“As part of Preston-Taylor Community Health Centers, we are committed to providing accessible events such as this one to the folks in our community,” she said.

Donors expressed gratitude for the opportunity to give back close to home. One donator said she felt compelled to

participate.

“I wanted to do my part in this time of need,” she said, adding that the location was “convenient to be so close to home.”

Preston Taylor Community Health Centers/Mountaintop Health Center and Pharmacy would like to thank the Davis Volunteer Fire Department for allowing us to use their space for this event.

Community members interested in participating in future blood drives can contact Mountaintop Health Center at (304) 463-3331 or Mountaintop Pharmacy at (304) 463-4200. The next blood drive is scheduled for July 31, 2026 from 12:00-5:00 PM at the Davis Volunteer Fire Department.

Preston-Taylor Community Health Centers (PTCHC) is a multi-county primary care health network serving Preston, Taylor, Tucker, and Grant counties. Its mission is to provide quality, comprehensive primary healthcare services to all residents of its service area, regardless of their ability to pay, through culturally sensitive care tailored to community needs.

- Requests for you to verify your personal or payment information.
  - Unusual email addresses or URL structures. The URL is the address of the website found at the top of your web browser, for example, <https://www.wvago.gov>. Examine the URL of the website you are visiting and look for misspellings, for example, <https://www.yourbonk.com> instead of <https://www.yourbank.com>.
  - URLs that begin with what looks like a legitimate website but have unusual spelling or extra characters at the end. Example: <https://www.yourbank.com.ir123g!m>.
- If you receive a text or email with any of these characteristics, it’s a scam.
- Anyone who believes they have been the victim of a scam should contact the Attorney General’s Consumer Protection Division at 800-368-8808 or visit the office online at [ago.wv.gov](http://ago.wv.gov).



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Valentine's Day Sale

Hugs and Kisses Bouquet

Whether for your significant other or your sister, aunt, or grandmother, this delightful floral gift is a sweet way to say "I love you." Sweet price, too.

The charming bouquet includes: white daisy spray chrysanthemums, pink carnations, red miniature carnations, red roses accented with fresh greenery.

SKU # TIIZ100C

Reg. Price: \$64.99

Your Price: \$51.99

Call 1-877-798-0107

to place your order

Use Promo Code MDVD092 to get 20% off

Promo code is only valid for phone orders.

Product availability varies by market and minimum order values may apply. A shipping fee of \$20.99 is applied to U.S. orders; additional fees may apply for same-day delivery.



# Happy Anniversary



Kenneth and Agnes Poling celebrated their 70th Wedding Anniversary on Feb. 3, 2026.

THE HEARTBEAT

OF OUR

Community.



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LOCAL PEOPLE.

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We don't just report the news; we live it alongside you. By sharing local stories told by local people, we create the local connections that turn a zip code into a home. When you read *The Parsons Advocate*, you aren't just staying informed—you're keeping our community's heart beating strong.



In print and online, your community's stories live here.

# West Virginia Department of Human Services Reports Statewide Progress in Child Abuse Prevention Efforts

Charleston, W.Va. – Through community-based prevention services now available in all 55 counties, the West Virginia Department of Human Services (DoHS) is reporting measurable progress in strengthening families and reducing risk factors associated with child abuse and neglect.

“Prevention is one of the most effective tools we have to protect children,” said Alex Mayer, Cabinet Secretary of the West Virginia Department of Human Services. “When families have access to support before a crisis occurs, outcomes improve for children, caregivers, and communities. These efforts reflect our commitment to using public resources responsibly while prioritizing child safety and family stability.”

Through targeted investments supported by federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) funding, DoHS-supported prevention programs, including the

statewide Family Support Center network, provide families with voluntary, early support designed to promote stability, resilience, and child well-being.

CBCAP funding is administered by DoHS’ Bureau for Family Assistance to support Family Support Centers, In-Home Family Education, and Partners in Prevention. Together, these initiatives strengthen parenting skills, increase social connections, and address challenges early, reducing the likelihood that family needs escalate to Child Protective Services involvement.

During fiscal year 2025, the West Virginia Family Survey collected responses from 4,916 families statewide. The results demonstrated that parents are becoming more knowledgeable and engaged with improvements recognized in four of the five nationally recognized protective factors associated with child abuse prevention, including family functioning and resilience, nurturing and attachment, social sup-

port, and caregiver engagement with service providers. The social support protective factor increased by 13.2 percent compared with the previous fiscal year, while family functioning and resilience also showed measurable gains.

DoHS attributes these outcomes to a community-first approach that blends TANF and CBCAP funding with state appropriations and private investment to deliver locally driven services. Among the services provided include economic stability coaching through mobility mentoring, evidence-based parenting education, child development activities for all age groups, and limited assistance with essential needs such as food access and other community-specific resources.

“These programs are an integral part of our work to support West Virginia families,” said Janie Cole, DoHS Bureau for Family Assistance Commissioner. “By offering early, voluntary support, we are helping families build skills, confidence, and stability while ensuring children remain safe and connected to their families and communities.”

The West Virginia Department of Human Services (DoHS) provides a wide range of necessary and life-saving services to many West Virginia residents. DoHS includes the Bureau for Social Services, Bureau for Medical Services, Bureau for Child Support Enforcement, Bureau for Family Assistance, Bureau for Behavioral Health, Office of Drug Control Policy, Commission to Study Residential Placement of Children, Family Protection Services Board, Catastrophic Illness Commission, and the WV Women's Commission.

For more information, visit [dohs.wv.gov](https://dohs.wv.gov).

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LEGAL

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

Deceased	Personal Representative(s)
Robert W Freeman	Heather M Clower
1st publication 02/04/26	272 Hickory Orchard Rd
2nd publication 02/11/26	Parsons, WV 26287
Ann Kathleen Brobst	Edward Brobst
1st publication 02/04/26	147 Poplar Street
2nd publication 02/11/26	Parsons, WV 26287

Claims against any estate must be filed within sixty days of the date of first publication. Any person seeking to impeach or establish a will must make a complaint to the Tucker County Commission, Tucker County Clerk, 211 First St., Suite 205, Parsons, WV. Any person objecting to the qualifications of the personal representative or the venue or jurisdiction of the court must be filed with County Commission within sixty days after the date of first publication or thirty days of service of the notice, whichever is later.

ATTEST: Barbara Evans, TUCKER COUNTY CLERK

LEGAL

WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
NOTICE OF FILING

Application of **Constellation NewEnergy - Gas Division, LLC** for Approval to Offer, Render, Furnish or Supply Natural Gas Supply Services to the public in West Virginia in case No. 25-0905-G-EFPP.

Constellation **NewEnergy - Gas Division, LLC** has filed an application with the West Virginia Public Service Commission (“PSC”) for participation in an Enhanced Firm Pooling Program to provide natural gas supply services as a supplier or aggregator of natural gas services. Constellation NewEnergy - Gas division, LLC, proposes top sell natural gas and related services to all counties in West Virginia.

The PSC may consider this application without a hearing. Protests directed to the technical or financial fitness of **Constellation NewEnergy - Gas division, LLC** may be filed within 15 days of the date of this notice with the Executive Secretary of the PSC, 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, WV 25301. Please include the Case No. listed above on the protest.

Additionally, please send copies of any protest to **Constellation NewEnergy - Gas Division, LLC** attorney at the address listed below.

Austin D. Rogers  
Babst Calland Clements & Zomnir, P.C  
300 Summers Street, Suite 1000  
Charleston, West Virginia 25301  
(681) 205-8888  
(681) 205-8814 facsimile  
arogers@babstcalland.com

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF TUCKER COUNTY,  
WEST VIRGINIA

PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE OF A MINOR:  
FROM Lilly Beth Henline

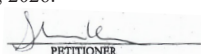
TO THE NAME OF Lilly Beth Keller  
Shana Keller, PETITIONER

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Notice is hereby given that on the 27th day of February, 2026, at the hour of 9:30 AM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, the undersigned Petitioner will apply to the Circuit Court of Tucker County, County Courthouse, Parsons, West Virginia, for the entry of an order by said court to change the name of the minor child from Lilly Beth Henline to the name of Lilly Beth Keller.

Any party objecting to the change of name who can show good cause as to why the name should not be changed may appear at said time and place.

Given this the 23rd day of January, 2026.

  
PETITIONER

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

Deceased	Personal Representative(s)
Dennis Gene Shoemaker	Diana Shoemaker
1st publication 02/11/26	320 S Euclid Ave
2nd publication 02/18/26	Thomas, WV 26292

Claims against any estate must be filed within sixty days of the date of first publication. Any person seeking to impeach or establish a will must make a complaint to the Tucker County Commission, Tucker County Clerk, 211 First St., Suite 205, Parsons, WV. Any person objecting to the qualifications of the personal representative or the venue or jurisdiction of the court must be filed with County Commission within sixty days after the date of first publication or thirty days of service of the notice, whichever is later.

ATTEST: Barbara Evans, TUCKER COUNTY CLERK

LEGAL

The **Region VI Workforce Development Board (RVI WDB)** is issuing a **Request for Proposal (RFP)** for the provision of **Assessment and Case Management** for Adults, Dislocated Workers, and employers in the thirteen-county area of Region VI.

Beginning February 2, 2026, interested organizations can contact the RVI WDB at (304)-368-9530 to obtain a copy of the RFP, OR a copy of the RFP can be downloaded from the RVI WDB website at [www.region-vi-wv.org](http://www.region-vi-wv.org). On the home page, click on About-Requests for Proposals.

The period of service provision is from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, with the possibility of a renewal contract negotiated for an additional two years, based on yearly performance and cost effectiveness. All parties interested in submitting proposals in response to this RFP **MUST** attend a Technical Assistance conference to be held at 2:00 p.m. on February 13, 2026, at the Region VI Workforce Development Board offices at 17 Middletown Road, White Hall. Further information on the Technical Assistance conference is included in the RFP.

The proposal in response to this RFP is due by 4:00 p.m. on March 3, 2026, and must be received by post or by hand delivery in to the RVI WDB offices located at 17 Middletown Road, White Hall, WV, 26554. Fax or email submissions will not be accepted. Refer to the RFP for the complete details on the process for the submission of a proposal. The RVI WDB reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals submitted.

For more information, contact Amy Hall at the Region VI WDB office at 304-368-9530.

Projects and programs provided by Region VI WDB are 100% funded with Federal WIOA funding by the U.S. Department of Labor through grant awards totaling \$2,462,559. No funding is being received from non-governmental sources for projects and programs provided by Region VI WDB at this time. Equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. WV Relay 7-1-1



DEADLINE 3PM FRIDAY

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF TUCKER COUNTY,  
WEST VIRGINIA

PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE OF A MINOR:  
FROM Lucas Andrew Henline

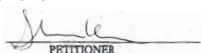
TO THE NAME OF Lucas Andrew Keller  
Shana Keller, PETITIONER

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Notice is hereby given that on the 27th day of February, 2026, at the hour of 9:30 AM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, the undersigned Petitioner will apply to the Circuit Court of Tucker County, County Courthouse, Parsons, West Virginia, for the entry of an order by said court to change the name of the minor child from Lucas Andrew Henline to the name of Lucas Andrew Keller.

Any party objecting to the change of name who can show good cause as to why the name should not be changed may appear at said time and place.

Given this the 23rd day of January, 2026.

  
PETITIONER

LEGAL

The **Region VI Workforce Development Board (RVI WDB)** is issuing a **Request for Proposal (RFP)** for the provision of a **program of activities and services for Out-of-School Youth** in the thirteen-county area of Region VI.

Beginning February 2, 2026, interested organizations should contact the RVI WDB at (304)-368-9530 to obtain a copy of the Request For Proposal (RFP), OR a copy of the RFP can be downloaded from the RVI WDB website at [www.regionviwv.org](http://www.regionviwv.org). On the home page, click on About-Requests for Proposals.

The period of service provision is from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, with the possibility of a renewal contract negotiated for an additional two years, based on yearly performance and cost effectiveness. All parties interested in submitting proposals in response to this RFP **MUST** attend a Technical Assistance conference to be held at 1:00 p.m. on February 13, 2026, at the Region VI Workforce Development Board offices at 17 Middletown Road, White Hall. Further information on the Technical Assistance conference is included in the RFP.

The proposal in response to this RFP is due by 4:00 p.m. on March 3, 2026, and must be received by post or by hand delivery in to the RVI WDB offices located at 17 Middletown Road, White Hall, WV, 26554. Fax or email submissions will not be accepted. Refer to the RFP for the complete details on the process for the submission of a proposal. The RVI WDB reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals submitted.

For more information, contact Amy Hall at the Region VI WDB office at 304-368-9530.

Projects and programs provided by Region VI WDB are 100% funded with Federal WIOA funding by the U.S. Department of Labor through grant awards totaling \$2,462,559. No funding is being received from non-governmental sources for projects and programs provided by Region VI WDB at this time. Equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. WV Relay 7-1-1

LEGAL

(2023-C-000017 - TUCKER COUNTY - ROSCOE C BEALL, III)

To: KUYKENDALL ANNA R HEIRS, KUYKENDALL ANNA R HEIRS, 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 DRY FORK MAP 9999 PARCEL 0050 0480 0000**

You will take notice that ROSCOE C BEALL, III, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2023-C-000017**, located in DRY FORK District, 1/2 M-446, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of KUYKENDALL ANNA R HEIRS C/O JOHN T, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of TUCKER County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on June 14, 2024. ROSCOE C BEALL, III requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after May 1, 2026, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before April 30, 2026 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 2022 - 5477.	\$ 147.06
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 2023 - 5525.	\$ 13.44
Additional taxes with interest.	\$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$ 114.50
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$ 414.37
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$ 498.10
Total Amount Due and Payable to <b>WV State Auditor</b> - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$ <b>1,187.47</b>

**You may redeem at any time before April 30, 2026, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.**

*If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.*

Given under my hand February 2, 2026

**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

ADVERTISEMENT MR-34-BR

Notice is hereby given that METTIKI COAL (WV), LLC, 1146 MONARCH ST, STE 350, LEXINGTON, KY 40513 has submitted an application for the **reissuance** of Article 11/WVNPDES Permit Number WV1018027 to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), 47 School Street, Suite 301, Philippi, WV 26416-1150 in order to maintain, monitor, and operate a loadout facility, haulroad, bathhouse/sewage, coal handling system, coal loading facility, and Article 3 underground “E” deep mine (U-2001-04) in the Upper Freeport seam/mineral bed.

The operation will discharge treated storm water into Laurel Run and UNT of Stony River and UNTs of Difficult Creek and Difficult Creek, Little Buffalo Creek and McGinniss Run and UNT of Buffalo Creek, Red Oak Creek, UNT of Elk Run, Elk Run and UNT of North Branch of Potomac River, all of the North Branch of the Potomac River as well as Hawkins Run and UNTs of Beaver Creek and Beaver Creek of Blackwater River of Black Fork River of Cheat River and is located 6 miles southwest of Bayard, in David and Union District(s) of Tucker and Grant counties, Longitude 79° 22' 54" and Latitude 39° 11' 14" (Coordinates from USGS Topographic Map).

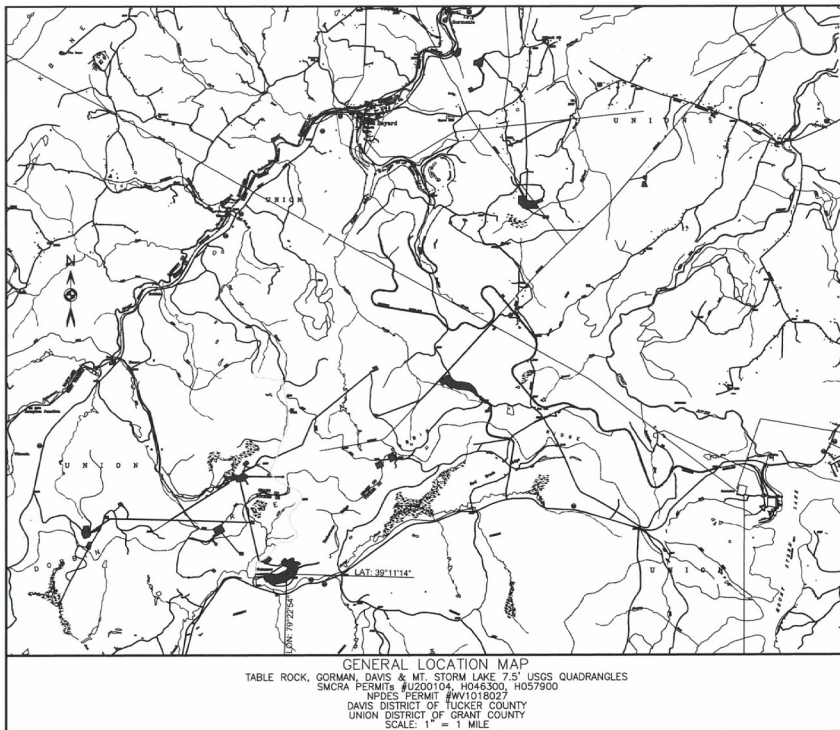
The Department of Environmental Protection is seeking information on private surface water intakes for human consumption located in the above listed receiving streams and located down stream of this operation. Please provide your name, phone number, mailing address, the name of the stream being with the intake, and the physical location of the intake. This information needs to be submitted to the address above.

An anti-degradation review has been conducted. Tier 1 protection is afforded because effluent limitations ensure compliance with water quality criteria for all designated uses. Where applicable, a full Tier 2 anti-degradation review has been conducted.

Comments on the Article 11 WV/NPDES application or requests for a public hearing regarding the Article 11/NPDES application shall be in writing and if a public hearing is requested shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. Such written comments or requests should be sent to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) at the address above and must also reference the Article 11/NPDES permit number shown above. Comments received by 3/10/26, or thirty (30) days from date of publication, will be considered. A copy of the Article 11/WVNPDES application, draft permit, rational page, and fact sheet (if required) will be available for inspection and obtaining copies during normal business hours at the DEP Regional Office located at the address above.

DEP Telephone No. 304-457-3219

Article 11/NPDES Permit No. WV1018027



Tariff Form No. 8

(RULE 23)

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CHANGE IN RATES WITH PROPOSED EFFECTIVE RATE

NOTICE is hereby given that Mountaineer Gas Company (Mountaineer), a public utility, has filed with the PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA, a tariff containing increased rates, tolls and charges for furnishing natural gas service to approximately 218,000 customers in Barbour, Berkeley, Boone, Braxton, Brooke, Cabell, Calhoun, Clay, Doddridge, Fayette, Gilmer, Grant, Greenbrier, Hancock, Hardy, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Kanawha, Lewis, Lincoln, Logan, Marion, Marshall, Mason, McDowell, Mercer, Mineral, Mingo, Monongalia, Monroe, Morgan, Nicholas, Ohio, Pendleton, Preston, Putnam, Raleigh, Randolph, Ritchie, Roane, Summers, Tucker, Tyler, Upshur, Wayne, Wetzel, Wirt, Wood, and Wyoming Counties in West Virginia.

The proposed increased rates and charges will become effective Thursday, March 5, 2026, unless otherwise ordered by the Public Service Commission, and will produce, on a total Company basis, \$26,793,000 annually in additional revenues, or an overall average increase in revenues of approximately 8.44%. The \$26,793,000 consists of an increase in base rates of \$43,764,000 and a decrease in the Company's Infrastructure Replacement and Expansion Program ("IREP") of \$16,971,000. The average monthly bill for the various classes of customers will be changed as follows:

	(\$) INCREASE	(%) INCREASE
Residential	\$ 9.63	% 10.57
Commercial	\$ 14.23	% 4.09
Large Commercial	\$ 1,058.29	% 1.31
Industrial	\$ 378.26	% 1.69
Resale	\$ 125.36	% 1.31
Other	\$ -	% -

This increase incorporates the rate impact of the cumulative investment under the IREP that was placed into service as of September 30, 2025. As a result, the Company proposes to reduce the IREP component of its rates relating to that investment when the new base rates go into effect.

Resale customers of Mountaineer Gas Company include Canaan Valley Gas Company, Cardinal Natural Gas Company, Hope Gas, Inc., Megan Oil and Gas Company, Inc., and City of Philippi.

The increases shown are based on averages of all customers in the indicated class. Individual customers may receive increases that are greater or less than average. Furthermore, the requested rates and charges are only a proposal and are subject to change (increases or decreases) by the Public Service Commission in its review of this filing. Any increase in rates and charges will not become effective until authorized and approved by the Public Service Commission. (If a hearing is scheduled, notice will be given of the time and place of hearing.) Anyone desiring to intervene and act as a party in the case should file on or before May 5, 2026, a Petition to Intervene complying with the Commission rules on intervention in the *Rules of Practice and Procedure*, 150 C.S.R. 1, unless otherwise modified by Commission order. The Commission may establish a final deadline for intervention. Failure to timely protest or intervene can affect your rights to protest any rate increases or to participate in future proceedings. Anyone desiring to protest should file a written protest as soon as possible, although protests will be accepted by the Commission through the pendency of this proceeding. All protests or requests to intervene should briefly state the reason for the protest or intervention. Requests to intervene must comply with the Commission's rules on intervention. All interventions may be mailed and addressed to Karen Buckley, Executive Secretary, Public Service Commission of West Virginia, P.O. Box 812, Charleston West Virginia 25323 or using the hand-delivered. Protests may be filed online through the Commission website ([www.psc.state.wv.us](http://www.psc.state.wv.us)) may be "Submit a Comment" link may be mailed to the Executive Secretary at the same address as above.

A complete copy of the Company's tariff proposals and a representative of the Company to provide information concerning this tariff are available to all customers, prospective customers or their agents at the following office of the Company:

501 56th Street SE, Charleston, WV 25304

A copy of this tariff is also available for public inspection at the office of the Executive Secretary of the Public Service Commission at 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia 25301.



# French Creek Freddie Predicts More Winter for West Virginia

## Gov. Morrisey helps reveal prediction and announces Wildlife Center loop trail as a Mountaineer Mile



French Creek, W.Va. — The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) today announced that French Creek Freddie, the state’s official weather-predicting groundhog, predicted six more weeks of winter during the annual Groundhog Day celebration at the West Virginia State Wildlife Center in Upshur County, with Gov. Patrick Morrisey helping lead the ceremony and share Freddie’s forecast with the public.

During the annual event, which was attended by 150 visitors from across the state, Gov. Morrisey joined WVDNR officials as Freddie emerged from his burrow



and saw his shadow under clear skies, signaling that winter will continue.

“Groundhog Day with French Creek Freddie is one of West Virginia’s most beloved traditions and a fun way to bring families and communities together,” said WVDNR Director Brett McMillion. “Even if winter is sticking around, the Wildlife Center remains a great place to visit year-round and learn about West Virginia’s wildlife and the conservation efforts that protect our natural resources.”

According to folklore, if a groundhog sees its shadow, six more weeks of winter can be expected. However, if a groundhog doesn’t see its shadow, spring will come early. Over the past four decades, about 50 percent of Freddie’s predictions have come true, making his forecasts a fun tradition for West Virginians. Freddie predicted an early spring in 2025.

**Wildlife Center Trail Becomes a Mountaineer**

**Mile**

During the ceremony, Gov. Morrisey and WVDNR officials also announced that the West Virginia State Wildlife Center’s loop trail has been officially designated as a Mountaineer Mile.

The Mountaineer Mile program was launched by Gov. Morrisey in April 2025 at Little Beaver State Park to encourage West Virginians to walk at least one mile each day and lead healthier lifestyles while enjoying the state’s public lands. Since then, the governor has partnered with West Virginia State Parks, which is part of the WVDNR, to designate official Mountaineer Mile trails at 44 state parks and forests across the state.

“This program has been incredibly successful in getting West Virginians outside, moving more and making healthy lifestyle choices,” Gov. Morrisey said. “Designating a Mountaineer Mile at the West Virginia State Wildlife Center is a great way to encourage people to stay active during the winter months while enjoying our state’s natural beauty and wildlife.”

The designation at the West Virginia State Wildlife Center marks the first time a Mountaineer Mile trail has been established on a WVDNR-operated property outside the state parks system. The accessible loop trail provides visitors with an easy way to stay active while observing native wildlife in a natural setting.

The West Virginia State Wildlife Center is open daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through the end of March, with free admission during this period. Regular hours and admission rates go into effect on April 1. To learn more about the Wildlife Center, visit [WVdnr.gov/west-virginia-wildlife-center](http://WVdnr.gov/west-virginia-wildlife-center).

# Gingerbread Showdown Draws Community Creativity



The Five Rivers Public Library hosted a Gingerbread Showdown on January 12, 2026, where 21 participants individually decorated mini gingerbread houses to compete for prizes. Following the event, community members visited the library over the next three weeks to vote for their favorites

across four age groups.

The talent and creativity on display were impressive, making the voting a delightful challenge. This year’s winners were: *Landon Dillard* (ages 18–100), *Buck Yates* (ages 13–17), *Makenna Hackney* (ages 7–12), and *Nova Miller* (ages 2–6).

Thank you to everyone who participated and to all the community members who cast votes and helped make the event such a success. Sign up for our next event **March 30, 2026**—candle painting for adults and children alike—space is limited.

# WVU Cancer Institute first in state to offer FDA-approved therapy for patients with aggressive bladder cancer

Morgantown, W.Va. – The WVU Cancer Institute is the first healthcare facility in West Virginia to offer Inlexzo™ for patients diagnosed with a high-risk, aggressive form of bladder cancer, providing a safe, alternative therapy for patients who otherwise face limited treatment options.

Inlexzo, a therapy recently approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and now part of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network guidelines, is a small, temporary system resembling a pretzel that directs chemotherapy straight to the bladder, allowing the medication to remain in place and work over an extended period.

This approach offers an important alternative for patients who cannot tolerate traditional therapies or want to avoid more invasive treatment options.

Ali Hajiran, M.D., chief of Urologic Oncology at the WVU Cancer Institute, emphasized the importance of innovation and patient access to these types of treatments.

“For patients facing aggressive bladder cancer with limited treatment options, access to innovative therapies can be transformational,” Dr. Hajiran said. “Being able to offer treatments like this to our patients here in West Virginia means they can receive cutting-edge care while staying close to their families and support systems.”

Anna Williams of Cowen was the first patient in the state and the first female in the tri-state region (Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia) to receive this new therapy.

Williams has been living with high-risk bladder cancer while also managing a severe autoimmune disease. Because of her complex medical condition, many standard bladder cancer treatments were not safe options. Earlier this year, she received treatment at WVU Medicine J.W. Ruby Memorial Hospital.

“I wanted the best care possible, but I also wanted to stay close to my family,” Williams said. “Knowing this treatment was available here in West Virginia meant everything to me.”



Anna Williams (second from left with her husband, George) was the first in the state to receive the FDA's newly approved chemotherapy to treat aggressive bladder cancer. Her treatment was coordinated by a team of experts from WVU Cancer's Urologic Oncology team (pictured with Williams).

Williams’ treatment was carefully coordinated through a multidisciplinary team, including advanced practice providers, oncologists, pharmacologists, nurses, and others, whose goal was to ensure she received the right treatment plan to address her unique healthcare needs.

“We are continuing to transform cancer care for our patients,” Hajiran said. “This effort represents a new standard for the treatment of bladder cancer. For patients like Anna Williams and others, this milestone is more than a medical first; it represents progress, access, and hope for the future of cancer care in West Virginia and beyond.”

For more information on the WVU Cancer Institute, visit [WVUMedicine.org/Cancer](http://WVUMedicine.org/Cancer).



Inlexzo device