

# The Parsons Advocate

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF TUCKER COUNTY SINCE 1896

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## Potomac Valley Transit Presents Update, Funding Approved By Tucker County Commission

By: Lydia Crawley  
The Parsons Advocate

Doug Pixler of the Potomac Valley Transit came before the Tucker County Commission to present an update on bus service in the County, as well as present a funding request of \$5,000 for annual service in the County. The request was made during the Commission's regular February 18th session.

The \$5,000 funding request, Pixler said, was a standard annual amount paid by every county Potomac Valley Transit serves. Pixler described it as how the funding structure worked. Tucker County Commission President Mike Rosenau described it as Tucker County's "skin in the game."

"We have to, unfortunately," Pixler said. The funding request was approved unanimously by the three man body in a motion made by Tucker County Commission President Mike Rosenau.

"In order for them to continue operations in the county and part of our (obligation), same as all the other counties do, I make a motion to approve the \$5,000," Rosenau said. Overall, Pixler said the service was

going well. Currently busses are running on Tuesdays and Fridays. Tuesday shopping trips are to Oakland and Friday, the busses run to Elkins. Pixler said that the Elkins route has developed some regular riders, "which is good."

There have also been a lot of medical runs, Pixler said. Many Tucker County residents have been utilizing the service for medical appointments.

Students in Thomas also utilized the service for ski trips every Tuesday, according to Pixler.

The service will be getting more vehicles and dedicating some specifically to Tucker County, Pixler said. However, the biggest obstacle for the company, is a lack of drivers. Pixler said the company is in dire need of both CDL and nonCDL drivers.

"Our biggest obstacle right now, for everybody, is finding people to work," Pixler said. "It is tough."

Pixler said his company continues to look for drivers. If interested in applying for a driver position, contact Potomac Valley Transit located at Potomac Valley Transit Authority, 185 Providence Lane, Petersburg, WV 26847 or call 304-257-1414 for more information.



Erika Osborne, Advisor for TCHS Youth Leadership Association, presented the organization's request for \$350 for three students to attend the annual Youth in Government in Charleston.

## Tucker County Commission Approve Funding Request for Youth in Government Students

By: Lydia Crawley  
The Parsons Advocate

Erika Osborne, the Tucker County High School Youth Leadership Association, Youth in Government Advisor appeared before the Tucker County Commission February 18th to request funding to send three students to the State Legislature in Charleston for the Annual Youth in Government.

"We're seeking to send some students to a program called Youth in Government," Osborne said.

The goal of the program, Osborne said, was to allow students a first hand experience in the bill process, from inception, writing and passage. Students write bills and have them "passed" and "signed into law," all unofficially, of course.

"We can go to Charleston and pretend to be either a Representative or a Senator," Osborne said.

The bills are written by students

and sent to Charleston where they are rated, Osborne said. The students will not know whether they will present on the House or Senate until they arrive in Charleston.

Tucker County Commission President Mike Rosenau said that when he was in High School, he participated in Youth in Government. Rosenau presented a bill on the Senate floor, he said.

"That program has helped me through understanding the process and I think it's a wonderful thing," Rosenau said.

Rosenau went on to say that he felt it was a wonderful program and he wished more students were active in the club and he was glad that the group was going to Charleston.

The club's request was for \$350 for the trip. The request was unanimously approved by the three man body in a motion made by Tucker County Commission President Mike Rosenau.



Dave Esch explains to the Commission the design of the new balcony that will be built inside the Opera House once interior renovations begin.

## Cottrill's Opera House 'Shovel Ready'

By: Lydia Crawley  
The Parsons Advocate

Catherine Fleichman and Dave Esch, President of Alpine Heritage Preservation, Inc. presented the Tucker County Commission with an update on the renovations at Cottrill's Opera House in Thomas on February 18th during the Commission's regular session.

"In the last five years, we've been making good progress," Esch said.

Esch said that in the last five years, the organization has hired a Historic Theatre Consultant, done workshops, community outreach, sought grants, hired an Architect.

"We are, as they say, 'shovel ready,' to start rebuilding," Esch said. "If we had the money, we could have a ground breaking in two to three months. We could open the doors 18 months after that."

Esch said that he and Fleichman just returned from a trip to Washington D.C. where they spoke with Senators Justice about help with grant funding. They dropped in at Senator Capito's office, as well as at Representative Moore's office. Esch said that all three were very supportive of the project.

"We had two grant request in this year," Esch said. "We just learned that we didn't get the ARC grant."

Esch said that his organization intends to reapply for the ARC grant again next year. All the organization requested of the Commission was support for applying for grants.

"The main thing that we are here for and asking for, is simply your support for those grants," Esch said. "You've written us letters of support in the past, we would like to look forward to having that support in the future."

Esch said that local governmental support, as well as State Senators are crucial to grant applications. Esch said that if the organization had gotten both grants that they applied for this year, the project

would have been done.

"We are that close, we have a fair amount of money in the bank," Esch said.

The goal of the project is to host shows, weddings, after school programs, concerts in conjunction with the Purple Fiddle and to be a multi-use facility for the community, Esch said.

Esch showed the design for a new balcony that will allow better viewing of the stage.

"I think the design is spectacular," Esch said. "You still see the wood trusses, so before the show the lights can be in the wood trusses above you. The brick piers in the walls are the original brick piers."

The design will also feature movable seating on the floor to accommodate meetings, weddings, or after school camps.

The ground floor currently contains two shops, but eventually will only contain one, Esch said. One side will be converted into the Theatre's lobby.

"When nothing is going on upstairs, we don't want that to just be a black hole on the street," Esch said. "Because we think the livelihood of Thomas is the activity on the street, the shops. So we're designing it to be a, one of our donors suggested we make it a wine bar. Maybe that's what it is. Maybe its, Starbucks has shown us that you can have two coffee shops on the same block. Maybe its Tip Top Two. Maybe its another Tip Top on the other end of Thomas. But its some type of activity in the lobby space."

The Theatre will also offer ground floor ADA bathrooms that are slated to be open during all major events in Thomas, Fleichman and Esch said.

The Theatre has already scheduled two programs, according to Esch. The organization will be bringing the Vintage Theatre Group out of Clarksburg to Tucker County High School in Spring to teach a Shakespeare course under the English program

See COTTRILL page 2

## Judge Shaffer Arraigns Nine Following February Tucker Grand Jury

By: Lydia Crawley  
The Parsons Advocate

Judge Steven L. Shaffer arraigned nine defendants on February 18th. The arraignments followed a Grand Jury that was convened on February 10th at the Tucker County Courthouse. The following individuals were arraigned on Grand Jury charges before Judge Shaffer for the following charges.

Gary Bonnell was indicted on one count of Strangulation.

Jonathan Martin was indicted on four counts of Possession with Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance, one count of Interfering with Emergency Communications, one county of Domestic Battery and one count of Domestic Assault.

Donald Davis was indicted on one count of Fleeing with Reckless Indifference and one count of No Registration.

Justin Greer was indicted on one count of Strangulation and two counts of Child Abuse Resulting in Bodily

Injury.

James Sisler was indicted on one count of Grand Larceny and one count of Obtaining Money by False Pretenses.

Malica Bohanon was indicted on two counts of DUI Resulting on Bodily Injury.

Leslie Jamerson was indicted on one count of Destruction of Property and once count of Conspiracy.

Cody Foster was indicted on one count of Destruction of Property and one count of Conspiracy.

Trenton DiBartolomeo was indicted on a superseding indictment to add one count of Driving Under the Influence (DIU) to his existing charges of one count of Burglary, one county of Conspiracy, one count of Interference with Emergency Services, one count Kidnapping, one count of Driving Under the Influence and five counts of Strangulation. His arraignment on the superseding charge was rescheduled until March 9th at the request of defense counsel.

## Quattro Gets New Counsel in Malicious Assault Case

By: Lydia Crawley  
The Parsons Advocate

In a status hearing held February 18th before Judge Steven L. Shaffer at the Tucker County Courthouse, Brian Quattro appeared in court with his newly appointed attorney John Rogers. Rogers said he was appointed following a motion filed by attorney Sam Hess, withdrawing as counsel for Quattro.

The hearing was initially set to be a plea hearing, but that was canceled due to the change in counsel. Rogers said that both sides were close to an agreement, but needed to time to finalize what the defense intends to do.

On the recommendation of Rogers, the case malicious assault case was set for trial May 20th to 22nd. The second case, intimidation of a Public Official, was set as a two day trial July 30th and 31st.

There was no pretrials set in the cases and any motions were requested by Judge Shaffer to be submitted by attorneys no later than one week prior to trial.

Judge Shaffer also explained to Quattro his trial rights during the hearing, as it would likely be the last time he would see the defendant prior to the day of trial.



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# News of Record

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

- **Clyde J. Thompson**, Black Fork District, 0.86 acres to Alexis Ryan Thompson.
- **Billy Joe Holbert**, Clover District, 24.50 acres Indian Fork to Colton Guy Holbert.
- **Blackwater Falls Partners LLC**, Davis Corporation, Confirmatory Deed – Lot 33 Tuscan Ridge to Blackwater Falls Partners LLC.
- **Blackwater Falls Partners LLC**, Davis Corporation, Lot 33 Tuscan Ridge to Joseph Coyne, \$38,000.
- **Cary W. Reed**, Dry Fork District,

Canaan, 2 acres and 0.03 acres to Jennifer Hagerty and Brett Hagerty, \$585,000.

- **MH & EF LLC**, Dry Fork District, 0.245 acres, Lot 37 Northface to Edward J. Fulton /DBA/ Fulton Construction.
- **Scott D. Perfater and Rebecca Perfater**, Dry Fork District, 0.245 acres, Lot 37 Northface to Perfater Connections LLC.
- **Hocking Hills Homesteads LLC**, Dry Fork district, Unit/Lot 2 Black Bear Woods to Gary Kallio, Jr. and Jennifer Kallio, \$238,000.
- **Kenton Q. Blackwood**, Executor, Sarah K. Blackwood, Kenton Q. Blackwood; Estate of Sarah K. Blackwood, Dry

Fork District, Lot 161 Mountainside, 16.19 acres to David Michael Lorenze and Stephanie Ann Morris Lorenze, \$750,000.

- **Jack M. Close, Jr.**, Hambleton Corporation, 7,743.64 square feet to Ramona L. Miller and Kelly M. McClure, \$80,000.
- **Lois V. Wratchford**, Parsons Corporation, Lot 8, Coffman Addition City of Parsons to Kierra Mikaila Crago-Schneider and James Michael Jardine, III, \$13,000.
- **Lauren Liller /FKA/ Lauren McCrum**, Parsons Corporation, Lot 86 and 87 Currence Addition to Jack M. Close, Jr., \$45,000.

## AIR QUALITY

Cont. From Front Page 1



Dave Esch, President of Alpine Heritage Preservation, Inc., left, and Catherine Fleichman, right, present an update on the progress of renovations at Cottrill's Opera House in Thomas to the Tucker County Commission February 18th.



The lobby of the renovated Opera House is anticipated to be open for more than just show times. Esch said the board is still working out details of what exactly they want to do with the space between shows.



Dave Esch shows an Architectural design image of what the front of the Opera House is anticipated to look like at the completion of the project.

and the possibility of a summer camp for kids.

"We are trying to do a summer camp this summer up on the mountain," Esch said. "We are trying to talk about having two sessions. One tied together with Davis-Thomas Elementary Middle School and then another session tied together with Tucker Valley Elementary

Middle School."

Esch said that Elementary Middle School summer camps may be a next year collaboration, but that the organization would like to get it up and running this year. However, he was unsure if it was feasible for 2026.

Esch also said that the organization was also planning to sponsor a school play.

The organization is in talks with the High School. Esch said the organization has offered to underwrite the cost of the play and pay for a director. Esch said that plans are currently in the discussion phase with the school.

"They're fun and they are a big part of somebody's education," Esch said. "Its something we think is an important thing and its something we see as an important part of our mission, K-12 education."

The Theatre has a Jazz performance lined up for the fall, Esch said. Bob Thompson will be traveling from Charleston to perform in conjunction with Timberline. Esch said that plans for the organization include having a Spring and a Fall Performing Arts Festival to help boost tourism in the area.

Cottrill's Opera House is owned by Alpine Heri-

tage Preservation, Inc., a 501(c)(3) tax exempt nonprofit organization. The organization has been restoring the Opera House since 1981.

# The Parsons Advocate

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## Senior Center Valentine Party



The Parsons Senior Center held their annual Valentines Party on Thursday, Feb. 12. The 2026 King and Queen, by popular vote, were King David Sharp and Queen Shirley Cassidy. During the week, Valentines Day cards and candy were exchanged by placing items in each other's Valentines Day Box. It was a fun time and lunch followed the activities.

## The Parsons Advocate

Publisher Michael Showell  
Associate Publisher Lydia Crawley  
Office Manager Teri Cayton  
Production Design Erika Wright  
Advertising Debra Smith - [debra@mountainmedianews.com](mailto:debra@mountainmedianews.com)

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

# SPORTS

## Lady Mt. Lions Dethrone #1 Gilmer County Titans



Seniors, Mayah Gross, Makenna Evans, and Addi Moats



Peyton Hicks



Carroll up against a height advantaged Titan for jump ball.

**By: Adam Freeman**

The Lady Mt. Lions of TCHS had a big matchup to start a busy week of games last week. Tucker started off by hosting the defending state champs and current #1 team in Single A, the Gilmer County Lady Titans. Tucker dug themselves a hole early, trailing 12-4 at the end of the first, but Tucker would cut the lead to six at the break at 23-17. Tucker would turn the wick up in the second half, outscoring Gilmer 30-14, winning the third quarter 12-5 and the fourth 17-9. Along with a team foul shooting percentage of 80% for the night, Tucker secured the win 46-37.

*Hicks 14 Pts, 3 Reb, FT 2-2; Gross 11 Pts, 8 Reb, FT 4-4; Evans 7 Pts, 7 Reb, FT 1-2; Shaffer 6 Pts, 3 Reb, FT 4-4; Kitzmiller 4 Pts, 4 Reb, FT 1-3; Moats 4 Pts, 3 Reb. 3-point field goals (6-16)*  
*Hicks (4) Gross (1) Kitzmiller (1)*  
 After the big upset win, Tucker would find themselves dropping their next two games, the first one being on the road against AAA Hampshire County, 45-29.  
*Shaffer 7 Pts, 3 Reb, FT 1-3; Moats 6 Pts, FT 1-4; Cross 5 Pts, 5 Reb, FT 1-2; Gross 5 Pts, 2 Reb, FT 2-2; Kitzmiller 2 Pts, 3 Reb. 3-point field goals (2-13)*  
*Gross (1) Moats (1)*

Tucker then returned home for a senior night matchup with the AA Petersburg Lady Vikings, where Petersburg would take down Tucker, 49-41.  
*Gross 15 Pts, 7 Reb, FT 2-3; Evans 7 Pts, 14 Reb, FT 3-4; Kitzmiller 6 Pts, 4 Reb; Cross 6 Pts, 5 Reb, FT 2-2; Hicks 3 Pts; Carrol 2 Pts, 4 Reb; Moats 2 Pts, 4 Reb. 3-point field goals 4-21*  
*Kitzmiller (2) Gross (1) Hicks (1)*  
 Tucker then rounded out the busy week with their regular season finale at home against East Hardy. Tucker was in the driver's seat for the game's entirety to close the regular season with a dominant win, 53-19.

*Moats 17 Pts, 1 Reb; Evans 9 Pts, 5 Reb; Hicks 5 Pts, 1 Reb; Kitzmiller 4 Pts, 1 Reb; Channel 4 Pts, 6 Reb; Gross 4 Pts, 5 Reb; Warner 4 Pts, 2 Reb; Cross 2 Pts, 6 Reb; Carrol 2 Pts, 1 Reb; Thompson 2 Pts, 6 Reb. 3-point field goals (3-15)*  
*Evans (1) Moats (1) Hicks (1)*  
 Tucker is now set to begin regional play in an attempt to get back to Charleston for the State Tournament. Tucker is the #1 seed in Region 2 and is set to play the winner of Pendleton County and Paw Paw on Wednesday, March 4th, with a trip to Charleston on the line.



## Lady Bears Take Title at Davis Thomas Showdown

**By: Adam Freeman**

The Lady Bears of Davis Thomas captured two wins and claimed the title of Davis Thomas Showdown champions in their final week of basketball action.  
 DT first took on Harman on the 19th, where the Bears led 19-0 after the first quarter and 25-3 at halftime. The second half was much like the first, as DT continued to pour it on the Panthers,

finishing with a final score of 45-14. Addy Johnson led the Bears with 11 points, Morgan Simmons followed with 9 points, and Harper Wilt and Elaina Pregley finished with 6 points each.  
 The championship game of the Davis Thomas Showdown featured DT against Marlinton Middle, with DT holding a slight edge after one quarter at 11-10. The Bears' lead remained narrow at halftime, as they led by just two

points, 25-23. DT blew the game open in the third period, scoring 18 points to start the half and extending their lead to 43-33. The Lady Bears hung on and put the game away, securing a 53-46 victory.  
 Johnson again led DT in scoring with 19 points, while Hadley Nestor and Simmons collected 13 points each.  
 With the two wins, the Lady Bears have completed their 2026 season.

## Bears End Season with Big Week

**By: Adam Freeman**

The Davis Thomas Bears boys basketball team sent their 2026 season out with a bang, earning two big wins and suffering a near miss.  
 DT got the week started with a big win over Brucecton Middle. The Bears held a 12-8 lead after the first quarter and a 27-19 lead at the break. Brucecton made a run in the third quarter, cutting the lead to 35-31. Brucecton continued its run, but DT hung on for the 44-42 victory. Kevin Kerr led the Bears with 12 points, while Elijah O'Brien and Jarrett Dearborn added 10 points each.  
 Later in the week, DT took on the Harman Panthers. This game was never close, as DT rolled to a lopsided 61-22 victory. The Bears placed three players in double figures, with O'Brien joined by Noah White and Elliot Baker, all scoring 10 points.  
 Davis Thomas ended its week, and season, hosting a very tough Marlinton Middle squad. The Bears found themselves down 18-6 and trailed 29-20 at halftime. DT made a run in the third quarter, outscoring Marlinton 13-7 and cutting the lead to just three at 36-33. That three-point margin would ultimately be the difference, as DT fought hard but fell to Marlinton 47-44.  
 Kerr led the Bears with 16 points, followed closely by O'Brien with 15. Dearborn rounded out the top three scorers with eight points.  
 The game marked the end of the Bears' season, as they finished 2026 with a final record of 8-14.

## Tucker Valley Gets Buzzer-Beater at Petersburg, Falls at Home to Elkins

**By: Adam Freeman**

Tucker Valley's middle school boys basketball team wrapped up its season this past week with a game in Petersburg and one at home against Elkins. Tucker's game with Petersburg was a back-and-forth dogfight, with Tucker holding a narrow 7-point lead after the first quarter and just a 2-point lead at halftime, 21-19.  
 The Vikings took the lead from the Wildcats in the third quarter as they built a 33-28 advantage. The fourth quarter provided fireworks as Tucker trailed by two with seconds to play. Titus Bowley penetrated the Vikings' defense and found his teammate, Quinton Teter, open for a three-point shot. Teter nailed it, sealing the 43-42 victory for the Wildcats.  
 Bowley led Tucker in scoring with 20 points, followed by Teter with 17 points, while Wade Boyles finished with 4 points.  
 Tucker's final game of the season was played at home on Thursday as they hosted Elkins Middle. Tucker held a 1-point lead at the end of the first quarter, 11-10, and a 27-26 lead at halftime. The Wildcats found themselves down to start the fourth quarter, trailing 42-37. Elkins went on a 19-12 run in the final period to defeat Tucker, 61-49.  
 Bowley again led the team in scoring with 24 points, followed by Teter with 16 points, while Legend Harper finished with 4 points.  
 The pair of games marked the end of the 2026 season for the Wildcats. They finished with a 9-7 record, with only two losses to single-A schools.

SPORTS CONTINUED ON page 4

## TC Boys Beaten at Home by Pendleton, on Road at Tug Valley



Cayden Arnold dives after the loose ball (Photo by Brittany Chanell)

**By: Adam Freeman**

The Tucker County boys basketball team had two pivotal matchups last week, the first being a home game with Pendleton County with regional seeding on the line. Tucker got up

on Pendleton to start, holding an 11-7 lead at the end of the first. Pendleton would battle back, however, to take a 1-point lead into the half at 27-26. Pendleton's lead would grow in the third period, outscoring Tucker 15-11 to take a 42-37 lead into the fourth. Pendleton had its highest-scoring quarter of the game in the fourth, scoring 20 points to end the game and going home to Franklin with a 62-51 win over the Mt. Lions.  
*Dearborn 16 pts, 3 Reb, FT 2-2; Marks 15 pts, 1 Reb, 7 Ast; Arnold 12 pts, 4 Reb, FT 1-2; Lambert 5 pts, 6 Reb; Mitchell 3 pts, 3 Reb. 3-point field goals (8-29)*  
*Marks (3) Dearborn (2) Arnold (1) Lambert (1) Mitchell (1)*  
 Tucker then traveled to the southernmost part of WV to take on the two-time defending state champion, the Tug Valley Panthers. Tucker found themselves trailing 13-8 at the end of the first and only down 5 at the half, 31-26. Tug began to pull away in the third, leading by 8 points, and put Tucker away in the final period, going on a 14-2 run to end the game with a final score of 63-43. Junior Cayden Arnold led the Mt. Lions with 16 points. The Mt. Lions will return home on Tuesday, the 24th for a senior night matchup with Tygarts Valley.



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



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## Sports



## Rachel Hile Makes History for TCHS Wrestling

**By: Adam Freeman** on Saturday, February 14, at Morgantown High School. With Tucker County opening the sport to females this year, Rachel Hile

## Lady Wildcats Sweep Green Bank to Wrap Up Season

**By: Adam Freeman**

The Lady Wildcats put a bow on Coach Rob Pase's inaugural season as head coach with back-to-back wins over Green Bank Middle School.

Tucker first traveled to Green Bank, where the matchup was close through three quarters of play. Tucker held leads of 10 and five points, with the game knotted at 22 heading into the final frame. The Lady Wildcats went on a 9-0 run to secure the win, 31-22. Maci Owens led the team in scoring with 11 points, Marlee Evans added 10, and Mia Lambert collected eight points.

Green Bank then made the return trip

to Tucker Valley to finish the week. This time, Green Bank held an 8-5 lead after the first quarter. That would prove to be its only lead of the night, as Tucker led 16-10 at halftime and 26-19 heading into the fourth quarter. Tucker once again went on a fourth-quarter run, outscoring its opponent 11-1 to finish the season with a 37-20 victory. Owens again led the team in scoring with 15 points, followed by Lambert with nine and Evans with eight.

This week concludes the season for the Lady Wildcats, who finished with an overall record of seven wins and 11 losses.

became the first female wrestler in Tucker County history to win a match by pin.

The WVSSAC has approved girls' wres-

ting for next season, recognizing it as a separate sport from boys' wrestling. They will hold their own tournament next year.

## GC designates honor students for Fall 2025

College recognizes 260, including 34 with perfect 4.0 GPAs on President's List

McHenry, MD – Garrett College recently announced that 260 students earned academic honors during the Fall 2025 semester, including 34 who achieved perfect 4.0 grade-point averages (GPAs) to claim spots on the President's List.

Those 34 students earned 4.0 ("all A's") GPAs while carrying a full course load of at least 12 credits. Dr. Richard Midcap, Garrett College's president, lauded those whose 4.0 GPA landed them on the President's List.

"These students excelled in their academic work while balancing so many other responsibilities," said Midcap. "Many of our students are employed, or taking care of families, or participants in clubs and athletics. That just makes their academic achievements all the more impressive."

### President's List

Ruby Molloy (Manchester, United Kingdom); Lindsay Maust (Accident); Lydia Maust (Accident); Jacquelyn Patton (Accident); Marisa Perez (Accident); Liam DeBaugh (Annapolis); Kevin Cervantes (Catonsville); George Chimalilo (Friendsville); Crystal Carder (Grantsville); Caleb Lehman (Grantsville); Ethan Loney (Grantsville); Trevor Schrock (Grantsville); Asa Sutter (Grantsville); Nicholas Travia (McHenry); Hen Choo (Oakland); Olivia Collins (Oakland); Clarissa Lloyd (Oakland); Ashley Martin (Oakland); Amanda McCormick (Oakland); Emily McCormick (Oakland); Seanan McGoldrick (Oakland); Mackenzie Meeks (Oakland); Brogan Moyer (Oakland); Kyle Schofield (Oakland); Bethany Sehome (Oakland); Noah Wilt (Oakland); Henry Dennison (Parkville); Warren Bernard (Swanton); Caden Anfimovas (Arkville, NY); Abigail Shriver (Meyersdale, PA); Paola Chirino Ariza (Round Rock, TX); Kylie Keplinger (Keyser, WV); Jessica Liller (Keyser, WV); and Jorjalynn Ward (Philippi, WV).

Another 98 students made the Dean's List. Those students completed 12 or more hours in college-level courses with GPAs of 3.50 to 3.99.

"Making the Dean's List is very impressive," said Professor Christa Bowser, GC's dean of academic affairs and chief academic officer. "It's a testament to our students, the faculty who teach them, and the staff who support them."

### Dean's List

Petar Kos (Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina); Tristan Farnworth (North Vancouver, Canada); Ethan Kirkpatrick (Georgetown, Canada); Felix Aubin (Hammer, Canada); Kai Canson (Pierrefonds, Canada); Jeronimo Valencia Taborda (Envigado, Colombia); Jordan Anderson (La Romana, Dominican Republic); Isaac Rodriguez Morillo (Santo Domingo Este, Dominican Republic); Callum Howell (Maastricht, Netherlands); Lucas Alonso (Gijon, Spain); Sebastian Mayfield (Coconut Creek, FL); Christian Lallave-Segui (Dover, FL); Aiden Screen (Keystone Heights, FL); Meyer Cabrera (South West Ranches, FL); William Huckabone (Vine Grove, KY); Samantha Dolan (Accident); Kathleen Yoder (Accident); Hayden Laney (Baltimore); Tyler Long (Berlin); Camden Hull (Clear Spring); Makaela Braxton-Brown (District Heights); Blake Deal (Friendsville); Mary Holman (Friendsville); Kylynn Vitez (Friendsville); Addison French (Frostburg); Maclain Love (Frostburg); Mikayla Warnick (Frostburg); David Porter (Germantown); Cody Beal (Grantsville); Cole Folk (Grantsville); Lauren Gooden (Grantsville); Stephen Hochstetler (Grantsville); Arianna Koontz (Grantsville); Ariella Malfaro (Grantsville); Larry Tice (Grantsville); Nicholas Anderson (Hagerstown); Josef Sneathen (LaVale); Brice Roche (McHenry); Riley Thomas (McHenry); Brandon Womack (Millersville); Dylan Beattie-Thornburg (Oakland); Danielle Brobst (Oakland); Olivia Cassada (Oakland); Jaxson Corbin (Oakland); Sadie Crowell (Oakland); Iris Dubansky (Oakland); Victoria Greene (Oakland); Savannah Hamilton (Oakland); Grahame Henry (Oakland); Kale Hieronimus (Oakland); Rylee Iden (Oakland); Brock Lewis (Oakland); Benjamin Lohr (Oakland); Miranda Martin (Oakland); Kathleen Meagher (Oakland); Aiden Millar (Oakland); Fontana Moreland (Oakland); Benjamin Nazelrod (Oakland); Toni Sadowski (Oakland); Jackson Savage (Oakland); Kade Savage (Oakland); Daisy Shuttleworth (Oakland); Ethan Sylvania (Oakland); Brayden Upole (Oakland); Gracy Upole (Oakland); Carly Wilt (Oakland); Braelyn Zimmerman (Oakland); Ashlynn Anderson (Swanton); Isaac Browning (Swanton); Nevaeh Fisher (Swanton); John Holland (Swanton); Leonardo Mastrofini (Swanton); Kamryn Miller (Swanton); Ryelynn Sweitzer (Swanton); Stefany Thomas (Swanton); Wisdom Usikhifo (Temple Hills); Gavin Watkins (Thurmont);

Livy Grieco (Roxbury, NY); Stephen Story (Berlin Center, OH); Trent Litman Fowler (OH); Grayden Gillett (Connellsville, PA); Sawyer Hershey (Ephrata, PA); Gene Thorpe II (Grindstone, PA); Kace Shearer (Mill Run, PA); Matthew Pallerino (New Castle, PA); Trey Coleman (Aiken, SC); Keyonta Johnson (Cibolo, TX); Chloe Heeter (Highland Village, TX); DeChau Reed (Manassas, VA); Donovahn Keyes (Stafford, VA); Conner Blake (Bridgeport, WV); Amy Hess (Bruceon Mills, WV); Chase Davis (Keyser, WV); Brenna L'Hommedieu (Masontown, WV); Allyse Baker (Morgantown, WV); Bethany Yaider (Springfield, WV); Conner Gibson (Terra Alta, WV); and John Nelson (Terra Alta, WV).

Another 82 students were named to the Honors List. Full-time degree- and certificate-seeking students who complete a semester's work of 12 or more hours in college-level courses and earn a GPA of 3.00 to 3.49 qualify for the Honors List.

### Honors List

Luis Botelho (Sao Paulo, Brazil); Ben-Justin Ojong Ayuk (Surrey, Canada); Adrian Laba (Punta Cana La Altagracia, Dominican Republic); Karen Cuellar (Palma de Mallorca, Spain); Carmello Myles (Washington, D.C.); Mia Barrios (Donnelly, ID); Linda Biggs (Accident); Lily Chambers (Accident); Nalani Rivera (Accident); McKenna Stanton (Accident); Braeden Poorbaugh (Baltimore); Audrey Harvey (Barton); Adeline Wilson (Bloomington); Connor Duncan (Crofton); Bryce Madden (Cumberland); Alexis Mallow (Cumberland); Madison Ditmore (Friendsville); Phoebe Frantz (Friendsville); Raegan Case (Frostburg); Parker Ferraro (Frostburg); Trenton Harrison (Frostburg); Kyle Kiddy (Frostburg); Jason Moore (Frostburg); Juan Parrau III (Germantown); Taylor Cohen (Grantsville); Gerald Glotfelty (Grantsville); Sarah Hamilton-Rumer (Grantsville); Jarrett Holliday (Grantsville); Rebekah Mast (Grantsville); Kaci Schmidt (Grantsville); Abigail Lucas (Kitzmilller); Andy Preaskorn (Lavale); Alexander Cheek (Lutherville); Shawn Baker (Oakland); Alayna Beckman (Oakland); James DeBerry (Oakland); Alyssa Friend (Oakland); Sofia Gerhart (Oakland); Isabelle Goldberg (Oakland); Jack Healy (Oakland); Joslena Layton (Oakland); Christina Liller (Oakland); Dillon Linz (Oakland); Sierra Lloyd (Oakland); Zachary McAllister (Oakland); Hayden McHenry (Oakland); Brooks Mead (Oakland); Christopher Morfe (Oakland); Priscilla Shaw (Oakland); Elek Taylor (Oakland); Logan Thomas (Oakland); Darius Hamilton (Owings Mills); Brooks Smith (Pasadena); Kei Mumma (Williamsport); Haylee Beard (Woodbine); Ava Bowen (Maryland, NY); Julian Grieco (Roxbury, NY); Henry Humbert (Columbus, OH); Colt Rugg (Confluence, PA); Matthew Firestone (Dunbar, PA); Gianna Michaux (Masontown, PA); Jady Frushour (Mill Run, PA); Katelyn Leaman (Millersburg, PA); Zachary Chisolm

(New Park, PA); Cameron Schofield (Washington, PA); Joshua Evander (Bluffton, SC); Miangel Thompson (Laurens, SC); Collin Junkin (Bristow, VA); Tanner Gilmer (Delaplane, VA); Bryden Green (Delaplane, VA); Andrew Dorrier (Dillwyn, VA); Hannah Stoops (Montclair, VA); Drew Harvey (Bruceon Mills, WV); Joseph Charlton (Capon Bridge, WV); Gracealyn Moncrief (Elk Garden, WV); Ethan Dorkins (Morgantown, WV); Emma McCord (Philippi, WV); Kayla Moore (Rivesville, WV); Dustin Kisner (Terra Alta, WV); Isabella Shafer (Terra Alta, WV); Jared Butcher (Winifrede, WV)

Another 32 students were named to the Merit List. Part-time degree- and certificate-seeking students who complete a semester's work of six or more hours in college-level courses and earn a semester GPA of 3.50 or higher are included on the Merit List.

### Merit List

Stanton Smith (Confluence, PA); Nathan Payet (Reunion, France); MaryHanna Clodfelter (Accident); Whitney Lyons (Accident); Dylan Poling (Accident); Teresa Sines (Accident); Luke Artice (Friendsville); Malea Fullerton (Frostburg); Sophia Dewitt (Grantsville); James Dwyer (Grantsville); Gavin Newman (Grantsville); Mecken Swyter (Grantsville); Abigail Weimer (Lonaconing); Brooklyn Bittinger (Oakland); Uriah Brobst (Oakland); Annabelle Browning (Oakland); Dominic Burgess (Oakland); Joshua Collins (Oakland); Wyatt Dove (Oakland); Donna Henry (Oakland); Brittany Martin (Oakland); Roland Oxford (Oakland); Addison Rohrbaugh (Oakland); Isabella Ross (Oakland); Amy Sharpless (Oakland); Sophia Kolobow (Rockville); Katherine Dawson (Swanton); Leah Stout (Winchester, VA); Blaine Neidlinger (Aurora, WV); Cory Harper (Beverly, WV); Tara Morris (Bruceon Mills, WV); and Karlee Savage (Elk Garden, WV).

Another 14 students were named to the Recognition List as part-time degree- and certificate-seeking students who complete a semester's work of six or more hours in college-level courses and earn a semester GPA of 3.00 to 3.49.

### Recognition List

Sadie Bennett (Barton); Jack Bradley (Friendsville); Luke Brenneman (Friendsville); Brooklyn Bowman (Frostburg); Adalyn Hess (Grantsville); Jenny Hesse (Kitzmilller); Jensen Wilt (McHenry); Christine Barnes (Oakland); Cadence Natividad (Oakland); Michael Yoder (Oakland); Serenity Parker (Gulfport, MS); McKayla Wagener (Bruceon Mills, WV); Gregory Eddy (Morgantown, WV); and Emily Brady (Terra Alta, WV).

"We have wonderful, hard-working, and conscientious students," said Midcap. "I think that's clear from their incredible accomplishments. I'd like to thank the faculty and staff who also play a crucial role in our students' success."

## Garrett College spring enrollment highest in 13 years

### Headcount finishes at 701, including a record 300 high school students

McHenry, MD – Garrett College recently reported its highest spring credit enrollment in 13 years with 701 students, including an all-time record of 300 through the High School Dual Enrollment (HSDE) program.

The 701 students represent a 3.6 percent increase over last spring and a 33.3 percent increase in five years. The 300 HSDE total is 1.4 percent higher than last spring and 77.6 percent higher than five years ago.

"We're extremely pleased with our spring enrollment numbers," said Melissa Wass, director of admissions and student recruitment. "We have a great working relationship with Garrett County Public Schools, which is reflected in the HSDE total, and we're building our full-time student enrollment thanks in part to new programs."

The College also reported 6,417.5 credit hours taken by GC's spring student population, the highest total in eight years. That's an increase of 4.8 percent over last spring and 28.9 percent increase in five years.

HSDE accounted for a record 1,418 credit hours in spring 2026, a 5.2 percent increase over last spring and a 54 percent increase since 2022, when the College began tracking HSDE enrollment as a separate category.

Student athlete headcount also continues to grow,

with 128 student athletes registered for the spring semester. That's a 7 percent increase over last spring.

For the 2025-26 academic year – which includes the College's summer, fall, winter, and spring credit semesters – duplicated headcount rose 8 percent and credit hours increased 9.3 percent.

Associate Dean Kim DeGiovanni, who also serves as the College's registrar, said GC's expanded programmatic offerings played a key role in this year's enrollment increases.

"Our new radiologic technology program, as well as our first-year men's soccer program, are two examples of expanded options for our students," said DeGiovanni.

Dr. Robert "JR" Kerns, GC's dean of student affairs, said the College's investment in enhanced facilities is another factor in ongoing enrollment growth.

"Thanks greatly to the County, we've completely renovated our café, admissions, registration, financial aid, and business office spaces," said Kerns. "We've constructed a radiologic technology lab, relocated our art program into a renovated space, built a turf field, and begun a renovation to expand our athletics facilities. I think prospective students see all the exciting things happening at Garrett and want to be a part of that."

**Thank you for reading The Parsons Advocate**

## United Hospital Center's Critical Care Unit Achieves Milestone: 365 Days Free of Both CAUTI and CLABSI Infections



Protecting patients is a priority at UHC. This milestone highlights the Critical Care Unit's continuous work to prevent infections and ensure a safe environment for healing.

Bridgeport, W.Va.—WVU Medicine United Hospital Center (UHC) is proud to announce that its Critical Care Unit has achieved a monumental patient safety milestone: 365 consecutive days without a single Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection (CAUTI) or Central Line-Associated Bloodstream Infection (CLABSI).

This accomplishment marks an entire year with zero incidence of these two primary healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) in one of the hospital's most intensive care settings. This achievement reflects UHC's unwavering commitment to providing the highest standard of evidence-based, compassionate care to the patients in Central West Virginia.

"Reaching 365 days without CAUTI and CLABSI infections is a direct result of bedside nurses' commitment to excellence and daily focus on factors impacting patient outcomes," said Kara Elko, RN, BSN, Director of Critical Care Unit at United Hospital Center. "Achieving this in a high-acuity environment requires constant vigilance and a safety culture where every team member advocates for patient interests."

CAUTIs and CLABSIs are significant, yet largely preventable, complications in acute care settings. Achieving a full year of zero infections in the Critical Care Unit is a testament to the dedication, vigilance, and collaborative

culture of safety cultivated by UHC's nurses, physicians, and infection prevention team.

"Reaching 365 days CAUTI and CLABSI free is not just a statistic; it is a reflection of the tireless devotion our team has to patient safety and the rigorous adherence to best practices," said Dr. Mark Povroznik, vice president of Quality, Chairman of Infection Control, at United Hospital Center. "This accomplishment validates the dedication of our ICU team, who work tirelessly to ensure every patient receives the safest, highest-quality care possible."

UHC attributes this success to several key initiatives, including:

- **Stringent Protocol Adherence:** Strict, mandatory compliance with evidence-based "bundles" for inserting and maintaining central lines and urinary catheters, along with specialized daily bathing.
- **Daily Multidisciplinary Rounds:** Collaborative daily reviews to assess the necessity of invasive devices, removing them immediately when they are no longer required.
- **Advanced Staff Education:** Utilizing innovative training, such as the "Foley Escape Room", to increase awareness of infection risk factors and prevention best practices.
- **Unit-Based Empowerment:** Empowering frontline

nurses to initiate safety protocols and, as noted in previous UHC initiatives, utilizing dedicated champions to ensure compliance.

This milestone highlights UHC's ongoing efforts to prevent healthcare-associated infections and its dedication to protecting patient well-being through a culture of high reliability.

### About WVU Medicine United Hospital Center

United Hospital Center (UHC) is the result of a merger between St. Mary's and Union Protestant hospitals in 1970. This bold move provides North Central West Virginia with a regional community hospital that offers a vast array of services. The new UHC opened in 2010 and is located along I-79 in Bridgeport. The 736,403 square foot structure rises eight stories. It is designed around the environment with patients, family, employees, and community in mind, which includes enhanced patient privacy, a high level of technological integration, and improved access to care. The acute care facility has 292 private inpatient rooms and a medical staff that consists of more than 366 physicians, advanced practice providers, and allied health professionals. UHC has more than 2,613 employees and is a member of WVU Medicine (West Virginia United Health System). For more information about UHC, please visit [uhcwv.org](http://uhcwv.org).



Ton Sheaffer, center, instructs John Taube, left, and Stephen Hartlaub during last fall's Mountain Bike Maintenance Clinic.

## GC offering Mountain Bike Mechanics class

*Three-day course has credit and continuing education options*

McHenry, MD – Garrett College is offering a three-day Mountain Bike Mechanics course March 6-8. The course has a credit option through GC's Center for Adventure and Outdoor Studies (CAOS) as well as a continuing education option via the College's Continuing Education and Workforce Development (CEWD) division.

Scott Richardson, Adventure Equipment Center (AEC) manager, said people can benefit from the course "whether they're a dedicated rider, aspiring bike shop tech, trail builder, or outdoor professional."

"This course provides the hands-on skills to confidently maintain and repair mountain bikes in the field and in a pro-

fessional shop setting," said Richardson.

Students will learn how to properly use specialty tools, diagnose common mechanical issues, perform essential maintenance, and keep bikes running smoothly when it matters most—on the trail. From drivetrain tuning to brake adjustments and trailside fixes, students will build a strong technical foundation.

"This will be practical, skill-focused instruction designed for riders who want to be self-reliant," said Richardson.

Online registration is available (<https://cewd.garrettcollege.edu/modules/help.html>); interested individuals may also call 301.387.3069 for assistance with registering for the course, which costs \$300.

## "Denim and Diamonds" Gala to Benefit CASA for Kids Fourth annual fundraiser set for March 21 in Morgantown

Morgantown, W.Va. — CASA for Kids will host its fourth annual fundraising gala on Saturday, March 21, at the Erikson Alumni Center in Morgantown. The event raises critical funds to support Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) for children who have entered the court system due to abuse and neglect.

This year's theme, "Denim and Diamonds," promises a bedazzling evening that blends relaxed denim with elegant sparkle, bringing the community together for a night of celebration with a serious purpose. More than 165 people attended last year's gala, and organizers expect this year's event to be even larger.

**WHAT:** "Denim and Diamonds" Gala to Benefit CASA for Kids **WHEN:** Saturday, March 21 at 5:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Erikson Alumni Center, Morgantown

Each year, hundreds of children in Monongalia, Preston, and Tucker counties find themselves in the court system through no fault of their own. Many are removed abruptly from their homes, schools, and familiar surroundings. CASA for Kids works to ensure these children are not alone during that process by providing them with trained, volunteer advocates who remain a consistent, stable presence as the courts determine safe and permanent outcomes.

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) are community volunteers who devote countless hours to advocating for the best interests of abused and neglected children. While social workers, attorneys, and judges may change throughout a case, a CASA volunteer

stays with the child – listening, observing, and speaking up solely for that child's needs.

In many cases, a CASA is the only consistent adult presence in a child's life during an otherwise chaotic and uncertain time.

CASA for Kids is the only organization providing this vital advocacy service to children in the local court system and is highly regarded by Circuit Court judges and the Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

The agency continues working to expand its reach with the goal of providing a CASA volunteer for every child removed from their home due to abuse or neglect.

CASA for Kids is fully self-supporting and relies on fundraisers, grants, sponsorships, and community contributions to continue its work.

The "Denim and Diamonds" gala begins with doors opening at 5:30 p.m. for a cocktail hour and hors d'oeuvres, followed by a buffet dinner and evening program. Proceeds from the gala directly support advocacy services for vulnerable children across the region.

Tickets are \$110 per person or \$180 per couple, with a variety of sponsorship opportunities available. Community members are encouraged to attend, sponsor, or support the event to help ensure that children facing abuse and neglect have a strong, consistent voice advocating for their safety and future.

For more information, contact the CASA for Kids office at 304-599-1087, or email Leah Turner at [leah@casaforkidsmpc.org](mailto:leah@casaforkidsmpc.org) or Brandi Wolfe at [supportCASA@casaforkidsmpc.org](mailto:supportCASA@casaforkidsmpc.org).

VISIT US ONLINE AT [WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM](http://WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM)

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### HELP WANTED

**NOTICE: Five Rivers Public Library will have two vacant board of trustees' positions open.** The first position opens as of February, 2026 filling an unexpired term ending in 2028. The second position will begin July 1, 2026 and will end June 30, 2031. If you are qualified and are willing to serve, please submit a letter of interest to the Library by mail or drop it off at the library, by Wednesday March 4, 4:00 p.m.



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Answer

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

### Super Crossword

Answers

P	E	A	S	A	G	T	S	E	S	A	M	E	S	A	T	R	A		
A	L	I	E	D	I	O	A	N	I	M	A	T	E	B	E	E	S		
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S	E	E	N	T	A	P	E	R	E	D	S	S	E	O	T	R	O		

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# What's? Happening

## Lenten Services 2026

- 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.

## The Friends of the Mountaintop Public Library

The Friends of the Mountaintop Public Library are hosting their annual "Love Your Library" event on Wednesday, March 4, at White Grass Café in Canaan Valley. Tickets are \$75 per person for the multi-course dinner and can be purchased at the Mountaintop Public Library or by visiting <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/love-your-library-dinner>. In addition to a fabulous meal, guests will have chances to win baskets of curated collections throughout the evening. Doors open at 5:30 pm and dinner will be served at 6:00 pm. White Grass Ski

Touring Center and Café are located at 643 Weiss Knob Ski Road, Davis.

For more information write to fompl.tucker@gmail.com, call or text 304-642-8728, or visit the library at 384 2nd Street in Thomas.

## Candy Easter Eggs

½ pound Easter Eggs by St. John's Women & Win-One Sunday School Class on March 17th. Peanut Butter, Cherry Nut & Coconut for a \$7 donation per egg. To order call Sally Purnell at 304-619-2199.

## 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.



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.wven-encyclopedia.org](http://www.wven-encyclopedia.org).

**Feb. 25, 1903:** An armed posse ambushed striking miners in their homes in the village of Stanaford near Beckley. Six miners were killed; federal judge B. F. Keller exonerated the posse.

**Feb. 25, 1911:** Newspaperman Jim Comstock was born in Richwood. In 1957, he founded the West Virginia Hillbilly, a weekly newspaper that circulated inside and outside the state.

**Feb. 26, 1766:** Wheeling society hostess Lydia Boggs Shepherd Cruger was born. Her friendship with Sen. Henry Clay of Kentucky helped secure the routing of the National Road from Wellsburg to Wheeling.

**Feb. 26, 1869:** The legislature approved a bill moving the state capital to Charleston.

**Feb. 26, 1972:** One of the country's worst mining-related disasters occurred on Buffalo Creek in Logan County. A coal waste dam collapsed, sending 132 million gallons of water, coal refuse and silt into the valley. In the end, 125 people, including entire families, were killed, and 1,000 people were injured.

**Feb. 26, 2022:** Fire destroyed the historic administration building of the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind in Romney.

**Feb. 27, 1867:** Marshall College (now university) was established as a normal school to train teachers. The first term began June 15, 1868, with 25 students enrolled in three departments.

**Feb. 27, 1871:** Summers County was established from segments of Fayette, Greenbrier, Mercer and Monroe counties. The county was named after George W. Summers, one of West Virginia's founders.

**Feb. 27, 1871:** The legislature approved an act incorporating the city of Huntington.

**Feb. 28, 1831:** Fayette County was formed by the General Assembly of Virginia from parts of Kanawha, Nicholas, Greenbrier and Logan counties. The county was named for the Marquis de Lafayette, the French military officer who served under George Washington during the Revolutionary War.

**Feb. 28, 1858:** McDowell County, the



**March 3, 1890:** Teacher and civic activist Memphis Tennessee Garrison was born in Virginia. She helped develop NAACP chapters in southern West Virginia and created the Christmas Seal Project.

southernmost county in West Virginia, was created from part of Tazewell County, Virginia. The new county was named after James McDowell, a governor of Virginia.

**Feb. 28, 1875:** Musician Edwin "Edden" Hammons was born in Pocahontas County. A subsistence farmer and hunter, he is remembered as one of West Virginia's finest traditional fiddlers.

**Feb. 28, 1909:** Athlete John Zontini was born. Nicknamed the "Sheik of Seth" for his outstanding football career at Sherman High School in Boone County, he still holds state high school and Marshall University rushing records.

**Feb. 28, 1922:** Musician Eleanor Niera Parker was born in Fayette County. With her husband Rex Parker, she recorded popular country songs such as "Building Your Treasures in Heaven" and "Moonlight in West Virginia" in the late 1940s and early 1950s.

**March 1, 1831:** Jackson County was created from parts of Wood, Mason and Kanawha counties and named in honor of Andrew Jackson, the seventh president.

**March 1, 1870:** The legislature passed an act to create a branch normal school at West Liberty. For the next 61 years, the school was a teacher preparatory institu-

See HISTORY page 9

By Teri Cayton

The Parsons Advocate

I am hearing in the news that Florida is due to get hit by another cold wave. I hate to hear of all the farmers being affected by the cold but there is are two good things that may come out of it. Number one, the iguana population is being culled and the second is if it is getting cold enough farther into the south of Florida, it may stop the spread of pythons.

Neither species are cold tolerant and that is a plus for the eco system. Both species are wreaking havoc on the local animals in Florida. All small animals are just becoming prey for the snakes and both species populate at an alarming rate.

Those are two things we do not have to worry about in West Virginia. We only have rattlesnakes and copperheads to contend with. *Momma Said*, "I will

## 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



have to say I would rather have those two because they are rather solitary and stay mostly to themselves."

I would rather not have anything like that to contend with but at least our snakes are native to our part of the country. They only strike out when provoked and if a human is to be struck it is mostly a dry bite because the snake knows it cannot eat something as big as a person. *Momma Said*, "I hope I never have to find out if that is a true statement."

## Bisquick Fried Chicken

This recipe is a bit deceiving because the chicken is not fried but baked.

### Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon butter
- 2/3 cup Bisquick Baking Mix
- 1 1/2 teaspoons paprika
- 1 1/4 teaspoons salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 3 to 3 1/2 pounds chicken, whole (cut-up broiler-fryer chicken)

### Instructions

- Preheat the oven to 425 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Place butter in a 13x9-inch baking dish (or pan) and melt it in the oven. Set aside.
- Combine Bisquick, paprika, salt, and pepper in a bowl.

Coat the chicken with the Bisquick mixture.

- Place the chicken in the baking dish with the skin side down. Butter and dish should still be hot.
- Bake chicken for 35 minutes, uncovered. Flip the pieces over and bake for another 15 minutes. To ensure they're done, poke the chicken with a knife. If the juices oozing out are no longer pink, they're good to go.

# THANK YOU FOR READING THE PARSONS ADVOCATE

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## Super Crossword

### PEOPLE WITH CONNECTIONS

<b>ACROSS</b>	<b>DOWN</b>
1 Stew morsels	1 Paw bottoms
5 G-man, e.g.	2 "The Time Machine" race
8 Bun-topping seeds	3 Guys staffing military flights
15 Razor brand	4 Watch brand
19 "That's —!" ("Untrue!")	5 Count up
20 God, in Turin	6 Designer Versace
21 Perk up	7 Playing (with)
22 Picnic pests	8 — Diego
23 "Secret Love" singer having two opposing personalities?	9 Conclusion
26 Performs like LL Cool J	10 "Ransom" actor Gary
27 2007 documentary about the U.S. health care system	11 Mennonite sect
28 Pick-up-sticks math game	12 Soft rock?
29 Suffix with 110-Across	13 Archaic verb suffix
30 "Aquaman" star Jason	14 In position
31 "Seven Year Ache" singer buying goods at wholesale?	15 Overseas
37 — kwon do	16 List of players, in sports
39 Change habitats	17 It shows a pupil's grades
40 Brigitte of "Contempt"	18 Analyze
41 Not smart	24 "Rescue us!"
44 Height. Abbr.	25 — Hess (former oil giant)
45 Ghana's capital	30 Jazz singer Carmen
47 Biol. or geol.	32 Visa rival, for short
	33 Soothes
	34 "— boy!"
	35 "La Brea" network
	36 "Nuts!"
	37 One-on-one instructor
	38 Positive pole
	42 "I believe," to texters
	43 Iniquitous
	45 Pungent
	46 "— ching!"
	48 Tax-deferred svgs. plans
	50 Motionless
	51 "Hud" actress Patricia
	52 Huck Finn, for one
	54 Burn a bit
	58 Williams of tennis
	62 Lyric poem
	63 Huck Finn, for one
	65 Prez called "Ike"
	66 Net pop-ups, e.g.
	67 "Uptown Girl" singer Billy
	68 Oxide, e.g.
	69 Fetus' home
	70 Play award
	71 "Let —" ("Frozen" song)
	72 Time soon to come
	73 Suspension bridge part
	76 Popular food seasoning brand
	77 Cornrow, e.g.
	81 Slugging stat
	82 Crucial artery
	83 Went across
	85 Print quality stat
	87 In a very cold manner
	88 Pick out
	90 Welcome
	91 Poet Ogden
	94 China's Mao — -tung
	98 Actress Quinn
	99 Blossom
	100 Mystery awards
	101 English biscuits
	103 Some Miller beers
	104 Arm muscle, informally
	105 Words on a help desk
	106 NYC rep starting in '19
	107 Rock — (Brazilian music festival)
	112 Weizman of Israel
	113 Novice
	115 Fast plane
	116 In the style of
	117 Suffix with alp
	118 "Inc." relative
	119 Female deer

## Weather Totals

Feb 10 - Feb. 17, 2026

### Nursery Bottom Parsons

#### Temperature

Max 61° F  
Min 17° F

#### Precipitation

Week 0.28"  
February 0.60"  
2026 4.34"

#### Snowfall

New Snow 0"  
Snow on ground 1"  
Winter Total 32.5"

U.S. Forest Service

## Weekly SUDOKU

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

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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# WVU Cancer Institute first in the world to treat ultra-rare leukemia using novel subcutaneous immunotherapy

Morgantown, W.Va. – A WVU Cancer Institute team has achieved a global medical first in a clinical trial examining the efficacy of subcutaneous blinatumomab in treating one of the rarest and most aggressive forms of leukemia.

The investigator-initiated Phase II clinical trial, led by Ashkan Emadi, M.D., Ph.D., principal investigator of the study and Alexander Bland Osborn Distinguished Professor of Medical Oncology in the WVU School of Medicine, marks the first-ever use of a subcutaneous formulation delivery for blinatumomab in CD19-positive mixed phenotype acute leukemia (MPAL).

While MPAL only accounts for one-to-three percent of acute leukemias diagnosed, adults diagnosed with MPAL face a median survival rate often measured in months. There is no consensus among medical experts on treatment, and no FDA-approved, disease-specific therapies are currently available to address a critical, unmet need.

“Patients with MPAL have faced an extraordinary therapeutic void,” Dr. Emadi said. “This first-in-world treatment offers real hope that we can improve both outcomes and quality of life for a patient population that has been historically overlooked.”

The trial’s first patient received the milestone blinatumomab dose on Jan. 16.

“After only a single cycle of subcutaneous blinatumomab, the patient achieved complete remission with full hematologic recovery, including transfusion independence and the absence of the Philadelphia chromosome, an abnormal chromosome associated with certain types of leukemia, which is an outcome that is both unprec-

edented and highly encouraging,” Emadi said.

“The therapy was exceptionally well tolerated and transitioned entirely to the outpatient setting after the first week. The patient is currently at home with outstanding performance status and preserved organ function as we prepare to initiate cycle two.”

## An innovation in immunotherapy

Blinatumomab (Blincyto®), a bispecific T-cell engager targeting CD19 has increased survival in patients in B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Treatment has traditionally required continuous intravenous (IV) infusion via pumps over a period of 28 days, prolonging hospitalization or home infusion.

The WVU Cancer Institute-led trial is evaluating a subcutaneous formulation designed to deliver comparable therapeutic exposure without the burden of continuous IV administration. Investigators believe this approach may significantly reduce treatment complexity, lower hospitalization requirements, and improve patient experience.

“Access to clinical trials is critical in treating patients with cancer, including those who have rare types of cancer like MPAL,” Hannah Hazard-Jenkins, M.D., executive chair and director of the WVU Cancer Institute, said. “Clinical trials offer the highest level of care for patients, even in our most rural communities. These trials represent our continued focus on doing what is best for our patients by providing innovative treatments and compassionate care to improve outcomes.”

This Phase II study will enroll up to 75 patients across three clinical cohorts, including:



A WVU Cancer Institute team led by Ashkan Emadi, M.D., Ph.D., (pictured) is the first in the world to examine the efficacy of subcutaneous blinatumomab in treating one of the rarest and most aggressive forms of leukemia. The trial marks the first-ever use of a subcutaneous formulation delivery for blinatumomab in CD19-positive mixed phenotype acute leukemia.

- Newly diagnosed MPAL patients who are older than 75 years of age or unable to undergo intensive chemotherapy
- Patients in morphologic complete remission with measurable residual disease (MRD) positivity
- Patients with relapsed or refractory MPAL
- As enrollment expands, this trial, if successful, could redefine the standard of care for CD19-positive MPAL and establish a new paradigm for delivering complex immunotherapies with a safer, more patient-centered approach to patients nationwide and internationally.

“This breakthrough reflects the core of our mission at West Virginia University – advancing research that improves health and changes lives,” Clay Marsh, M.D., chancellor and executive dean for WVU Health Sciences, said.

“By leading a first-in-world therapy for such a rare and aggressive leukemia, our team is showing how innovation and scientific rigor at the WVU Cancer Institute can create real impact for patients who have long lacked options. This work strengthens our commitment to transforming care and improving the well-being of the communities we serve.”

The WVU Cancer Institute serves as the coordinating center for this multicenter trial, which is expected to open at approximately 15 sites across North America. Due to the extreme rarity of MPAL, enrollment is projected at one-to-three patients per site, per year. The WVU Cancer Institute is currently the only active enrollment site and is accepting trial participant referrals from across the globe.

“This achievement underscores that transformative cancer innovation is not confined to large institutions,” Emadi said. “It’s happening here in West Virginia, and it’s reaching patients who need it most.”

To learn more about the WVU Cancer Institute MPAL clinical trial or refer a patient, email MPALStudyWVUCI@hsc.wvu.edu or call 304-293-5949.

## About the WVU Cancer Institute

The WVU Cancer Institute is committed to providing high-quality cancer care and leading-edge research to patients in West Virginia and beyond. Through collaborations with top researchers and clinicians, the WVU Cancer Institute aims to translate groundbreaking discoveries into effective cancer therapies. Additionally, by offering a network of sites around the state, the WVU Cancer Institute has made cancer care close to home a priority and more accessible than ever. For more information, visit WVUMedicine.org/Cancer.

## Taylor Hospitality Management Appoints Holly Ferguson as Director of Sales for The Railyard Event & Conference Center



Holly Ferguson, Director of Sales for The Railyard Event & Conference Center

Elkins, WV: Taylor Hospitality Management is pleased to announce the appointment of Holly Ferguson as Director of Sales for The Railyard Event & Conference Center. In this role, Ferguson will lead all group and event sales efforts, supporting The Railyard’s mission to become a premier destination for conferences, performances, and special events in the region.

As Director of Sales, Ferguson will oversee bookings for the Conference Center and performance theater, including corporate meetings, conferences, weddings, banquets, tour groups, and special events. She will work closely with venue leadership and in collaboration with the Director of Entertainment to ensure a seamless experience for clients hosting both meetings and live performances at The Railyard.

The Railyard Event & Conference Center offers a highly flexible confer-

ence environment, with the ability to book the full space for large-scale events or configure the venue for smaller to mid-size meetings and conferences. Through the use of partition walls, the Conference Center can be converted into four distinct spaces, providing versatile layout options to meet a wide range of event needs.

“I’m honored to step into the role of Director of Sales for The Railyard Event & Conference Center,” said Ferguson. “This venue brings an exciting new level of opportunity to Elkins, offering a professional-grade stage, versatile collaboration spaces, and the ability to host corporate, private, and special events of all sizes. I look forward to working with our community and clients to help bring memorable events to life right here in our region.”

Ferguson brings a strong background in hospitality and event sales,

with a focus on relationship-building, customized solutions, and delivering exceptional client experiences. Her leadership will be instrumental in positioning The Railyard as a flexible, full-service venue capable of serving local, regional, and destination events.

“The Railyard was created to benefit Randolph County, and Holly’s work supports that goal,” said Robbie Morris, Executive Director of Randolph County Development Authority. “Her leadership and collaborative approach help position the venue as a place that brings people together while contributing to local growth.”

“Holly’s expertise in group sales and her collaborative approach make her a key addition to The Railyard leadership team,” said Sean Taylor, Chief Executive Officer of Taylor Hospitality Management. “Her role is central to connecting clients with the venue’s unique capabilities and ensuring each event is executed with care and professionalism.”

The Railyard Event & Conference Center features a modern conference center, a 410-seat performance theater, and adaptable event spaces designed to accommodate everything from intimate meetings to large-scale conferences and live entertainment.

For information about booking meetings, weddings, banquets, performances, or group events at The Railyard Event & Conference Center, interested parties are encouraged to contact the sales team directly by visiting the website at therailyardwv.com.

## Obituaries

### Genevieve “Gennie” Joye Arnold Streets

Genevieve “Gennie” Joye Arnold Streets, age 80 years, a resident of the Sugarlands Community, Hambleton, WV, left this life and many loved ones behind on Saturday evening, February 14, 2026, surrounded by her loved ones, to join her husband Bob Streets who preceded her in death, along with her oldest son Chuck Canfield and other family members and treasured friends.

Gennie was born Sunday, April 22, 1945, in Sugarlands, Hambleton, WV to the late Charles Daniel and Stella Mae Sampson Arnold.

In addition to her parents, Charles and Stella Arnold, she is preceded in death by her husband Bob Dale “Bobby” Streets, oldest son, Charles “Chuck” Canfield, along with four brothers, Charles “Tarzan” William Arnold, John Junior Arnold, Leonard Arnold and Harry Arnold; and two sisters, Sarah Mae Bolyard and Barbara Ann Firl.

Gennie is survived by her children, Susan Canfield Plumley, Parsons, WV, Chucks wife, Cheryl Sentle Canfield, Fayette, OH, Iva Canfield Joyner, husband Marcus, Elkins,



WV, Howard Canfield, wife Holly, Sugarlands, Hambleton, WV, Angela Streets Bolton, husband Keith, Harrisonburg, VA, Eliza Streets McVicker, Thomas, WV, Joseph Streets, Sugarlands, Hambleton, WV, and her many generations of grandchildren. Her siblings, one brother, Clyde Arnold and wife Aggie, Fork Mt, Parsons, three sisters, Floda “Skeets” Anstine, Deep Creek, MC, Helen Lyon, Gladston, MO and Mary Dumire and husband Jim, Petersburg, WV

Gennie was Brethren by faith and very active in her church. Her love and devotion to God and her family came first and foremost in her life. She raised seven children and helped raise multiple grandchildren. She loved to be surrounded by her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Gennie was known to

most as mom or granny to not only her own, but to many who came into her life through her children and grandchildren. She claimed them all. She was an active member in the 4-H Club and the Sugarlands Homemakers Club, along with other activities in the community. Gennie was a very social person and loved by all she met. She has left an impact on every person she ever came in contact with. She will be missed by all those who know her and most by her children and grandchildren, whom will keep her in their heart always.

The family will receive friends at the Lohr & Barb Funeral Home on Tuesday, February 24, 2026 from 11 AM to 1 PM. Final rites will be conducted at the funeral home on Tuesday at 1 PM. The Reverend Kevin Gainer will officiate and interment will follow at the Rose Hill Cemetery in Thomas, WV. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is honored to be in charge of the arrangements for Genevieve “Gennie” Joye Arnold Streets. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com.

LET US KNOW “WHAT’S HAPPENING”  
304-478-3533

OBITUARY  
SUBMISSIONS DUE  
FRIDAY AT 3PM

# Glenville State University Donates \$2,500 to Support Gorilla Youth Inc.



Glenville State University (GSU) has donated \$2,500 to Gorilla Youth Inc. to help further its mission of empowering at-risk youth across West Virginia through athletics, leadership development, and character building.

Glenville, WV – On Wednesday, February 18, GSU President Dr. Mark A. Manchin met with representatives from Gorilla Sports to tour the facility and formally present the donation in support of Gorilla Youth's ongoing work.

"At Glenville State University, we believe in investing in the future of West Virginia," said Manchin. "Gorilla Youth is making a meaningful difference by helping young people develop discipline, leadership, and confidence through athletics while maintaining a strong focus on academics. We are proud to support an organization that is building stronger students, stronger athletes, and stronger communities."

Gorilla Youth's mission is rooted in the belief that every child in West Virginia is at risk—not because of a lack of potential, but because of limited resources and opportunities. Through sport-specific strength and conditioning programs, the organization provides free or low-cost training, equipment, and scholarships to hundreds of student-athletes. Participants are expected to



maintain a minimum 2.8 GPA, remain engaged in the classroom, and involve their families in the process, reinforcing the organization's commitment to developing the total student-athlete.

The program supports athletes across numerous sports, including football, basketball, wrestling, cross country, volleyball, soccer, baseball, softball, golf, track, and swimming. Gorilla Youth is also expanding into AAU competition through initiatives such as the Gorilla Strength Wrestling Club and Gorilla Youth Basketball, providing greater exposure for West Virginia athletes on regional and national stages.

Thanks to community partnerships and donor support, Gorilla Youth has helped more than 100 athletes earn college scholarships at the Division I, Division II, and other collegiate levels, while preparing others for professional opportunities.

GSU's contribution reflects the University's continued commitment to fostering educational access, leadership development, and community engagement throughout the Mountain State. By investing in organizations like Gorilla Youth, Glenville State University is helping ensure that West Virginia's young people have the opportunities they need to succeed.

## HISTORY

Cont. From Page 7

tion. It is now a university.

**March 1, 1898:** Homer Adams Holt was born in Lewisburg. In 1937, he became West Virginia's 20th governor.

**March 1, 2011:** Sutton native Jorea Marple was sworn in as West Virginia's first female superintendent of schools.

**March 2, 1840:** The Virginia General Assembly granted a charter for Bethany College. From the beginning, it has been a four-year, baccalaureate-degree college, the oldest such institution in West Virginia.

**March 2, 1896:** Clair Bee was born in Pennsboro. Bee was a successful, innovative college basketball coach and widely published author of both technical basketball books and young adult fiction centered on sports.

**March 2, 1915:** A blast swept through Layland No. 3

Mine in Fayette County, killing 114 men.

**March 2, 1927:** The West Virginia capitol building known as the "pasteboard capitol" was destroyed by fire. This wood-frame building in downtown Charleston had been built in just 42 days after the previous Victorian-style capitol building burned in 1921.

**March 2, 1961:** Governor Wally Barron signed legislation that granted Marshall College university status.

**March 3, 1843:** Barbour County was created from parts of Lewis, Harrison and Randolph counties and named for Virginia jurist Philip Pendleton Barbour.

*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.*



## LEGAL

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

Deceased	Personal Representative(s)
Jo Ellen Bland	Rebecca Ayling
1st publication 02/18/26	PO Box 1446
2nd publication 02/25/26	Shepherdstown, WV 25443-1446
Mary Veronica Johnson	Theresa Louise Lepage
1st publication 02/18/26	PO Box 1436
2nd publication 02/25/26	Harrisburg, NC 28075

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

### NOTICE OF ANCILLARY FILING WITHOUT ANY ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that a foreign will or affidavit has been filed before the Tucker County Commission at 211 First St., Suite 205, Parsons, WV 26287.

That no appointment or administration is being made pursuant to the provisions of law but that a foreign will or affidavit of heirs of the following decedent has been filed with the Tucker County Commission and is of record in the Tucker County Clerk's Office.

Any interested person objecting to the filing of the foreign will or affidavit or objecting to the absence of appointment or administration being made in this State must be filed with the County Commission within 60 days after the first publication date or within 30 days of the service of the notice, whichever is later. If an objection is not filed timely, the objection is forever barred.

1st Publication Date:	February 18, 2026
2nd Publication Date:	February 25, 2026
Decedent:	Sarah K. Blackwood
Filed By:	Kenton Q. Blackwood 709 Worthington Drive Bridgeport, WV 26330-1132

Relationship: Son  
Subscribed and sworn to before me on February 11, 2026,  
Barbara Evans  
Tucker County Clerk

## 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 WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$ 1,187.47

**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 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 FOR BIDS CITY OF PARSONS DEMOLITION PROJECT PARSONS, WEST VIRGINIA

Sealed bids for the Demolition Project will be received by the City of Parsons, 341 Second Street, Parsons, Tucker County, West Virginia until 11:00 AM, on Thursday, March 19, 2026; at which time, bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The scope of the work to be bid upon is described as follows:

Demolition of the structures located at 126 Billings Avenue, 220 Poplar Street, and 208 Jameson Avenue, Parsons, Tucker County, West Virginia. Work shall include asbestos abatement, demolition, grading sites for positive drainage, and seeding and mulching the disturbed area. Contractor is responsible for all traffic control, all necessary federal, state, and local permitting, removal of debris to a licensed landfill, coordinating for the disconnection of all utilities, and any other miscellaneous work necessary for the demolition of said structures.

The contract will have a construction time limit of sixty (60) calendar days with liquidated damages of one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars per day. Asbestos abatement must be performed in accordance with West Virginia Division of Health Legislative Rules Title 64 Series 63, OSHA Asbestos Construction Standard 29 CFR 1926.1101, and the EPA Asbestos NESHAP guidelines 40 CFR 61, Subpart M. A Notice of Abatement, Demolition, or Renovation form must be submitted to the proper agencies, and a 10-day notice given prior to the commencement of abatement on this project.

Bidding documents may be obtained or examined at the Parson City Hall, City of Parsons, 341 Second Street, Parsons, West Virginia 26416.

A bidder may not withdraw their bid for a period of thirty (30) days after the date set for the opening of bids. Bidders must hold a current West Virginia Contractor's License on the date of Bid Opening.

A pre-bid conference will be held at Parsons City Hall located at 341 Second Street, Parsons, Tucker County, West Virginia on Thursday, March 5, 2026 at 2:30 PM. Bids received after the scheduled closing time for the reception of bids will be returned unopened to the bidders.

The City of Parsons reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities.

Mike Simmons, City Manager  
City of Parsons

## WVDNR stocks 59 waters during week of Feb. 9

### Anglers are reminded to purchase a 2026 fishing license and trout stamp

Charleston, W.Va. — The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) today announced that the following lakes and streams were stocked with trout during the week of Feb. 9:

- Anawlt Lake
- Anthony Creek
- Big Clear Creek
- Big Sandy Creek
- Blackwater River (Camp 70 Road not stocked)
- Boley Lake
- Buckhannon River
- Buffalo Creek (Brooke)
- Burnsville Tailwaters
- Cacapon Park Lakes
- Camp Creek
- Castleman Run Lake
- Conaway Run Lake
- Coopers Rock Lake
- Dillons Run
- Dry Fork (Randolph)
- East River
- French Creek Pond
- Glade Creek of Mann
- Howards Creek
- Kimsey Run Lake
- Knapps Creek
- Krodel Lake
- Laurel Creek Cherry River
- Left Fork Right Fork Buckhannon River
- Little Clear Creek

- Lost River
- Marsh Fork
- Mash Fork
- Mash Fork Camp Creek (Children and Class Q)
- Mason Lake
- Mill Creek South Branch
- North Fork Cherry River
- Opequon Creek
- Paint Creek
- Panther Creek
- Pendleton Lake
- Pinnacle Creek
- Pond Fork
- Poorhouse Pond
- Potts Creek
- R.D. Bailey Tailwaters
- Right Fork Buckhannon River
- Rollins Lake
- Shavers Fork (Lower Section)
- South Branch (Catch and Release)
- South Branch (Franklin)
- South Branch (Smoke Hole)
- South Mill Creek Lake
- Spruce Knob Lake
- Stonewall Jackson Tailwaters
- Sutton Tailwaters
- Thomas Park Lake
- Trout Run
- Tuckahoe Lake
- Turkey Run Lake
- Tygart River Headwaters
- Upper Guyandotte River

- Waites Run

While daily trout stockings are not announced in advance, the WVDNR publishes a list of recently stocked waters at [WVdnr.gov/fish-stocking](http://WVdnr.gov/fish-stocking). In the event of inclement weather, hatchery staff will make up missed stockings before the end of the month (weather permitting) by making additional stocking runs or adding extra fish to upcoming stockings. For more information about trout stocking locations, anglers should check pages 6-7 in the Fishing Regulations Summary, available to download at [WVdnr.gov/fishing-regulations](http://WVdnr.gov/fishing-regulations).

All anglers 15 years and older are required to have a West Virginia fishing license and a valid form of identification while fishing in the state of West Virginia. Trout stamps are required for those fishing for trout. Licenses and stamps may be purchased online at [WVfish.com](http://WVfish.com).

# West Virginia Highlands Conservancy and Friends of the 500th to host film screening honoring the Legacy of Helen McGinnis and Dolly Sods Wilderness Area



Davis, W.Va. — On Saturday, March 21, 2026, the West Virginia Highlands Conservancy (WVHC) and Friends of the 500th will present a special screening of the new short documentary *Dolly Sods and the Legacy of Helen McGinnis* at the Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge. The event begins at 6 p.m., with Helen McGinnis in attendance for a post-film discussion.

Directed by West Virginia native and freelance filmmaker Clara Haizlett, the film chronicles McGinnis's determined efforts to secure federal Wilderness designation for Dolly Sods — a landscape once dismissed as too damaged to protect under the U.S. Forest Service's "purity doctrine."

In 1975, with the passage of the Eastern Wilderness Act, Dolly Sods became one of West Virginia's first federally designated wilderness areas, marking a pivotal victory for conservation in the Mountain State. The designation proved that lands scarred by logging, fire, and wartime use could be restored and permanently protected for future generations.

Through McGinnis's meticulous documentation of the land and its resources — and alongside fellow leaders of the West Virginia Highlands Conservancy — the longstanding purity doctrine was overturned for the first time in history. Their work helped establish a precedent that reshaped wilderness policy nationwide, opening the door for the protection of landscapes previously

considered beyond recovery.

Today, more than 40,000 visitors annually experience the windswept heath barrens, sweeping vistas, and quiet backcountry of Dolly Sods Wilderness. In 2021, WVHC partnered with the Monongahela National Forest to launch the Dolly Sods Wilderness Stewards program, sponsoring volunteer stewardship efforts to manage and preserve the wilderness and surrounding areas.

The film honors not only McGinnis's legacy but also the ongoing responsibility to defend and steward West Virginia's natural heritage. In 2025, Dolly Sods Wilderness marked the 51st anniversary of its designation under the Eastern Wilderness Act. As the community reflects on five decades of protected wilderness, the event also renews a shared commitment to ensuring Dolly Sods remains wild, resilient, and accessible for the next fifty years and beyond.

In addition to the featured documentary, the evening will include a special screening of *Mother Daughter Earth*, an award winning and deeply personal film by filmmaker Julia Huffman. The documentary explores the enduring bond between Huffman and her mother, Beth Little — a former West Virginia Highlands Conservancy board member — while reflecting on memory, legacy, and the powerful influence of Appalachia on their lives. Through intimate storytelling and a meditation on land, family, and stewardship, *Mother Daughter*



Courtesy of West Virginia Highlands Conservancy.

*Earth* serves as a tribute to generations of women whose love for the Appalachian Mountains helped shape the conservation movement in West Virginia.

Preserving West Virginia for future generations [wvhighlands.org](http://wvhighlands.org)

### Event Details

**What:** Screening of *Dolly Sods and the Legacy of Helen McGinnis* and *Mother Daughter Earth* Date: Saturday, March 21, 2026

**Time:** 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge, 6263 Appalachian

Hwy, Davis, WV 26260

A panel discussion and audience Q&A with Helen McGinnis will follow the screening. Additional screening of *Mother Daughter Earth* will be shown.

**Registration:** Attendance is free, but donations are encouraged. Space is limited. Advance registration is required at: <https://www.wvhighlands.org/2026/02/13/dolly-sods/>

For more information about the event or the work of the West Virginia Highlands Conservancy, please visit [wvhighlands.org](http://wvhighlands.org).

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the editor,

It was refreshing to hear the news that Kris Warner, the WV Secretary of State, has refused to share the personal information of registered West Virginia voters with the Federal government.

As of February 4th, Secretary Warner has received two demands from the U.S. Department of Justice to turn over the names, dates of birth, residential addresses, driver's license numbers, and last four digits of social security numbers of all registered WV voters. In response, Mr. Warner has rightly pointed out that the U.S. Constitution explicitly places responsibility for elections with the individual states, not the federal government. I applaud this action.

His decision is a welcome respite from the news of the current state legislative session. There seems to be a monotonous scurry of Republicans in Charleston to move backwards. They are loosening health-protecting environmental regulations. They are failing to provide adequate support for public schools, foster children, addiction services, reproductive health. They have removed local decision-making for placement of data-centers. They have big smiles as they assist the powerful, not regular citizens.

Mimi Kibler  
Parsons

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