The Parsons Advocate

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF TUCKER COUNTY SINCE 1896

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St. George Medical Clinic and Pharmacy

In celebration of Juneteenth, all St. George Medical Clinic and Pharmacy locations will be closed on Friday, June 19th.

We will resume regular hours on Saturday, June 20th. If you need assistance or have any questions, please feel free to reach out before the holiday.

Please remember if you are experiencing a medical emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.



The Mt. Storm Power Plant is located just across the county line from Tucker County in Grant County and employs many Tucker County residents. Power from the plant supplies homes and businesses throughout the area.

Mt. Storm One of Four Coal Plants To Receive $350 Million DOE Coal Modernization Grant

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

The local Mt. Storm facility was one of four projects selected by the U.S. Department of Energy to receive funding under the DOEs "Restoring Reliability: Coal Recommissioning and Modernization" initiative.

"Affordable, reliable energy is the foundation of human prosperity and economic growth," said DOE Undersecretary of Energy Kyle Haustveit. "These investments will help unleash America's coal miners so they can continue delivering the energy our nation needs to keep the lights on and power the future. Rest assured, coal will play a critical role in our nation's long-term energy security."

Under the program, the Mt. Storm Project could receive up to $350 million to "expand and reinvigorate America's coal fleet through targeted upgrades that increase efficiency, extend plant life, and add dependable capacity." The announcement came in a DOE press release June 4th on the DOE website.

The DOE stated, "the selection of four coal modernization and reliability projects to strengthen coal-based generation, grid reliability, and strategic energy infrastructure. The selected projects will expand and reinvigorate America's coal fleet through targeted upgrades that increase efficiency, extend plant life, and support reliable baseload power generation."

Mt. Storm was one of two projects, along with Anchorage, Alaska, that are planning to construct new coal-fired power plants with a combined capacity of 2,850 MW of energy. The other two projects announced were a project in Cumberland, Maryland that plans to recommission a 205 – MW coal facility that ceased operations in 2024 and a project in Puerto Rico to retro fit and modernize an existing coal-fired facility.

The overall funding committed by the DOE is $525 million, which includes $175 million towards six previously announced projects to upgrade existing coal facilities. The six previous projects included three West Virginia projects in Letart, Winfield and Maidsville; one project in Brilliant Ohio, a project in Sauratown, North Carolina, a project in Cheshire, Ohio and a project in Ghent, Kentucky.

The Mt. Storm Power Plant is estimated to employ between 400 to 500 people directly, across its major energy facilities and regional vendors. Mt. Storm is a subsidiary of Dominion Energy and employs approximately 24 union IBEW tradespeople, as well as varying management, engineering professionals and local contractors at the power plant, itself. Mt. Storm also includes the MT. Storm Wind Farm (Vestas), which operates the wind turbine operations at the site.

Road Delays

US 219 will be reduced to one lane, beginning Monday, June 8, 2026, through Wednesday, July 8, 2026, (including the weekends), for a paving project.

TUCKER COUNTY, WV – US 219 will be reduced to one lane, beginning Monday, June 8, 2026, through Wednesday, July 8, 2026 (including the weekends), for a paving project. Traffic will be controlled by stop lights by night and flaggers during the day. The work is .50 miles south of County Route 31 (Wolf Run Road) and County Route 219/4 (Mackeyville Road) and US 219 intersections. Allowance for emergency vehicles, school buses, and United States Postal Service will be made during the day; all motorists are to expect delays.

Senators Smith, Taylor Update Tucker County Public in Parsons



West Virginia State Senator Jay Taylor answers a question from a member of the Tucker County public at the Legislative Update hosted by the Tucker County Chamber of Commerce June 2nd at the Parsons Senior Center.

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

The Tucker County Chamber of Commerce hosted a Legislative Update June 2nd at the Parsons Senior Center at which the President of the West Virginia Senate Randy Smith and West Virginia State Senator Jay Taylor addressed a variety of issues from this year's legislative session.

Member of the West Virginia House of Delegates District 85 John Paul Hott II was also invited to attend, but declined, due to not running for reelection, according to Tucker County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jessica Waldo, who acted as Master of Ceremonies for the event.

First to speak on the legislative session was Senator Smith, who has represented Tucker County for 14 years, who began by explaining not only how many bills were passed this session, but why so many bills were passed with his name attached. He said his position as President of the Senate attaches his name to bills that are introduced from the Governor, as well as many other sources that cannot introduce bills directly to the floor themselves.

See SENATORS page 9

Slip-Up on Slip Hill



A CRST driver found himself in a precarious situation at Slip Hill on Holly Meadows Road between St. George and Parsons, June 1st. Local Resident Kelley Wolfe-Lipscomb caught the driver red handed in this photo around noon.

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

A CRST driver jacknifed on Slip Hill June 1st. The incident occurred around noon on Holly Meadows Road between St. George and Parsons.

The truck slid off of Holly Meadows Road on the curve on the way to Parsons from St. George, according to witnesses. The truck was eventually pulled out by Nelson's, according to locals.

The incident ignited on ongoing debate online about the use of GPS by commercial drivers exclusively, leading to an apparent lack of common sense and judgment. Debate also raged over the use of non-English speaking drivers by companies.

Officials with the State Department of Transportation have expressed frustration in the past while at the office in Elkins during a Corridor H Open House with County officials and members of the public in May of 2023. During that meeting Deputy State Highway Engineer Joe Pack explained that the State constantly contacts GPS and trucking companies regarding the issue.

"We reach out to all these mapping companies consistently through our IT Department," Pack said in 2023. "And we give them information and we tell them, you can go to our site, wv.transportation.gov, you can go in there and look and it will have our road system on there with the proper names and proper route numbers on them. And Google and these other companies don't give any changes or any feedback to us. We reach out."

Pack also said that much of the problems stem from modern reliance on GPS and language issues. Pack said during the meeting that there have been issues with drivers not being able to read the signs that warn them that roads are not recommended for large vehicles. He also explained to those present during the open house that while these roads may only be one lane or not recommended for those vehicles, they cannot legally keep drivers off of them because they are public highways.

"We do reach out to these companies, however, we can't control it and all of our roads are public roads and there's only a few instances where we actually prohibit certain type of vehicles from using our roads and its usually just because the bridges can't hold their weight...We cannot prohibit any vehicles from using our roads. We can only recommend," Pack said.

Tucker County Family Support Center Seeks Support

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

The Tucker County Family Support Center is seeking the help of local residents. The Center is seeking the help of locals in sharing their experiences and stories with Governor Morrisey's Office in support of the Center.

"We are grateful to the West Virginia Legislature for recognizing the importance of these services and approving funding for Family Support Centers in the state budget," the Call to Action states. "Their support demonstrates a commitment to strengthening families and investing in the future of our communities."

The Tucker County Family Resource Center issued a Call to Action on Friday, June 5th. The reason the Center gave was simple, the future of their funding was uncertain this fiscal year.

"As we move toward a new fiscal year, funding for Family Support Centers remains uncertain," the Call to Action states. "We want state leaders, specifically Governor Patrick Morrisey, to understand the meaningful impact these

See FAMILY page 2

News of Record

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

- **Angela K. Neu,** was charged with one count of Driving under the influence of alcohol. The complaint states that on Monday, June 1 Cpl. C.R. Summerfield of the Tucker County Sheriff's office (TCSO) was patrolling Parsons when he observed a vehicle sitting at the Pulp Mill Bottom Baseball field. He observed the vehicle to be running with the headlights on. He approached the vehicle and spoke with the driver, a female subject namely Angela Neu. She stated she did not have any identification with her but provided her name and date of birth. She also provided the vehicle registration.
  Upon speaking with her the officer could smell the odor of alcohol. Her eyes were bloodshot and glassy and her speech was slurred. He observed two bottles of alcohol in the passenger seat. PFC N. Gidley of the Parsons Police Department (PPD) arrived on scene and observed an additional bottle of alcohol in the backseat of the vehicle. Summerfield directed Neu to step out of the vehicle to perform field sobriety tests which she failed. During the Breath test she provided an insufficient breath sample with no reading. He placed her under arrest and transported her to the PPD for the intoximeter. After reading and explaining the West Virginia implied Consent Statement Nue refused the test. After a period of 15 minutes, she refused the test again.
- **Jason Lee Fischer,** of Broken Bow, OK was charged with one count Obstructing an Officer and one count of Assault. According to the complaint, on Sunday, May 31 Cpl. C.R. Summerfield of the Tucker Count Sheriff's office (TCSO) and Trooper D. Tate of the West Virginia Stat Police (WVSP) were dispatched to 658 Henry Avenue in Davis by the Tucker County Communications (911). 911 advised of a physical altercation between male subjects. 911 advised that three men were staying together at a residence and the caller lacked himself in a room while the other gentleman was handling the intoxicated individual. Officers arrived on scene and were met outside by Jason Fischer and William Buyd Roberson. Fischer appeared to be intoxicated. Upon speaking with both parties, it was discovered that the two subjects got into a verbal argument. Fischer allegedly swung at Roberson attempting to hit him. Roberson allegedly then struck Fischer. While attempting to gather further information from Roberson, Fischer was instructed to go back inside of the house multiple times. Fischer continued to open the door and walk outside to where the officers were speaking with Roberson.
- **Raymond Harvey Deaver,** of Brambleton, Va, was charged with one count of Domestic Battery and one count of DUI 1st. According to the complaint, on Wednesday, June 3, at approximately 7:55 p.m., Trooper D.M. Tate was dispatched by Tucker County 911 to a single-vehicle accident on US219, near the Tucker-Randolph County line, to assist Tucker County Sheriff's Deputy T. Zirk.
  Tate arrived on scene, activated his body-worn camera and observed a tractor trailer that had jackknifed off the roadway. Contact was made with the driver, identified as Raymond Deaver (accused) and a female passenger (victim).
- A strong odor of alcohol was detected coming from the vehicle. Both individuals stated they had been consuming alcohol prior to the incident. The accused displayed multiple indicators of impairment.
  The victim stated that the accused had consumed vodka before operating the truck and that he had physically assaulted her. Tate observed the victim to have a swollen eye and a puffy right cheek consistent with being struck.
  The accused was asked to submit to a preliminary breath test (PBT) which he refused.
  Tate then placed the accused into custody and transported him to the West Virginia State Police Detachment for intoximeter testing. The accused provided a breath sample resulting in a 0.104 BAC and admitted to consuming vodka earlier in the day and prior to operating the vehicle. It is noted the accused holds a CDL license.

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

- **Betty L. Largesse,** Black Fork District, 45.997 acres to Charles J. Knotts and Heather S. Knotts, $46,000.
- **Betty L. Largesse,** Black Fork District, 10.32 acres to Richard Knotts and Tammy Knotts, $10,000.
- **David L. Bolyard, Cheryl L. Bolyard and Joan Gay Bolyard,** Clover District, Memorandum of Wind Energy Lease & Easement Agreement, 45 acres +/- to Renew Development Holdco LLC.
- *Pamela Mosser Wilkes/AKA/Pamela Jo Mosser and John P. Wilkes,* Davis Corporation, Warrant Deed/ Life Estate – Lot 162 to Pamela Jo Mosser Life Estate and Chelsea Marie Nath.
- **Charles B. Branch and Natelie Branch,** Dry Fork District, Lot 10, Spruce Glades, Timberline, 4.80 acres to W. Michael Frazier and Sharon Frazier, $945.000.
- **Keith Bishop,** Dry Fork District, .165 acres Windwood, Duplex Unit 1A to Keith B. Bishop and Kellie Bishop.
- **Canaan Re Holding LLC,** Dry Fork District, Tract 2 – 14.03 acres to JE Inheritance WV LLC, $360,000.
- **Amy E. Haid,** Trustee; Amy E. Haid Living Trust, Dry Fork District, Lot 26 North Lake to Amy Hirshberg Lederman and Joshua E. Lederman, $92,000.
- **North Lake LLC,** Dry Fork District, 27.06 acres to Canna Re Holdings LLC, $430,281.00
- **John G. Stansbury,** Dry Fork District, Quitclaim Deed – Tract 26 Deer Ridge Section 5.06 acres to Cocobean Cabin LLC.
- **Louie's Laundry and Apartments LLC,** Fairfax District, Lot 2 Benbush to Allician D. Hebb, $42,000.
- **Heather Clower,** Parsons Corporation, Deed of Correction – Lot 6 C.E. Plumb Land to Stewart R. Spring, Jr.
- **Stewart R. Spring, Jr.,** Parsons Corporation, Lot 6 and Lot 8, C.E. Plumb Land to H & A Holdings LLC, $7,500.
- **Kenneth W. Winpisinger,** St. George District, 3.09 acres, Horseshoe Run with R/W to William Friend and Kristin Friend, $80,000.

FAMILY

Cont. From Front Page 1

programs have on families in every region of West Virginia."

The Center provides services that "strengthen families, support children, and build healthier communities." Parenting education, family activities, referrals to community resources, support groups, kinship support and prevention-focused programming are all offered to help families.

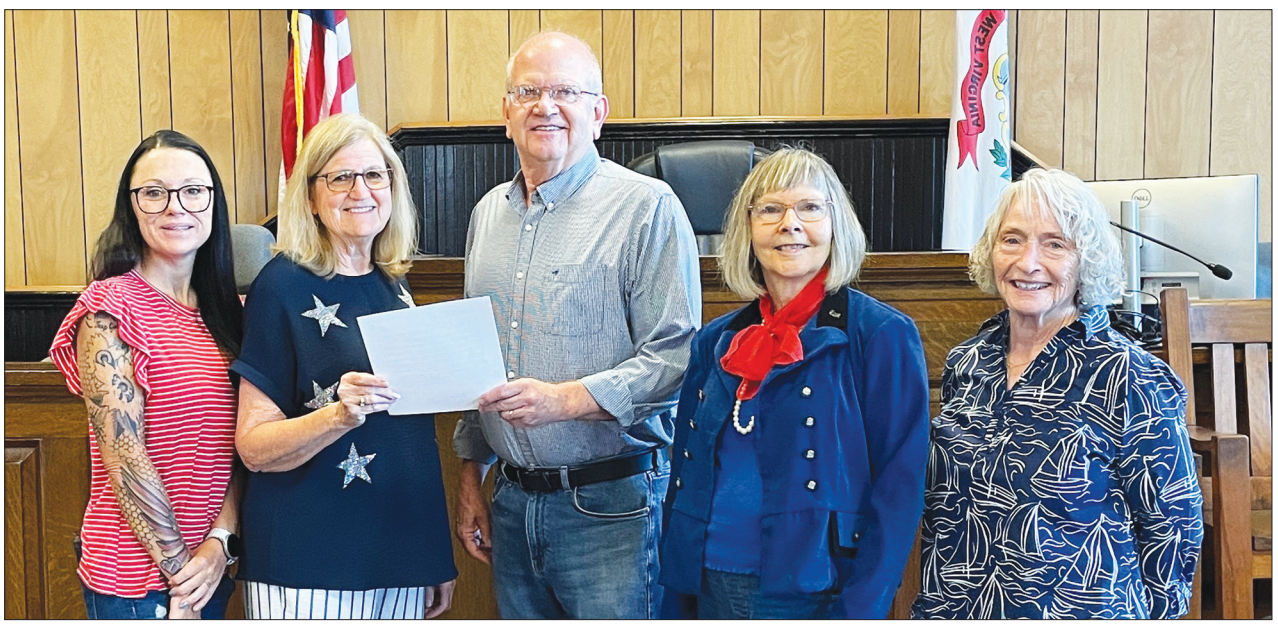
"Every day, Family Support Centers help parents build confidence, connect families with resources, reduce isolation, support healthy child development and create opportunities for families to succeed," the Call to Action states. "These services are preventative, community-based, and designed to strengthen the protective factors that help children and families flourish."

The Center said they encourage community members, partner organizations and families to contact the Office of Governor Morrisey at 304-558-2000 or contact through the website at governor.wv.gov. They encourage those contacting the office to share why Family Support Centers matter to them, including personal stories and local experiences and ask to renew funding for the center.

"Help demonstrate the value these programs bring to communities throughout the Mountain State," the Call to Action states. "Together, we can continue building stronger families, stronger communities and stronger West Virginia."

For more information on the Tucker County Family Support Center call 304-478-3827.

National Garden Week



Pictured at the signing are (L to R): Crystal Nelson, Bonnie Smith, Mike Rosenau, Glenda Lipscomb, and Faith Moore.

Members of the Mountaineer Garden Club in Parsons met with Commissioner Mike Rosenau on Friday, June 5th to sign a Proclamation designating the week of June 7-13 as National Garden Week. This week will be celebrated by National Garden Clubs throughout our Nation, State and County. The Mountaineer Garden Club does much to beautify Parsons by planting a tree in or near Parsons each Arbor Day, picking up trash from Parsons to Hendricks on the Allegheny Highlands Trail in early spring, planting and maintaining over 40 plant boxes downtown and in the parks, planting flowers and shrubbery at the Blue Star Memorial (which they had constructed) on the wall entering Parsons from north on 72, and making seasonal centerpieces to display in our 2 local banks for Christmas and Easter. Other activities the club does to help our community include making Valentines for all the residents in Cortland Acres, sponsoring several 4-H students to enable them to attend 4-H camp at no cost, designating 2 homes and one business each month from April to October as Yard of the Month, and decorating a tree for PRO's Festival of Trees for Christmas. New members are always welcome and needed! Meetings are typically held the first Tuesday of each month except for January and July, at 6pm at 5 Rivers Library, except on special occasions. For information on meetings please call Bonnie Smith, President, at 304-642-8773 or Faith Moore, Tygart Valley District Director, at 304-476-2095.

The Parsons Advocate

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PARSONS ADVOCATE LETTERS TO EDITOR POLICY

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

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

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

Submitting a letter does not guarantee it will be published. All letters become property of The Parsons Advocate. The Parsons Advocate reserves the right to edit and/or reject letters. Personal attacks, lies, and etc. will not be published.

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

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

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

SPORTS

Eleven Middle Schoolers Sign Letters of Intent to Join TCHS Football



Asher Kisamore



Devin White



Elijah O'Brien



Jarrett Dearborn



Legend Harper



Levi Shahan



Matthew Barkley



Quinton Teter



Rylan Sexton



Zane Bright



Wade Boyles

By: Adam Freeman

The future of Tucker County High School football continues to grow brighter as eleven middle school football players have officially signed letters of intent to continue their football careers at Tucker County High School.

The signing ceremony marked an exciting milestone for the young athletes, who will make the transition from middle school football to the next level as members of the Mountain Lions program. Beginning with the 2026 season, the eleven newcomers will proudly wear the black and gold and contribute to the continued success of Tucker County High School football.

Coaches are excited about the potential impact the group will have as they develop their skills and prepare to compete at the varsity level in the coming years.

As the 2026 season approaches, the addition of these eleven student-athletes strengthens the foundation of the Tucker County football program. Their commitment demonstrates the continued growth of football within the county and highlights the strong connection between the middle school and high school programs.

TCHS Boys Basketball Starts Summer Season with a Bang

By: Adam Freeman

The Tucker County High School boys basketball team is back on the hardwood for their annual summer league in Keyser. The Mt. Lions have some new faces and some familiar ones cracking the rotation. Returning to the starting lineup are soon-to-be seniors Cayden Arnold and Ethan Cummings, fellow soon-to-be senior big man Drew Simmons, and junior Ty Ricottilli. The fifth starter for the Mt. Lions was transfer Braylon Ward, a skilled offensive threat who adds more scoring opportunities to the roster.

Tucker took on two teams this past week in Keyser. First, they faced the AAAA Knights of Preston County High School. The Mt. Lions won this one handily, 78-48. Tucker then tipped off against the hometown AAA Keyser Golden Tornadoes. The Mt. Lions finished this one in similar fashion, winning again, 72-42.

Arnold, Cummings, and Ward led the way for the Mt. Lions on the offensive side. TC will return to action next week in Keyser for more summer basketball action.



See B.A.C.F. REPRESENT STORY on page 10

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Tucker Valley Wildcats
Davis Thomas Bears
St. George
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The Parsons Advocate

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Employment Opportunity

The Town of Davis will be accepting applications until 4 pm, June 19, 2026, for the position of utility billing/receiving clerk.
Applications received after this time/date will not be considered.

Job includes the duties of Town Water Clerk, posting & over-seeing the Town Social Media pages, and learning WordPress to post to the Town Website. Computer knowledge is a must with Excel and Word. Would also prefer the applicant to have knowledge of the QuickBooks program and Publisher. Appli-cant will work with the Chief Water Operator & Town Staff in various capacities, in-cluding overseeing reading meters. Job includes overseeing & documenting the Davis Cemetery records, and cross-training with the Town Clerk on payroll, budgets, bill payments, and other duties as assigned.

This is a full-time position with benefits. Salary will be discussed at the interview.

Applications can be picked up at the Town Hall, Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

The Town has the right to accept or reject any or all applications. The Town of Davis is an equal opportunity employer.

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Brian Marshall
Mike Flannery

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Answer

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6	1	7	8	5	3	9	4	2
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Super Crossword

Answers

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WEST VIRGINIA Press
ASSOCIATION • SERVICES • FOUNDATION

What's Happening

Full Board Meeting

The Region VI Workforce Development Full Board will meet Thursday, June 11, 2026, at 10:30 am at the Marion County Convention & Visitors Bureau located in Fairmont, WV. For more information about the meeting, contact Maria Larry at 304-368-9530. Region VI is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. If you have a hearing impairment and need assistance, please call WV Relay 7-1-1. 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 $2,462,559.00 No funding is being received from non-governmental sources for projects and programs provided by Region VI WDB at this time.

FREE Movie Monday

Five Rivers Public Library Movie Monday: *Green and Gold*, June 11, Showings: 1:30 and 5:30 p.m. Free community event. Snacks provided. A fourth-generation dairy farmer on the brink of losing his farm to the bank wagers everything on a bet with his beloved Green Bay Packers while his granddaughter pursues music to save what they've worked for their whole lives

PHS Alumni Association meeting is June 11

The Parsons High School Alumni Association is meeting at 12:00 noon at the Parsons Senior Center on Thursday, June 11, 2026. Lunch is available at 11:30 and the choir sings at 10:30 if you want to come early.

Revival

Sunday, June 14 - Saturday, June 20 at 7:00 p.m. Union Chapel Church, 162 Brushy Fork Rd. (off of the Clover Run Rd) Parsons WV. Guest speakers, Dan Stottlemyer; Bob Dodson; Brian Marshall & Mike Flannery. UCC Pastor Bill Hardy.

Father Grassi Silver Jubilee Celebration

Father Timothy Grassi, former Pastor of the Catholic community in Tucker County, will be returning on Sunday, June 14 to celebrate his Silver Jubilee as a priest. The parishioners from St. Thomas Aquinas in Thomas and Our Lady of Mercy in Parsons, along with all in the community are warmly invited to attend the Solemn High Mass of Thanksgiving at 11 a.m. in Thomas to extend their well wishes to Father Grassi. All of the community are encouraged to come and extend their greetings, well-wishes, and congratulations to Father Grassi until 2:30 p.m.

Retired School Employees Meeting Wed June 17

TC Retired School Employees meeting is Wednesday June 17 at TC Senior Center in Parsons. Lunch is available at 11:30 if you wish, meeting to follow at 12:00 noon. All retirees are welcome.

St. George Senior Outpost is Thursday June 18

St. George Senior Outpost is Thursday, June 18 at 6:00 pm at the St. George Community Church. Bring a covered dish and join us for good food and fellowship.

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

This is the 250th birthday celebration of our country and it is going to be spectacular. I guess there will be giant firework extravaganzas and my dogs will need tranquilizers for a month. I will have a month to prepare for them freaking out and it is going to be a chore. ***Momma Said,*** "Maybe I should have stuck with cats."

I loved picnics when I was a kid and I can still taste the watermelon and smell the campfires. Mom and Gran would take us camping every chance they got and we would have so much fun. I miss those times and just the smell of a fire can reignite those memories.

We shared so much outdoors when we were growing up and my brother and I enjoyed it more than our sisters. We were hardly ever in the house and that is the way I liked it. I'm sure Mom enjoyed it too because we were not underfoot. ***Momma Said,*** "Enough is enough just stay outside."

I feel sorry for kids that have to grow up in cities, they are missing so much and don't even know it. The smell of a freshly mowed hayfield, the sound of birds waking you up in the early morning and butterflies floating in the gentle spring breeze. It was like heaven when school was out and we could spend the entire day just soaking up sunshine and memories.

Watermelon Basil Salad

This recipe only makes four servings so increase ingredients to meet your needs.

Ingredients

- 1/4 cup fresh basil leaves
- 4 cups cubed watermelon
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt, or to taste
- 1/4 teaspoon chili powder

Instructions

- Stack fresh basil leaves on top of each other and roll tightly into a log. Slice lengthwise into thin ribbons.
- Combine basil slices and watermelon in a large bowl. Drizzle lemon juice over watermelon.
- Mix salt and chili powder together; sprinkle over watermelon and toss to combine. Chill salad before serving, at least 30 minutes.

e-WV The West Virginia Encyclopedia

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.

June 10, 1775: The Berkeley County Riflemen were organized by Capt. Hugh Stephenson of Shepherdstown, in response to a call for Revolutionary War soldiers by Gen. George Washington.

June 10, 1921: Labor leader Daniel Vincent Maroney was born on Cabin Creek, Kanawha County. Maroney served as international president of the Amalgamated Transit Union from 1973 to 1981.

June 11, 1769: Journalist Anne Newport Royall was born in Baltimore. At 17, she moved to Monroe County. She later traveled across the country writing candidly about politics, people and places, all controversial for a woman journalist in the early 1800s.

June 11, 1819: Abolitionist Eli Thayer was born in Massachusetts. In 1857, he founded the town of Ceredo, Wayne County, to encourage the growth of free labor communities in the South. His efforts faced strong political opposition and financial problems, and the project never grew as he had hoped.

June 11, 1866: Architect Elmer Forrest Jacobs was born in Preston County. His work can be seen particularly in downtown Morgantown, in residential South Park and on the West Virginia University campus. Most of his Morgantown buildings are now listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

June 12, 2006: Robert C. Byrd became the longest-serving U.S. senator in history. He served in the Senate from 1959 until his death in 2010. His record was broken in 2013, by Congressman John Dingell, a Michigan Democrat, but Byrd still retains the Senate record.

June 13, 1861: The Second Wheeling Convention began in the federal courtroom of the Wheeling Custom House. This convention declared the Confederate state government in Richmond illegal, created a Reorganized Government of Virginia loyal to the United States, elected Francis Pierpont governor of Virginia,

HISTORY CONT. PAGE 9



June 12, 1771: Frontiersman Patrick Gass was born in Pennsylvania and later relocated to Brooke County. Gass joined the Lewis & Clark Expedition in Illinois Territory and kept a daily account of the exploration. His journal, published in 1807, was the only complete published account of the expedition until 1814. Gass is buried in Wellsburg.

Weekly SUDOKU

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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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Weather Totals May 26 - June 2, 2026

Nursery Bottom Parsons

Temperature		Precipitation	
Max	77° F	Week	4.18"
Min	41° F	May	9.87"
		2026	22.66"

Snowfall

Winter Total	46.5"

U.S. Forest Service

Super Crossword

FLAVOR NOT TO SAVOR

ACROSS

1 Film blooper compilation
8 Illinois and Iowa's trees
12 "Bali —"
15 Bushy hairdos, for short
19 "Stephen," in Paris
20 Cookie often twisted apart
21 Boat mover
22 Engrossed
23 Start of a riddle
26 Concerning
27 Mil. title
28 Lysol target
29 D.C. insider
30 Contribute one's share
32 Kitchen pests
34 Starts litigation
39 Stop on —
40 Riddle, part 2
44 "— Misérables"
45 Taking way too much, in brief
46 Loud weather events, for short
47 Inner city, informally
50 Leopard markings
53 "Eso —" (Paul Anka song)
54 Riddle, part 3
64 Cave effect
65 Bovine beast
66 Celebrity astrologer Sydney
67 Omit, as a vowel
68 College head
69 Acrobats' springy apparatuses
73 3/15, e.g.
74 Map book
76 Artist Dufy or film director Walsh
77 Critical hosp. area
78 Lock lips
79 Riddle, part 4
84 Tiny charged things
85 "It wouldn't — first time"
86 Poppa
87 Intraparty rifts
91 Vast South American plain
95 Football coach Parseghian
97 End of the riddle
104 Awaken
105 Arizona waterway with the Roosevelt Dam
106 Vikings' tale, perhaps
107 Novelist Hemingway
109 Original "King Kong" studio
110 Cast forth
113 Moose's kin
114 Art gallery in London
115 Riddle's answer
121 Drummer Burke or pitcher Labine
122 Iraq export
123 Full of zeal
124 Before now
125 The lady's
126 Norm: Abbr.
127 Sort
128 Lutz or axel performers

DOWN

1 Showy trinket
2 Wisdom deity
3 Behemoths
4 On Soc. Security, e.g.
5 Prefix with skeleton
6 Writer Blyton
7 Made the first move
8 "Impressive!"
9 Consist of
10 Pub barrel
11 "The meal is ready!"
12 "— at the Moon" (1951 Hank Williams song)
13 Partner of 8-Down
14 — -Z ('80s Camaro)
15 "Yep, alas"
16 More hoarse
17 Ideal condition
18 High-minded sorts?
24 Duet plus one
25 Juvenile
31 Must exist
33 Longtime NBC show inits.
35 Unconfined
36 "77 Sunset Strip" actor Byrnes
37 Biol. or anat.
38 Schlepped
41 Composer/pianist John
42 Facet
43 Actress Rae of "Vengeance"
47 Employed for the purpose of
48 Head for very quickly
49 So as to be 50% less
51 — about (around)
52 Hinders
53 Detective Phil Fish's wife on "Fish"
55 Achieved victory in
56 Sitting on — the world
57 Love, in Paris
58 "ER" actor Eriq La —
59 Prefix with cycle or state
60 "This pleases me!"
61 Cleaned a little, with "up"
62 Texas or Ukraine city
63 Owned (up)
70 Actress West
71 Genuine, in Germany
72 Of a similar kind to
75 Rustling sounds
80 Place to live
81 Tech. schools
82 Channel for hoops fans
83 Zeus' wife
87 Elongate
88 Hymn with harmonies
89 Poltergeist, e.g.
90 "Evidently ..."
91 Oompah band music
92 Coin-op cafeteria
93 Bus. bigwig
94 Letter after upsilon
96 Reactions to cute babies
98 Maude's partner in a 1971 film
99 Intrusive plant
100 Military forces
101 Edmund Spenser's "The — Queene"
102 More hideous
103 Los Angeles hoops team
108 "Terrible" time for tots
111 Writer Dinesen
112 Reid of "Sharknado"
116 #1 song, e.g.
117 Climbing vine
118 Pointer
119 Lofty poem
120 Diner sandwich, for short



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Puzzle answers page 4

LEGAL

THOMAS CITY OF
WV3304709
Consumer Confidence Report - 2026
Covering Calendar Year - 2025

This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are the details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. If you would like to observe the decision-making process that affects drinking water quality or if you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please attend any regularly scheduled water board meeting held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM at in the City Hall or call JODY FLANAGAN at 304-463-4360.

Your water comes from Surface water:

Source Name	Source Water Type
INTAKE - IMP UNNAMED TRIB N FK BLKWTR RI	Surface Water

Source Water Assessment and Protection

When required by West Virginia State law. THOMAS CITY OF maintains a comprehensive Source Water Protection Plan (SWPP) that is updated every three years and reviewed by the West Virginia Bureau for Public Health (WVBPH). For systems utilizing surface water or groundwater under the direct influence of surface water (GVWDI). SWPPs provide a detailed strategy for protecting intake areas and the surrounding Zone of Critical Concern.

Because these types of sources are open to the environment, they generally have a higher susceptibility to contamination. This susceptibility rating does not mean your water is contaminated; rather, it indicates that conditions exist which could impact the source water if a release occurred due to the sensitive nature of the intake area. A public version of our current Source Water Protection Plan (if applicable) or further information regarding our specific source susceptibility is available for review at our office during normal business hours or by contacting JODY FLANAGAN at 304-463-4360. A Source Water Assessment may previously have been completed to identify potential sources of contamination and the susceptibility of our water source. You can view these historical assessment reports online at the YWBPH website: https://www.wvdhhr.org/oehs/eed/swap/search.cfm.

For more information on source water protection and to learn how you can help protect drinking water sources, visit the EPA at https://www.epa.gov/sourcewaterprotection/how-can-you-help-protect-source-water.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) included rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in sources water before we treat it include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, livestock operations and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as storm water run-off, agriculture, and residential users.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of mining activity.

Organic contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulation which limits the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system has an estimated population of 753 and is required to test a minimum of 1 sample(s) per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public.

Water Quality Data

The following tables list all of the drinking water contaminants which were detected during the 2025 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. Unless noted, the data presented in this table is from the testing done January 1- December 31, 2025. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

Terms & Abbreviations

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): the "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): the "Maximum Allowed" MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL): recommended level for a contaminant that is not regulated and has no MCL

Action Level (AL): the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.

Treatment Technique (TT): a required process intended to reduce levels of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Non-Detects (ND): lab analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

Parts per Million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

Parts per Billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter(µg/L)

Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L): a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirems per Year (mrem/yr): measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Monitoring Period Average (MPA): An average of sample results obtained during a defined time frame, common examples of monitoring periods are monthly, quarterly and yearly.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person. Turbidity is not regulated for groundwater systems.

Running Annual Average (RAA): an average of sample results obtained over the most current 12 months and used to determine compliance with MCLs.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): Average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters.

Testing Results for: THOMAS CITY OF

Regulated Contaminants	Facility Name	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
ARSENIC	Treatment Plant	8/6/2025	1.8	1.8	ppb	10	0	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
BARIUM	Treatment Plant	2/5/2025	0.0095	0.0095	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
NITRATE	Treatment Plant	5/7/2025	0.026	0.026	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
NITRATE-NITRITE	Treatment Plant	4/5/2022	0.05	0.05	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection By-products	Sample Point	Collection Date	Highest LRAA Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	WADE ZIRKS EUCLID AVENUE	2025	37	17-67	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM	WADE ZIRKS EUCLID AVENUE	2025	35	14-66	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Lead & Copper - samples were collected from 10 area residences on August 22, 2019

Contaminant	90% of Test Levels were less than	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	EPA's Action Level	Number of Tests with Levels above EPA's action level	Typical Sources
Copper, Free	0.05 ppm	1.3 ppm	90% of homes less than 1.3 ppm	0 - out of 10	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead	0.93 ppb	0 ppb	90% of homes less than 15 ppb	0 - out of 10	Corrosion of household plumbing

There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can also result in new or worsened learning a nd behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy may be at increased risk of these harmful health effects. Adults have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Contact your health care provider for more information about your risks.

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing.

THOMAS CITY OF is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect your self and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact THOMAS CITY OF and JODY FLANAGAN at 304-463-4360. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

THOMAS CITY OF completed lead tap sampling and the results are available for review and can be accessed at https://wvdwv.gecsws.com.

THOMAS CITY OF has prepared a service line inventory identifying service line materials throughout the water distribution supply. The most up to date inventory is located at https://wvdwv.gecsws.com. By November 1, 2027, our water system must develop an updated initial inventory: known as the "baseline inventory" and it must include each service line and identified connector that is connected to the public water distribution system. Our water system identified **lead, and lead status unknown** service lines in our inventory. Due to this identification our water system must create a service line replacement plan by November 1, 2027.

If you have any questions about our inventory or if you would like information about our service line replacement plan, please contact JODY FLANAGAN at 304-463-4360.

Chlorine/Chloramines Maximum Disinfection Level	MPA	MPA Units	RAA	RAA Units
10/1/2025 - 10/31/2025	1.00000	MG/L	1.00000	MG/L

AVAILABILITY OF MONITORING DATA FOR UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Our water system has sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those that do not yet have a drinking water standard set by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. As our customers, you have a right to know that this data is available.

If you are interested in examining the results, please contact: JODY FLANAGAN at 304-463-4360.

Unresolved Deficiency Date Identified	Facility	Comments
2/19/2014	Storage Tank 3	The storage tank has widespread areas of severe oxidation and/or signs the exterior coating has exhausted its useful lifespan. (64CSR77-9.1 and 9.1.p) Due to areas of widespread oxidation and/or signs the exterior tank coating has exhausted its useful lifespan, please ensure the exterior of storage tank is properly re-coated. Reference: 3/2021 Pittsburg Tank Inspection Report
7/28/2022	Intake-IMP unnamed trib N FK Blkwtr Ri	Intake is not adequately able to function at multiple depths, (64CSR77-5.2.d.1) Please ensure the intake is adequately functioning at multiple depths.
8/14/2024	Booster Pump Station	Booster pump has inadequate capacity (64CSR77-8.6.c) Please provide adequate capacity at for booster pump.
8/14/2024	Booster Pump Station	Booster pump is not properly designed/maintained. (64CSR77-8.6) Please provide proper design/maintenance for booster pump.
8/14/2024	Treatment Plant	The system does not have an adequate average filter run time. (64CSR77-6.3.a.12) Please ensure the filters are having an adequate average filter run time.
8/14/2024	Treatment Plant	The system has treatment units that are not in good physical condition. Please ensure all treatment units are in good physical condition & back-up filter media is available for change-out.
8/14/2024	Water System	CFE and IFE turbidity requirements have been above the required limits during the prior 12 months. (40CFR141.550-141.564) Please provide water with CFE and IFE turbidities below the required limits.
8/14/2024	Water System	Raw and Finished Iron and Manganese concentrations are not being properly recorded/reported on the optional EW-90 page 3 of the MOR. (64CSR3-12.2) Please ensure Fe and Mn concentrations are being properly recorded/reported on the MOR's.
8/14/2024	Water System	Testing since the last sanitary survey has reflected at least one contaminate above a Primary MCL. (40CFR141.61-141.66) Please commence taking steps necessary to provide customers water with no contaminates above any Primary MCL.

Analyte	Facility	Highest Value	Unit of Measure	Month Occurred
Turbidity	Treatment Plant	0.22	NTU	January

Turbidity

Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration.

Percentage of samples in compliance with Std	Months Occurred	Violation	Highest Single Measurement	Month Occurred	Sources	Level Indicator
100.00	12	NO	0.22	January	Treatment Plant	Yes

Unregulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	SMCL
SODIUM	2/5/2025	4.04	4.04	MG/L	20

During the 2025 calendar year, we had the below noted violation(s) of drinking water regulations.

Fed Rep ID	Compliance Period	Violation Type	Category	Rule	Explanation	Actions Taken by Water System
142269	1/1/2023-12/31/2025	Follow-up or routine tap M/R (LCR)	MON	Lead & Copper Rule	Failed to comply with follow-up or routine tap monitoring requirements related to lead and copper	Personnel will be more efficient in the future with samples and reporting.
142264	8/1/2024-8/31/2024	Public notice rule linked to violation	PN	Public Notice	Failed to issue public notice or failed to provide a copy of the notice and certification to the state	Personnel will be more efficient in the future with samples and reporting.
142266	1/15/2025-7/1/2025	Public notice rule linked to violation	PN	Public Notice	Failed to issue public notice or failed to provide a copy of the notice and certification to the state	Personnel will be more efficient in the future with samples and reporting.
142265	1/15/2025	Failure address deficiency (IESWTR)	TT	IESWTR	Failed to address a deficiency	Personnel will be more efficient in the future with samples and reporting.
142270	7/1/2025-9/30/2025	Monitoring Routine (DBP) Major	MON	Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	Failed to monitor/report as required for chlorine or disinfection by-products	Personnel will be more efficient in the future with samples and reporting.
142273	7/1/2025-9/30/2025	Monitoring Routine Major	MON	Simazine	No monitoring samples were taken or reported	Personnel will be more efficient in the future with samples and reporting.
142271	7/1/2025-9/30/2025	Monitoring Routine Major	MON	PICLORAM	No monitoring samples were taken or reported	Personnel will be more efficient in the future with samples and reporting.
142278	7/1/2025-9/30/2025	Monitoring Routine Major	MON	METHOXYCHLOR	No monitoring samples were taken or reported	Personnel will be more efficient in the future with samples and reporting.
142283	7/1/2025-9/30/2025	Monitoring Routine Major	MON	LASSO	No monitoring samples were taken or reported	Personnel will be more efficient in the future with samples and reporting.
142274	7/1/2025-9/30/2025	Monitoring Routine Major	MON	Hexachlorocyccl-opentadiene	No monitoring samples were taken or reported	Personnel will be more efficient in the future with samples and reporting.
142280	7/1/2025-9/30/2025	Monitoring Routine Major	MON	Heptachlor epoxide	No monitoring samples were taken or reported	Personnel will be more efficient in the future with samples and reporting.
142281	7/1/2025-9/30/2025	Monitoring Routine Major	MON	Heptachlor	No monitoring samples were taken or reported	Personnel will be more efficient in the future with samples and reporting.
142275	7/1/2025-9/30/2025	Monitoring Routine Major	MON	DI(2-ethylhexyl) Phthalate	No monitoring samples were taken or reported	Personnel will be more efficient in the future with samples and reporting.
142276	7/1/2025-9/30/2025	Monitoring Routine Major	MON	DI(2-ethylhexyl) Adipate	No monitoring samples were taken or reported	Personnel will be more efficient in the future with samples and reporting.
142267	7/1/2025-6/2/2025	CCR Report	RPT	Consumer Cinfidence Rule	Failed to deliver Consumer Confidence Report to the state or consumers on time	Personnel will be more samples were taken efficient in the future with samples and reporting.
142279	7/1/2025-9/30/2025	Monitoring Routine Major	MON	BHC-GAMMA	No monitoring samples were taken or reported	Personnel will be more samples were taken efficient in the future with samples and reporting.
142277	7/1/2025-9/30/2025	Monitoring Routine Major	MON	Benzo(A) pyrene	No monitoring samples were taken or reported	Personnel will be more samples were taken efficient in the future with samples and reporting.
142282	7/1/2025-9/30/2025	Monitoring Routine Major	MON	Atrazine	No monitoring samples were taken or reported	Personnel will be more samples were taken efficient in the future with samples and reporting.
142272	7/1/2025-9/30/2025	Monitoring Routine Major	MON	2.4-D	No monitoring samples were taken or reported	Personnel will be more samples were taken efficient in the future with samples and reporting.
142268	10/1/2025	CCR Adequacy/ Availability/ Content	RPT	Consumer Cinfidence Rule	Inadequate Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) or failure to deliver a CCR Certification form to the state on time	Personnel will be more samples were taken efficient in the future with samples and reporting.

Additional required Language: Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

This report will not be mailed. To receive a paper copy in the mail, please contact us at the phone number above.

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
WOODLANDS DEVELOPMENT GROUP
RANDOLPH COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA
WOODLANDS ROUTE 33 FIBER

General Notice
Woodlands Development Group (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Project:
Woodlands Route 33 Fiber
T30-11370
Bids for the construction of the Project will be received at the **Woodlands Development Group office** located at **316 Railroad Avenue/Suite 310, Elkins, WV 26241**, until Thursday, **July 2, 2026** at **2:00 PM** local time. At that time the Bids received will be **publicly** opened and read.
The **Woodlands Development Group** EDA #01-79-15199 will be partially funded with federal funds from the United States Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration and therefore is subject to the Federal Laws and regulations associated with that program.
The Project includes the following Work:
The project consists of the installation of approximately 54 miles of aerial and underground fiber optic cable along US Route 33 from Elkins, West Virginia, through Bowden, Harman, and Canaan Valley, terminating in Davis, West Virginia, within Randolph and Tucker Counties. The fiber optic cable will be installed primarily as aerial attachments to existing utility poles within and adjacent to the West Virginia Division of Highways right-of-way, with select underground segments installed via conduit within the WVDOH right-of-way. Associated infrastructure includes the installation of conduit, hand-holes/vaults, and splice enclosures as required along the project route. This project provide high-speed broadband connectivity to underserved residential and business customers in Randolph and Tucker Counties, West Virginia.
Bids are requested for the following Contract: **Woodlands Route 33 Fiber**
The Work will be substantially completed within 200 calendar days after the date when the Contract Times commence to run, and completed and ready for final payment within 230 days after the date when the Contract Times commence to run. Liquidated damages shall be $250 per day.
Obtaining the Bidding Documents
Information and Bidding Documents for the Project can be found at the following designated website:
QuestCDN: https://tinyurl.com/zu5z8553
or
www.thethrashergroup.com
Bidding Documents may be downloaded from the designated website. Prospective Bidders are urged to register with the designated website as a plan holder, even if Bidding Documents are obtained from a plan room or source other than the designated website in either electronic or paper format. The designated website will be updated periodically with addenda, lists of registered plan holders, reports, and other information relevant to submitting a Bid for the Project. All official notifications, addenda, and other Bidding Documents will be offered only through the designated website. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the designated website.
The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is:
The Thrasher Group, Inc.
600 White Oaks Boulevard
Bridgeport, WV 26330
Prospective Bidders may obtain or examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Monday through Friday between the hours of **8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**, and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below.
Printed copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Issuing Office by paying the amount of each set listed below.
Bidding Documents may be purchased from the Issuing Office during the hours indicated above. Cost does not include shipping charges. Upon Issuing Office's receipt of payment, printed Bidding Documents or electronic documents will be transmitted to the prospective Bidder. The shipping charge amount will depend on the shipping method requested. Bidding Documents are available for purchase in the following formats:

- Bidding Documents issued as hard copy full-size drawings and hard copy specifications, are available for $250.00 per set.
- Bidding Documents issued as hard copy half-size drawings and hard copy specifications, are available for $125.00 per set.
- Bidding Documents issued as digital drawings and digital specifications, are available for $40.00 per set via the following link:

QuestCDN: https://tinyurl.com/zu5z8553
Amounts paid are not subject to refund.
Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office.
Bidding Documents also may be examined at

Woodlands Development Group
316 Railroad Avenue/Suite 310
Elkins, WV 26241

The Thrasher Group, Inc.
600 White Oaks Boulevard
Bridgeport, WV 26330

Contractor's Association of WV
2114 Kanawha Boulevard East
Charleston, WV 25311

A two-envelope system will be used.
Envelope No. 1 must have the following information presented on the front:
Name and address of Bidder
Bid on Contract - Woodlands Route 33 Fiber
Received by the Woodlands Development Group
Envelope No. 2 labeled "Bid Proposal" shall also be placed inside of Envelope #1.
Envelope No. 1 will be opened first and the Bid Opening Requirement items checked for compliance as outlined on the Bid Opening Checklist on page BOR - 1 of these contract documents. If such documents are found to be in order, Envelope No. 2 "Bid Proposal", will then be opened and will be publicly read aloud. If the documents required to be contained in Envelope No. 1 are not in order, Envelope No. 2 "Bid Proposal" will not be opened and the Bid will be considered non-responsive and will be returned to the Bidder.
A bidder may not withdraw his bid for a period of ninety (90) days after the date set for the opening of bids.
Bids shall be accompanied by a certified check or bid bond payable to Woodlands Development Group in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the base bid.
Contractor is required to provide the Drug Free Workplace Certification in accordance with WV Code 21-ID-5.
DBE Requirements - Each Bidder must fully Comply with the Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, and Affirmative Action Requirements, as identified in the contract documents.
The Bidder agrees to make "positive efforts" to subcontract a portion of the total value of the contract to Disadvantaged Business Enterprises. This shall be done in compliance with the six (6) affirmative steps as outlined in 40 CFR 33.240. Failure to demonstrate positive efforts to do so may lead to rejection of bids. For this program, the term "subcontract" includes all construction, modification, and service work contracted for by the bidder in the execution of the work under this contract.
Suspension and Debarment - Recipient shall not entertain the use of businesses that are listed on the "System for Award Management" (SAM) at www.Sam.gov in accordance with 2 CFR Part 1532 and Subpart B and C of 2 CFR Part 180. The Bidder who is awarded the Contract must maintain and active SAM registration for the duration of the project.
Prospective Bidders should note that this Contract will include the following critical requirements as identified in the Contract Documents.

1. Affirmative Action Program Requirements and Goals
2. Certificate of Non-Segregated Facilities
3. Specific Labor Standard Provisions
4. WV Contract Licensing Act - All bidders are required to have a WV Contractor's License per Section 30-42-12 of the WV Code.
5. American Iron and Steel Requirement - P.L. 113-76, Section 436.

Build America, Buy America Requirements - P.L. 117-58, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs (IIJA) Act, 2021 (Act), includes a "Build America, Buy America (BABA)" requirement in Sections 70911 through 70917 that requires federally funded assistance recipients to use iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials that are produced in the United States for projects for the construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of a public water system or treatment works.
Notice of Federal Wage Requirements - Contractors are required to comply with all laws pertaining to federal wage rates as issued in accordance with the Davis Bacon act. The contractor will be required to pay the federal wage rates appropriate for each worker classification.
Every ARC grant, subgrant, and cooperative agreement must comply with governmentwide grant regulations at Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 200 ("2 CFR Part 200"). These regulations address administrative requirements, cost principles, and audit requirements for federal awards. They provide guidance for pre-award and post-award requirements in areas such as record retention, procurement, subaward management, and performance measures.
All Bidders are required to have a West Virginia Contractor's License per Section §30-42-12 of the West Virginia Code.
Bidders are advised that the Contract awarded under this Advertisement for Bids is to be funded (entirely/or in part) by a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) and United States Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) and shall be referred to as Project #T30-11370 Woodlands Route 33 Fiber. Neither the United States nor any of its departments, agencies, or employees is or will be a party to this Advertisement for Bids or any resulting Contract.
Bids received after the scheduled closing time for the reception of bids will be returned unopened to the bidders.
The Woodlands Development Group reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Pre-bid Conference
A pre-bid conference for the Project will be held on **Tuesday, June 16, 2026** at **10:00 AM** at the **Woodlands Development Group office** located at **316 Railroad Avenue/Suite 310, Elkins, WV 26241**. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is encouraged but not required.
Instructions to Bidders.
For all further requirements regarding bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents.

This Advertisement is issued by:
Owner: **Woodlands Development Group**
By: **Dave Clark**
Title: **Executive Director**
Date: **June 2, 2026 and June 9, 2026**

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
Williamson Architects Project
2025-032

The Tucker County Board of Education, Parsons, WV, will receive bids for **Sprinkler Addition and Fire Alarm Renovations to Davis Thomas Elementary Middle School** until **1:00 p.m.**, local prevailing time on the **29th day of June 2026**, at the office of the Tucker County Board of Education, 100 Education Lane, Parsons, WV, at which time and place, all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud

A **MANDATORY** Pre-Bid Conference, for **General Construction**, has been scheduled for the **11th day of June, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.** at Davis-Thomas Elementary Middle School, 250 Quail Ridge Road, Thomas, WV 26292. A site visit will be conducted following the meeting.

The contract documents are available only from the architect's Project Management Website. Login credentials will be sent to plan rooms, all prospective contractors, subcontractors, and suppliers after the request is made to biddocs@wsarch.com. Addenda will be only distributed electronically to bidders registered in attendance at the mandatory pre-bid meeting.

Each Bidder must be registered with the West Virginia Department of Tax and Revenue and the West Virginia Secretary of State's Office prior to the time and date for Receipt of Bids in order for his Bid to be considered. Each Bidder's registration certificate number shall be written in the space provided on the Form of Proposal.

All bidders are required to be licensed to perform work in the State prior to submitting a bid for this project as required by Chapter 21, Article 11, of the Code of West Virginia. Each Bidder's Contractor license number shall be written in the space provided on the Form of Proposal.

A satisfactory bid bond furnished by a solvent surety company authorized to do business in the State of West Virginia, in an amount equal to five (5%) of the total amount of bid, payable to the Tucker County Board of Education, shall be submitted with each Bid.

The successful bidder will be required to furnish a satisfactory (100%) Performance Bond and Payment Bond, and the fee for the same shall be included in their bid.

No bid may be withdrawn after the scheduled closing time for the receipt of bids for at least **thirty (30) days**.

The Tucker County Board of Education, Parsons, WV, reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

THE TUCKER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Ms. Alicia Lambert, Superintendent

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

Deceased	Personal Representative(s)
David Lee Teter	Christopher A Teter
1st publication 06/11/2026	306 Clay Street
2nd publication 06/17/2026	Hambleton, WV 26269

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

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The 2025 Form 990 - Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax for the Northpoint Property Owners Association is available for inspection at the offices of Mountaintop Realty LLC at 6379 Appalachian Hwy, Davis, WV 26260 by appointment during regular business hours.

LET US KNOW "WHAT'S HAPPENING"
304-478-3533

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TUCKER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2027

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, TUCKER COUNTY, to wit:
In accordance with West Virginia Code §11-8-12 as amended, the Tucker County Board of Education proceeded to make an estimate of the amounts necessary to be raised by a levy of taxes for the 2027 fiscal year, and doth determine and estimate the several amounts to be as follows:
The amount due and the amount that will become due and collectible from every source during the fiscal year INCLUDING THE LEVY OF TAXES, is as follows:

	General Current Expense Fund	Special Revenue Expense Fund
Estimated revenues:		
Local Sources:		
Property taxes (Net of allowances)	$ 6,216,757	$
Other local sources	40,000	
State Sources:		
State aid to schools	5,055,843	356,655
Other	3,489,966	
Federal Sources:		1,386,248
Total estimated revenues	14,802,566	1,742,903
Estimated transfers in and other financing sources	32,701	432,464
Beginning balance	1,050,000	
Total estimated revenues & other financing sources	$ 15,885,267	$ 2,175,367
Estimated expenditures:		
Instruction	$ 8,603,100	$ 497,204
Supporting services:		
Students	806,658	229,757
Instructional Staff	83,259	195,208
Central administration	590,561	
School administration	776,572	
Central services	497,823	2,135
Operation & maintenance of facilities	1,567,681	
Student transportation	1,362,149	
Food services		1,223,362
Capital Outlay		
Total estimated expenditures	14,287,803	2,147,666
Total estimated transfers and other financing uses	1,597,464	27,701
Total estimated expenditures and other financing uses	$ 15,885,267	$ 2,175,8367

I, Alicia Lambert, Secretary of the Tucker County Board of Education, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the proposed budget being considered for adoption by the board of education on the 28th day of May, 2026.

Alicia Lambert

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The **Tucker County Commission**, hereinafter referred to as the **Owner**, invites qualified contractors to submit sealed bids for **HVAC Renovations to the Tucker County Courthouse Phase Two**. Sealed bids will be received in the Old Courtroom of the Tucker County Courthouse located at 215 First Street, Parsons, West Virginia 26287 until **11:00 a.m.** local time, **July 8, 2026** at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened and read.

Bids that are being mailed in must arrive prior to the Bid Date and Time and are to be sent to the following Address:

Shelia DeVilder, Administrator
Tucker County Commission
211 First Street, Suite 307
Parsons, West Virginia 26287
(304) 478-2866 x1207
(304) 478-2446 (fax)

Bids that are being delivered by hand are to be delivered by **11:00 a.m.** local time, on **July 8, 2026** at the Old Courtroom.

A pre-bid conference will be held at **11:00 a.m.** local time, on **June 17, 2026** in the Tucker County Courthouse Old Courtroom located at 215 First Street, Parsons, West Virginia 26287. Attendance at pre-bid conference is mandatory for prime bidders only.

The deadline for Bidders' questions is **June 29, 2026 at 12:00 noon**. Email questions to nhs@zmm.com

Bidding Documents can be obtained by one of the following methods:

1. Prime Contract Bidders only may contact ZMM Architects and Engineers **Attn: Receptionist**; **reception@zmm.com** and request information to access the firm's online ShareFile site for the **HVAC Renovations to the Tucker County Courthouse Phase Two** project. Once access is gained, Bidders can download Bidding Documents in the form of PDF files at no charge. Requests for access to documents must be made by email, and those requests received through mail, telephone, fax transmission, or other online communications will not receive a response.
2. Hard Copies may be obtained from Charleston Blueprint (304-343-1063) by General Contractors, Subcontractors, material suppliers and dealers by paying the actual cost of printing, binding and mailing; however such cost is not refundable.

Bidding documents may be examined at Viewing Depositories listed in the Bidding Documents.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a bid bond, made payable to the Owner, in the amount of five percent (5%) of the base bid, in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids, the right to waive minor informalities and procedures in bidding, and the right to withhold final award of contract for 60 days after opening bids. The bidder to whom the contract is awarded shall execute and deliver to the Owner within 10 days after the award, and before signing the contract, a Performance Bond and Payment Bond utilizing the bond forms bound in the Project Manual each in a penal sum equal to at least the contract sum and the cost of such bonds shall be included in the bid.

WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM

THANK YOU FOR READING THE PARSONS ADVOCATE

Academic Achievements

Tucker Valley Elementary Middle School

Honor Roll and Principals Honor Roll: 4th Nine Weeks

5th Grade
Principals Honor Roll
Aubreyy Bunnell
Madelyn Crossland
Kyree Dillard
Gabriel Funk
Miles Henderson
Gracie Hile
Joelyn Long
Ollen Mallow
Parker Metz
Kace Nestor
Natalie Owens
Linden Pase
Zoey Plum
Jaxson Quattro
Eena Shreve
Brantley Summerfield
Garrick Tackett
Rogan Tacy
Ryder Thorne
Mason Wamsley
Hailey Witemore
Zaylee Smith
Honor Roll
Solomon Bissell
Thea Bolinger
Eli Bowley
Reyngtyn Boyles-Wilson
Braydin Carr
Mela Cassidy
Aiden Davis
Rowan Dibartolomeo
Luke Holloway
Gage Hovatter
Maci Knotts
Jeremiah Lipscomb
Phoenix Rettig
Hunter Scott
Jackson Scott
Gabriel Southern
Owen Wolford
Ashton Poe

6th Grade
Principals Honor Roll
Raelynn Abell
Gage Beckman
Sawyer Cartlidge
Malik Dillard
Rowan Dilly
Matthew Ends
Connor Fravel
Jessa Kuykendall
Hunter Lipscomb
Aubrey Mitchell
Aaron Rettig
Keaton Sexton
Aubree Smith
Denton Streets
Layne Suesli
Sydney Vandevender
Ethan Sigley
Honor Roll
Jace Barkley
William Bolyard
Easton Brown
Toby Digwe
Anthony Hardy
Hannah J. Nestor
Easton Phillips
Scarlet Saville

7th Grade
Principals Honor Roll
Kyleashae Boyles
Addalyn Browning
Gabriella Cussins
Cianna Dibartolomeo
Brooklee Hebb
Fletcher Hyre
Brittany Knotts
Mia Lambert
Luke Lantz
Kieran Parsons
Bryson Pica
Aleena Reed
Liam Ricpttilli
Brantlee Rosier
Braylon Simmons
Kylar Southern
Zodi Spessert
Caden Triplett
Brayven Wolfe
Honor Roll
Rece Lambruno
Gunner Lester
Aleigh Lipscomb
Maci Owens
Triston Pitzer
Delbert Wilkins
Mckinley Williams
Eden Bright
Easton Wolford

8th Grade
Principals Honor Roll
Mya Adams
Kennedy Aker
Titus Bowley
Zane Bright
Isaac Bush
Lillian Davis
Laila George
Lily Helmick
Blake Holland
David Jolly
Asher Kisamore
Kyra Miller
Addyson Phillips
Rylan Sexton
Gabrella Slaubaugh
Gunner Smith
Hunter Vandevand
Allison Wright
Honor Roll
Briar Arbogast
Matthew Barkley
Whitley Fowler
Legend Harper
Nathan Louk
Maddison Phillips
Krystal Rosier
Faith Snyder

Garrett College announces 2026 graduates



Garrett College celebrated its 54 th commencement on May 16 th .

McHenry, MD – Garrett College graduated its 54th class on May 16th. The College's 121 graduates are listed below:

Arts & Sciences: Fine & Performing Arts Concentration: Annabelle E. Browning (Oakland), Kayla D. Moore (Rivesville, WV)

Arts & Sciences: Liberal Arts Concentration: David P. Porter (Germantown), Roland Oxford (Oakland)

Arts & Sciences: Mathematics/Science Concentration: Alonzo J. Monts III (Jacksonville, FL), Jarrett M. Holliday (Grantsville), Sadie A. Crowell (Oakland), Sierra R. Lloyd (Oakland), Brooklynn B. Savage (Oakland), Zane T. Thomas (Oakland), Noah H. Wilt (Oakland), Braelyn G. Zimmerman (Oakland)

Arts & Sciences: Psychology Concentration: Mikayla L. Warnick (Frostburg)

Arts & Sciences: Social & Behavioral Sciences Concentration: Hishon Myles (Washington, DC), Jacob W. Hamilton (Brunswick), Arianna M. Koontz (Grantsville), Olivia G. Collins (Oakland), Daisy L. Shuttleworth (Oakland), Keyonta D. Johnson (Cibolo, TX)

Business Administration: Marisa P. Perez (Accident), Braeden W. Poorbaugh (Baltimore), Lucas T. Oliveira (Friendsville), Isabelle R. Goldberg (Oakland), Warren A. Bernard (Swanton), Isaac S. Browning (Swanton), Jacob C. Lee (Connellsville, PA), Jacquelyn M. Jeffreys (Markleysburg, PA), Katelyn P. Leaman (Millersburg, PA), Ethan C. Kirkpatrick (Ontario, Canada)

General Studies: Eoin Matteo N. Elica (Accident), Kiara N. Perando (Accident), Cecalie R. Riggleman (Accident), Nalani A. Rivera (Accident), Liam H. DeBaugh (Annapolis), Da'shai J. Morton-Hall (District Heights), Breanna J. Olinzock (Friendsville), Ethan H. Loney (Grantsville), Nicholas C. Anderson (Hagerstown), Brice W. Roche (McHenry), Uriah T. Brobst (Oakland), Rachel L. Harvey (Oakland), Brock A. Lewis (Oakland), Ashley B. Martin (Oakland), Hannah B. Moyer (Oakland), Cadence Natividad (Oakland), Benjamin J. Nazelrod (Oakland), Gianna L. Michaux (Masontown, PA), Paola I. Chirino Ariza (Round Rock, TX), DeChaun L. Reed (Manassas, VA), Nicholas P. Suitte (Richmond, VA), Donovahn Keyes (Stafford, VA), Nasir J. Coleman (Woodbridge, VA), Jared K. Butcher (Winifrede, WV), Brandon Metivier (Ontario, Canada), Kai E. Canson (Quebec, Canada)

Teacher Education: Elementary Education Concentration: Raegan M. Case (Frostburg), Priscilla L. Shaw (Oakland), Ryelynn R. Sweitzer (Swanton), Isabella G. Shafer (Terra Alta, WV)

Addictions Counseling: Zachary H. Long (Oakland)

Business & Information Technology: Business Management & Entrepreneurship Concentration: Nathaniel J. Maule (Oakland)

Business & Information Technology: Graphic/Web Design Concentration: Tara L. Morris (Bruceton Mills, WV), Brenna R. L'Hommedieu (Masontown, WV)

Cybersecurity: Liberty A. Sweitzer (Bloomington), George N. Chimalilo (Friendsville), Adalyn G. Hess (Grantsville), Asa D. Sutter (Grantsville), Jackson J. Savage (Oakland)

Natural Resources & Wildlife Technology: Kevin Cervantes (Catonsville), Lauren V. Gooden (Grantsville), Ariella R. Malfaro (Grantsville), Alexander R. Cheek (Lutherville), Danielle E. Brobst (Oakland), Olivia L. Cassada (Oakland), James O. DeBerry (Oakland), Kathleen F. Meagher (Oakland), Drew A. Harvey (Bruceton Mills, WV), Chloee R. Brandon (Terra Alta, WV)

Outdoor Leadership & Adventure Education: Elias J. Brown (Catonsville), Matthew P. Helmbrecht (Gaithersburg), Travis G. Martin (Oakland)

Paramedic Studies: Sadie L. Bennett (Barton), Rodney M. Ryan (Little Orleans)

Professional & Technical Studies: Linda D. Biggs (Accident)

Sport Management: Jacob E. Salebe (Clarksburg), Camden B. Hull (Clear Spring), Juan J. Parrau III (Germantown), Josef G. Sneathen (LaVale), Brooks M. Smith (Pasadena), Gavin R. Watkins (Thurmont), Joseph K. Charlton (Capon Bridge, WV), Chase A. Davis (Keyser, WV), Hunter W. Dakan (Morgantown, WV), Noah J. Broadwater (New Creek, WV), Jorjalynn F. Ward (Philippi, WV), Ruby L. Molloy (Ontario, Canada), Graham A. Marshall (Ontario, Canada)

Early Childhood Education / Special Education: Gracyn B. Upole (Oakland)

Computer Science: Stephen R. Hochstetler (Grantsville), Darien M. Hammers (Oakland), Isaiah J. Keller (Oakland), Toni A. Sadowski (Oakland), Kei T. Mumma (Williamsport), Sawyer C. Hershey (Ephrata, PA)

Engineering Transfer: Parker A. Ferraro (Frostburg), Kyle S. Schofield (Oakland), Everett R. Nichols (Rosenberg, TX)

Health & Exercise Science: Makaela A. Braxton-Brown (District Heights), Haylee N. Beard (Woodbine), Stephen V. Story (Berlin Center, OH), Kace W. Shearer (Mill Run, PA)

Health Science Certificate: Lindsay E. Maust (Accident), Malea J. Fullerton (Frostburg), Jenna L. Klink (Frostburg), Ada B. White (Frostburg), Caleb D. Lehman (Grantsville), Rebekah L. Mast (Grantsville), Alayna G. Beckman (Oakland), Emily J. Wolfe (Oakland), Leilah Y. Nunez (Swanton), Leah E. Stout (Winchester, VA).

Eiswert Family supports GC archway initiative

Athletic Campaign archway to be built in front of 700 Building

McHenry, MD – The Eiswert Family's connection to Garrett College runs pretty deep.

"I was lucky to grow up in a family that cared about ideas and learning," said David Eiswert. "Garrett College is a nexus for both. It deserves our gratitude and support."

That philosophy powered the Eiswert Family's decision to support the Garrett College Foundation's Athletics Capital Campaign. Eiswert recently secured on behalf of his family the second naming gift on the Donor Archway that will be built to complete Garrett College's 700 Building renovation.

"Garrett College has enabled the first steps for so many people," said Eiswert. "I attended events at the College with my parents [Len and Kathy Eiswert], and more than one sports camp myself. . . . As to what prompted this gift – well, that comes down to my Mom and her philosophy of stepping up and getting involved when you get a chance to help others."

"We appreciate the Eiswert Family's generous gift," said Dr. Richard Midcap, Garrett College's president. "I'm very excited about the Donor Archway, which will provide a truly striking entrance to the renovated 700 Building. Our athletes, their families, and guests will travel under that archway every time they enter what's going to be a wonderful facility for the College."

The Athletics Capital Campaign is raising funds to renovate the 700 Building to support Garrett College's expanding intercollegiate athletic programs. The renovation will provide additional locker rooms, athletic training and rehabilitation space, conference space, and coaches offices for the four teams – women's and men's soccer, baseball, and softball – that use the adjoining turf field.

Eiswert – who moved to Garrett County when he was 5 years old – noted his parents "spent 45 years of their lives deeply enmeshed in the community, and my brother and his family live in Oakland."

"That spirit of stepping up – that my Mom lives by – is something the place itself taught us," said Eiswert, who is



Len and Kathy Eiswert, David Eiswert's parents, pose with their grandchildren in Deep Creek Lake. David Eiswert said the family philosophy of "stepping up and getting involved" played a key role in the family's naming gift to the Garrett College Foundation Athletics Capital Campaign.

a Baltimore-based portfolio manager with T. Rowe Price's Global Equity Division. "My work has taken me all over the world and into all sorts of situations, but I consider the experiences of growing up in the mountains of Western Maryland, and the lessons I learned there, as foundational to my journey."

Garrett County Government and the Garrett College Board of Trustees have jointly funded nearly $5 million in construction costs for the renovation, which will be completed in early summer. The athletics capital campaign will fund furniture and equipment in addition to helping offset some of those construction costs, according to Garrett College Foundation Executive Director Cherie Krug.

Midcap said expansion of GC's intercollegiate athletic program, which has grown from four to eight teams since

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HISTORY

Cont. From Page 5

and called for the western counties to be formed into a new state.

June 13, 1928: Mathematician John Forbes Nash Jr. was born in Bluefield. In 1994, Nash was honored with the Nobel Prize in Economics. He was the subject of a best-selling biography, A Beautiful Mind, which was later made into a movie.

June 14, 1912: Botanist Elizabeth Ann "Betty" Bartholomew was born in Wheeling. Bartholomew was instrumental in building the dried plant collection at West Virginia University from 30,000 to 140,000 specimens, and she initiated a 2,000-plant seed collection.

June 14, 2025: The Wheeling area was hit with a deadly flash flood causing widespread damage and killing nine people.

June 15, 1876: Attorney and civil right activist T. G. Nutter was born in Maryland. The first Black delegate from Kanawha County, he helped establish public institutions for Blacks, crafted an anti-lynching law, and, as state leader of the NAACP, sued counties in the 1950s for not integrating their schools quickly enough.

June 15, 1880: Musician "Blind Alfred" Reed was born in Floyd County, Virginia, though he spent most of his life in southern West Virginia. He composed and recorded some of the most creative topical country songs on Victor Records between 1927 and 1929.

June 15, 1963: The Cass Scenic Railroad took its first passenger trip during the state's Centennial celebration.

June 16, 1842: Margaret Agnew Blennerhassett, wife of Harman Blennerhassett, died in poverty in New York City. She lived from 1800 to 1806 in a grand 16-room mansion she and her husband had constructed on an Ohio River island near present Parkersburg. She and her son, Harman Jr., were reburied on Blennerhassett Island in 1996.

June 16, 1900: Perhaps West Virginia's greatest naturalist, Maurice Brooks was born in Upshur County. He served as a professor of biology and wildlife management at West Virginia University from 1938 to 1969. The first alumnus to receive an honorary doctorate from WVU, he wrote two classic nature books: The Appalachians (1965) and The Life of the Mountains (1969).

June 16, 1964: The Grafton Monster allegedly was first spotted by journalist Robert Cockrell (1946-2022) beside Route 119 near Grafton. His write-up of the event sparked such a tourism frenzy that the local newspaper blamed it on "spring fever" and requested visitors to go home. No sightings have been confirmed since.

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.

SENATORS

Cont. From Front Page 1



President of the West Virginia Senate Randy Smith addressed Tucker County citizens on a variety of issues from this year's legislative session on June 2nd as part of a Legislative update hosted by the Tucker County Chamber of Commerce at the Parsons Senior Center.



West Virginia State Senator Jay Taylor looks on as President of the West Virginia Senate Randy Taylor addresses the crowd at the Parsons Senior Center June 2nd.

Smith said he was especially proud to have passed Senate Bill 1, what his called his "Big Bill." The bill was the first to be passed and was focused on helping small businesses. Smith said that small business was his top priority since most people employed in West Virginia were employed by small businesses.

Smith said last session the Senate passed a bill that invested $20 million in zero interest or low interest loans into start ups. This session's Senate Bill 1 follows up the investment with framework for existing businesses with loans.

Another major issue this session, according to Smith was CPS and Foster Care. Smith referred to CPS in the State as "a shambles." Smith said that there has been a decisive effort to see many children who have been sent out of state to specialized facilities, brought back home to West Virginia.

"We don't have a lot of facilities in West Virginia for children," Smith said.

In total, Smith said that 169 children a year are cared for out of state at a cost of $20 million a year. CPS workers are required to see each child once a month at an additional cost of $7 million per year in travel and accommodation costs, as those children are in facilities across the nation. Privatization, Smith said would save the State an estimated $17 million a year and be able to bring those children back to West Virginia.

"They're our kids and they need to be here," Smith said.

Senator Taylor spoke on the effort to further regulate Vape Shops. Taylor said that the goal was to stop the sale of illegal products imported from China. The main testing of these products, Taylor said, was under the control of the Department of Agriculture, who will go into the shops to test the products on site, with law enforcement as the enforcement arm of the legislation.

"So many Vape Shops these days are just selling poison, that's what it is," Smith added. "They package these to sell to kids."

Among questions posed to the Senators from the public was the issue of the future of Medicaid in the State. Smith said that the State lost $4.3 million from Covid allocation. The state has been using a reserve fund to cover the loss. However, those funds are rapidly depleting and will be gone in a mere 18 months.

The issue of Date Centers and HB 2014 were brought up, as well by the public. Smith said that on the matter of Data Centers, he hears both sides, both for and against the issue. Smith made it a point to say that he hears from many people that do not want to be harassed for supporting it, which is why they do not publicly support the project. On HB 2014, Smith said that the issue of local control still needs to be addressed in the legislation.

Smith said when confronted on why he did not bring a bill to the floor repealing HB 2014, that due to overwhelming support for Data Center project throughout the State as a whole, he is unable to even get 18 votes in support of a measure to bring a bill to the floor.

Nuclear energy was raised, as well due to Fundamental Data's own admitted plans for nuclear in Phase III of their Grant County part of the Ridgeline Project. Smith said that the technology for such a project was at least a decade off, but should such a project come to fruition, the new technology showed promise to come with far reduced waste.

A proposition was also raised to Smith during the Q & A. He was asked if he would be open to the idea of a special election for Tucker County residents on the issue of the Ridgeline project. Smith said he would need to see the proposed document outlining the mandate on data centers in Tucker County, but would gladly look it over and work with those proposing the vote.

"I'm open to anything," Smith said.

Smith said that all he has ever done is try to bring economic development to Tucker County. He asked those present for suggestions on what the community was looking for. Smith listed that over the years every economic development plan that has been brought forth has been faced with venomous opposition by one or more group in the County: Corridor H, Data Centers, Hydro Plant and the Hyperloop.

Smith said that most big companies want to locate in the eastern panhandle or along the Ohio River corridor. Companies look for amenities and utilities, something the interior of West Virginia is still struggling to catch up with. As a whole, Smith said West Virginia has the worst workforce participation in the country, mostly due to substance abuse issues.

Even with its struggles, Smith said he tries incandescently to steer companies to the area. He said companies are always contacting the State wanting to locate in West Virginia and he is steering them to Tucker and Grant Counties.

Seibert Retires from Mountain Memories Assisted Living & Retirement Center

ELKINS, W.Va. — Richard Seibert has been at Mountain Memories Assisted Living & Retirement Center since the inception of the facility.

He not only served as the Director of Maintenance and Environmental Services at the facility dating back to when it was Colonial Place, he also helped work on the construction plans for the facility back in the early 1990s. Now, the long-time employee at the facility has retired.

Although he said he is ready to retire and travel, Seibert added that he will miss working at the facility.

"I've met a lot of good people here," he said.

Mountain Memories Executive Director Wendy Wolford will definitely miss having Seibert around the facility. She noted that Seibert has been a part of the Mountain Memories community since the very beginning.

"We are incredibly grateful for Rich's 32 years of dedicated service," Wolford said. "His dedication, compassion, and commitment have left a lasting mark on Mountain Memories, and his presence will truly be missed. We wish him all the happiness and enjoyment that comes with this well deserved retirement."

Seibert has served as the Director of Maintenance and Environmental Services since 1994. He added that he is very proud of his work and the things that were accomplished at the facility.

"Our goal has always been to provide the very best care and to make the facility the next best thing to home," he said.

While being privately and locally owned un]l 2012, the facility was sold to at least four outside interests and was operated by two different management companies over the next nine years. It struggled.

After being "rescued" by Elkins Rehabilitation & Care Center (ERCC) in 2021, the facility received a new facelift and remodel.

Seibert's last day at the facility was May 29. He said he is looking forward to working on his farm and traveling with his wife.

"We're looking forward to enjoying the golden years as they call them," he said.

"Over the years, he has touched countless lives, built lasting friendships, and made a meaningful impact on our residents, families, and staff," Wolford said.

Mountain Memories Assisted Living & Retirement Center is a senior living community with assisted living and memory care. It is a subsidiary of Elkins Rehabilitation & Care Center. Learn more about Mountain Memories Assisted Living & Retirement Center at https://www.mountain-memories.biz/.



Mountain Memories Assisted Living & Retirement Center Administrator Wendy Wolford, at left, presented long-time employee Richard Seibert a plaque to commemorate his over three decades of service at the facility. Seibert, the Director of Maintenance and Environmental Services at the facility, has retired after 32 years.

Dr. Jonathan E. Stanley named Fellow of the Infectious Diseases Society of America

Bridgeport, WV— Jonathan E. Stanley, DO, an infectious disease specialist at UHC Infectious Diseases, has been honored as a Fellow by the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA). Fellowship in IDSA is a prestigious recognition conferred upon professionals who have achieved excellence in the field of infectious diseases and demonstrated a high level of commitment to the profession.

Dr. Stanley was selected for this honor based on his significant contributions to the field and his dedication to improving patient care and public health. As a Fellow, Dr. Stanley is recognized as a leader among his peers and will hold the distinction of FIDSA (Fellow of the Infectious Diseases Society of America).

"I am deeply honored to be named a Fellow of the Infectious Diseases Society of America," said Jonathan E. Stanley, DO, FIDSA. "This recognition reflects not only my commitment to the field of infectious diseases, but also the hard work and collaboration of my colleagues and team. I look forward to continuing to work alongside the esteemed leadership of IDSA to address the evolving challenges in infectious diseases and to shape the future of our specialty."

With more than 13,000 members, IDSA is the nation's largest professional society of infectious diseases specialists. The 2026 class of Fellows will be officially recognized during an induction ceremony at IDWeek in Washington, D.C.



Jonathan E. Stanley, D.O.
UHC Infectious Diseases

WVDNR stocks 31 waters during week of May 25

Trout stockings have been concluded for the spring 2026 season, will resume for two weeks in October

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 May 25:

- Anthony Creek
- Berwind Lake
- Blackwater River
- Buffalo Creek (Logan)
- Cacapon Park Lakes
- Cranberry River
- Dry Fork (McDowell)
- Elk River (Randolph, Webster)
- Gandy Creek
- Glady Fork
- Knapps Creek
- Laurel Fork (Randolph)
- Little River West Fork Greenbrier River
- North Fork South Branch
- Opequon Creek
- Potts Creek
- Rhine Creek
- Rock Cliff Lake
- Rockhouse Lake
- Shavers Fork (Bemis)
- Shavers Fork (Lower Section)
- Shavers Fork (Upper Section)
- South Branch (Franklin)
- South Branch (Smoke Hole)
- Spruce Knob Lake
- Spruce Laurel Fork
- Summit Lake
- Trout Run
- Waites Run
- West Fork Greenbrier River
- Williams River

The WVDNR stocks lakes and streams with trout from January 1 and May 31 each year. Trout stockings will resume for two weeks in October. 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.

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.



The Grant County Bank Announces New Falling Waters Branch

Petersburg, W.Va. — The Grant County Bank celebrated the groundbreaking of its newest full-service banking location in Falling Waters, West Virginia, on Wednesday, June 3, 2026. The event brought together community leaders, elected officials, and bank representatives to mark the beginning of an exciting new chapter for the organization and the Eastern Panhandle.

The ceremony welcomed local and state leaders, community representatives, and members of the bank's leadership team who gathered to celebrate the project and its impact on the growing Falling Waters community.

The new branch marks an important milestone as The Grant County Bank prepares for its official transition to the Highlands Bank name on July 1, 2026. The transition represents the next chapter in the bank's long history of serving customers and communities across the region.

"This expansion represents an exciting step forward for our organization," said George Ford, President and CEO. "As we prepare to officially become Highlands Bank, we are proud to continue investing in growing communities like Falling Waters while remaining committed to the local service and relationships that have defined our bank for almost 125 years." Guests had the opportunity to hear remarks from community leaders, participate in the ceremonial groundbreaking, and learn more about the bank's plans for the new location.

The Falling Waters branch will expand the bank's presence into the Eastern Panhandle and support continued growth throughout West Virginia.

The event was attended by several local, state, and federal representatives, including:

- Chuck Horst, WV Delegate representing the Falling Waters District
- Rhett Dusenbury, Senior Field Representative for Congressman Riley Moore
- Chris Strovel, Representative for Senator Shelley Moore Capito's Office

Construction on the Falling Waters branch is expected to continue throughout the coming months. Additional updates regarding the new location and the official Highlands Bank launch on July 1 will be shared through the bank's website and social media channels.

About The Grant County Bank

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

Subsequently, The Grant County Bank has expanded its marketplace throughout the Potomac Highlands and now operates a total of seven offices in six counties. After more than a century of continued service, The Grant County Bank is truly "Committed to The Communities We Serve" and is a subsidiary of Highlands Bankshares, Inc., also headquartered in Petersburg, WV.

The Grant County Bank is currently preparing to transition to Highlands Bank on July 1, 2026, reflecting a new name and brand that represents the communities we serve throughout the Potomac Highlands. While the name and branding are changing, our commitment to our customers, communities, employees, and local decision-making will remain the same.





Parsons City Council members, Woodlands leadership, and partners participated in the groundbreaking shovel event marking the start of construction. The accompanying rendering presents a detailed visualization of the project upon completion.

Woodlands Development and Lending Celebrates a Breaking Ground for the New Building in Parsons

City leaders, project partners, and community members gathered on June 1 to celebrate the start of construction of the Five Rivers Building in Parsons.

PARSONS, W. Va., - Woodlands Development & Lending officially marked the start of construction on the Five Rivers Building with a groundbreaking ceremony held Monday, June 1, 2026, on Main Street by the traffic light in Parsons. Located at the heart of Parsons, this project will provide eight high-quality, affordable housing apartments and one large commercial space.

Dave Clark, Executive Director of Woodlands, expressed his enthusiasm in bringing the project to reality as envisioned by the Parsons community, noting that Woodlands was honored to help make that vision reality.

Joining Woodlands to celebrate the occasion were Richard L. Lemons, Parsons City recorder; David "Coop" Cooper, CEO of Tucker Community Foundation; Parsons City Council member; Michael Rosenau; Melissa D. Jones, Tucker Cunty Commissioner; ; Bryson VanNostrand, Project Architect (PA); Todd Gunter, Director of Economic Development for Senator Shelley Moore Capito, local officials, project partners and community members.

Todd Gunter, representing Senator Shelly Moore Capito emphasized that this project was made possible because of the community, stating, "I want to be very clear that this is not the federal government's money. This is not Senator Capito's money, but this is your money. And we work hard to ensure that we put it into your community."

Woodlands is excited to work alongside the City of Parsons to extend affordable housing options in Tucker County.

The project was made possible by funding from WV Affordable Housing Fund, WV Department of Environmental Protection, the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh, WV DARRE and the Northern Brownfields Assistance Center. Project partners Citizens Bank of West Virginia, Invest Appalachia, and the City of Parsons have been critical in getting us this far, and Project Architect Bryson VanNostrand from VanNostrand Architects will be overseeing construction along with Woodlands.

Woodlands Development and Lending works to develop affordable housing, drive downtown development, increase community capacity, and provide affordable small business support and lending services to the communities in our service area. Woodlands Development and Lending is an Elkins, WV based Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) and Financial Institution (CDFI) that serves Randolph, Barbour, and Tucker Counties.

REPRESENT **Cont. From Sports Page 3**

Local Players, Coach to Represent West Virginia in Battle Against Cystic Fibrosis All-Star Game

By: Adam Freeman

Three local 2026 football seniors will have the opportunity to showcase their talents while supporting a great cause this Friday night as Reid Kisamore, Keelyn Eichelberger, and Josh Crossland take part in the West Virginia vs. Ohio Battle Against Cystic Fibrosis (BACF) All-Star Game.

The annual event brings together top high school football players from West Virginia and Ohio for a competitive matchup while raising awareness and funds for cystic fibrosis research and support programs.

Adding to the local representation, area high school coach AJ Rapp will serve on the West Virginia coaching staff for the game.

Kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m. Friday, June 12, at St. Mary's High School. The contest will feature talented athletes from both states competing for state pride while helping make a difference in the fight against cystic fibrosis.

Obituaries

Wanda "Jean" Helmick Knotts



Wanda "Jean" Helmick Knotts, 92, a resident of the Horseshoe Run Community, and more recently of Lake Wylie, SC passed from this life Sunday, May 31, 2026, at the home of her daughter, Donna Miller and under the care of Hospice and Community Care. She had been in declining health.

Jean was born Monday, February 26, 1934, in Thomas, a daughter of the late Dave Helmick and Lilly Blanche Lewis Helmick. She was a 1951 graduate of Thomas High School. She had worked as a catering waitress with Marriott.

On October 20, 2019, Jean's husband of sixty-six years, Delton Carl "Bud" Knotts, preceded her in death. She was also preceded in death by a son, Michael Carl Knotts, three brothers, Ronald Helmick, Donald Wayne "Donnie" Helmick and Glenn "Red" Helmick, and a sister, Catherine "Bet" Lipscomb.

Left to cherish Jean's memory are three daughters, Donna Jean Miller of South Carolina, Susan Diane Horton and husband, Mark, of Maryland, Cathy Jo Knotts and husband, Mitchell Pinnix, of South Carolina; two sisters, Maxine "Connie" Eye, and Madeline "Carroll" Precht, three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren, Ryan Warrenfeltz, and wife, Sally, with their children, Ryan Jr., Megan, Jack; Holly Armstrong and husband, Kevin, with their children, Eliana, Benjamin, Samuel; and Andrew Horton; as well as several brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Jean and Bud had been long time members of the Leadmine Church.

Visitation will be held at Hostetler Funeral Home on Friday, June 12, 2026, from 11am until 1pm, the funeral hour. Interment will follow in Bethel Cemetery at Holly Meadows. The Hostetler Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements for Wanda "Jean" Helmick Knotts. Send online condolences to the family at www.hostetlerfuneralhome.com.

Cheryl Ann Fowler Canfield



Cheryl Ann Fowler Canfield, age 57 years, a former resident of the Sugarlands Community, Parsons, WV and more recently a resident of Elkins, WV departed this life Saturday, May 30, 2026, at her home. Death was unexpected.

She was born March 29, 1969, in Baltimore, MD, a daughter of the late Ralph Glenn Fowler and Alma F. McDaniel Fowler and companion Nathan Phillips of Parsons.

Also surviving are three daughters, Dakota Paige Canfield and companion Jennifer Jones and her children, Luke and Jayden Ball of Proctorville, OH, Samantha Kelsey Canfield and her son Landon Wayne Collett of Clarksburg and Hunter Elisa Canfield and companion Kyle Miller and his daughter, Adalynn Miller of Woodstock, VA; Cheryl's children's father, Timothy Howard Canfield of Sugarlands; one sister, Carol Ann Watson of Parsons; three brothers, Lester Glenn Fowler of Houston, TX, William Douglas Fowler and wife Chelly of Hampton, VA and Ralph Edward "Eddie" Fowler and wife Tiffany of Hendricks; best friend and caregiver, Donna Kuhn of Elkins and her dog, Daisy; several special nieces and nephews.

She was a graduate of Tucker County High School with the class of 1988. She had previously attended Sugarlands Church and had worked at the former Parsons Shoe Factory, Cortland Acres Nursing Home and was a real estate agent at Timberline. She was a member of the Homemakers Association and the Never Give Up Parkinsons Group. Cheryl enjoyed camping, traveling and crocheting. She was a very talented musician and would sing at fairs and festivals and places like the Wheeling Jamboree and the Sage Brush Roundup as well as many other places.

The family will receive friends at the Lohr & Barb Funeral Home of Parsons, WV on Sunday, June 7, 2026, from 11 AM until 1 PM, the funeral hour. The Reverend Adam Snyder will officiate and interment will follow at the Bright Chapel Cemetery at Dry Fork, WV. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is honored to be in charge of the arrangements for Cheryl Ann Fowler Canfield. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com.

William R. "Bill" Helmick

William R. "Bill" Helmick, age 85 years, a resident of Morgantown, departed this life Monday, June 1, 2026 at The Country Retreat at Albright, WV, Preston Co.

He was born Saturday March 8, 1941, at Ridgeley, WV, a son of the late Obed F. Helmick and Margie V. Bonner Helmick Jennings and his stepfather, Arnold Jennings. On April 6, 1964, at Baltimore, MD, he was married to his best friend, Janice Elaine Watkins Helmick, who preceded him in death.

Surviving is one son, James Benton Helmick and significant other Kelly Porter of Pasadena, MD; two grandchildren, Brian Helmick and Gabrielle Helmick and fiancé Randy Scott; two great granddaughters, Harper and Kinsley Scott; several nieces and nephews and special niece, Diana Canale.

Preceding him in death are three brothers, Franklin, Keith and Obed Helmick; five sisters, Nance Shipp, Kathleen Irvin, Jean Irvin, Helen Wise and Joanne Hallas; and three step siblings, Mary Jo, Elizabeth and Andrew.

He was a graduate of Patterson Park High School with the class of 1960. He attended Community College of Baltimore for Law Enforcement and received a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from the University of Baltimore. He was a Veteran of the United States Army, Sgt 501st Infantry Paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne Division from 1960 to 1963. He was a Lieutenant with the Baltimore City Police Dept. from 1963 to 1990. He was an active reservist with combat service in Panama, Iraq, and Desert Storm. He was proud of his service and his country and was in uniform for twenty-six years, three months and fifteen days. Bill was Baptist by faith and was a member of the FOP Lodge 3 of Baltimore, life member of the N.R.A. and the V.F.W. Post 11143 of Linthicum, MD, life member of the 82nd Airborne Division Assoc. of WV, a former member of the screen actors guild, third degree Mason of Howard Lodge #101 in Elkridge, MD. He was an avid outdoorsman and loved to hunt, having taken trips to Quebec, Newfoundland, Maine, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, and Pheasant Run. Over the years, Bill, Janice and their family enjoyed their trips to Disney World, Hong Kong, U.S. Virgin Islands and Hawaii.

The family received friends at the Lohr & Barb Funeral Home of Parsons, WV on Friday, June 5, 2026, from 11 AM until 1 PM the funeral hour. The Reverend Cecil Hines officiated and interment followed, where the WV Army Honor Guard, the Tygart Valley Post #3647 Veterans of Foreign War and the Tucker County Veterans Association conducted full military honors. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is honored to be in charge of the arrangements for William R. "Bill" Helmick. Condolences may be expressed to the family at; www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com.

Dolores Anne Hinebaugh Roberts-Auvil



Dolores Anne Hinebaugh Roberts-Auvil, age 91 years, a resident of Hendricks, WV, departed this life Wednesday afternoon, June 3, 2026, at her home, with her loving family by her side, and under the care of West Virginia Caring.

She was born Sunday, May 12, 1935, at Oakland, MD, a daughter of the late Arthur Young Hinebaugh and Anne Lucille Fresh. She was twice married. First to Frank Dale Roberts, and second to Robert Leman Auvil, both preceded her in death.

Surviving are three sons, Frank A. Roberts and wife Rachel of Hendricks, Robert L. Roberts and wife Pamela of Hambleton and Kelly C. Roberts and wife Sandi of Hendricks; one daughter, Roxanne Tuesing of Hendricks; four stepsons, Stephen Auvil and wife Anne, Ryan Auvil and wife Jaime, Matthew Auvil, and Brendan Auvil and wife Jennifer, all of MD; one step daughter, Megan Auvil of MD; one sister, Jane Parsons and husband Bud of Parsons; 10 grandchildren Jen (Andy), Amy, Carrie (Cade), Rebecca, Emily (Taylor), Frank (Beth), Ryan, Solena (Nick), Chelsea (Robbie), Skyler (Kim); twenty one great grandchildren, Matthew, Elliott, Anna, Oliver, Arlana, Nora, Audrey, Harrison, Brock, Rhys, Gage, Quinn, Liam, Marshall, Odessa, Ashton, Chase, Silas, Isaac, Owen , Conner, and one on the way; sixteen step grandchildren, Race, Coyle, Alec, Conley, Olive, Blakely, Maryn, Quinlan, Millie, Mackallyn, Beatrice; Milton (Erica), Michael (Katie), Elizabeth (Brandon), Tabitha and Devin; nine step great grandchildren, Raegan, Teagan, Sophia, Amelia, Savannah, Hailey, Bella, Jamison, and Bentley; and special caregiver, Roberta Alderman.

Preceding her in death an infant daughter, Frances Anne Roberts and infant son, Tommy Roberts; and two grandchildren, Jillian Roberts, and Jacob Roberts.

She was a graduate of Parsons High School with the class of 1953 and attended Potomac State College. She worked in Tucker County Schools as a teacher's aide, retiring in 1997. She attended Hendricks Community Church. She loved traveling, and enjoyed flowers, gardening and dancing, big band and swing music. She loved being "Grannie" to all of her loving grandchildren.

The family will receive friends at the Lohr & Barb Funeral Home of Parsons, WV on Monday, June 8, 2026, from 4 PM to 6 PM. On Tuesday, June 9, 2026, the family will receive friends from 11 AM until 1 PM the funeral hour. The Reverend V.J. Davis will officiate and interment will follow at the Fansler Cemetery at Hendricks, WV. The family suggest that expressions of sympathy be in the form of contributions to the Hendricks Community Church, Hendricks, WV. 26271. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is honored to be in charge of the arrangements for Dolores Anne Hinebaugh Roberts-Auvil. Condolences may be expressed to the family at; www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com.

Larry Matthew Stemple, Sr.



Larry Matthew Stemple, Sr., a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, passed away unexpectedly at his home on June 2, 2026, at the age of 79, surrounded by his loving family. Born on July 18, 1946, in Parsons, WV. Larry lived a life defined by faith, service, family, and honor. He proudly served his country in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War, and through other missions in Japan, Thailand, and Alaska. Larry distinguished himself through courage, dedication, and unwavering commitment to duty. Throughout his military career, he earned numerous decorations and commendations, having served as Crew Chief of Maintenance for Air Force One during Ronald Reagan's presidency. Larry proudly retired with the rank of Master Sergeant (MSGT). Following his military service, Larry continued to live by the values that guided him throughout his life-integrity, hard work, humility, and compassion; and he strived to pass on those values to the young men he encountered as a correctional officer at the Davis Center, now, Kenneth "Honey" Rubenstein Juvenile Center. He was admired by all who knew him for his strength of character, quiet wisdom, and willingness to help others. Above all else, Larry cherished his family. He was the devoted husband of Emma Margaret (Shupp) Stemple, with whom he shared 58 years of marriage filled with love, partnership, and cherished memories. Larry is remembered for the tireless work and dedication he poured into building the house that he and his wife made their home, where they have shared the last two decades of their lives together. Together, they built a strong and loving family that remains his enduring legacy. Larry was preceded in death by his parents, Leonard and Twyla Stemple of Parsons, an infant brother, David; his beloved Golden Retrievers Chief, Copper, Sandy, and Chase, and his notorious toilet-paper-eating cat "Lord Lardball" (Reggie). Larry is survived by his loving wife, Emma; his children, Matt (Kasey) Stemple, Lynn Gidley (companion Randy), and Jonathan (Charla) Stemple; and his grandson, Brent (Wendy) Gidley, whom he proudly helped raise as a son. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Ashley (companion Cyndall), Kyle (companion Chloe), Kayla, Nick (companion Chelsea), Brooklyn, Savannah (Tyler), Zach, and Hunter; and by his great-grandchildren, Cianna, Rowan, Delilah, Reid, Colt, Nash, Avery, Emersyn, Zechariah, Isaiah, Rileigh, Matthew, Keaton, and Liam. He also leaves behind numerous extended family members, dear friends, and the four-legged friends he proudly called his "Grand-Pups" who will deeply miss his presence, wisdom, guidance, and treats. A faithful Christian, Larry found strength and comfort in his relationship with God throughout his life. His faith was evident in the way he treated others-with kindness, grace, and generosity. He lived as an example of Christian devotion and proudly served as a lifelong member of the Leadmine Community Church and CERT team. Larry leaves behind a legacy of faith that will continue to inspire those who knew and loved him. Though our hearts are saddened by his passing, we take comfort in knowing that he has been welcomed into the presence of his Lord and Savior. His life of service, love, and faith will never be forgotten. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in Larry's name to the Tucker County Animal Shelter. The Fredlock and Fenner Funeral Homes -Davis Chapel, is honored to be serving the Stemple family at this time.

EISWERT

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2018, has helped dramatically increase the College's enrollment.

"At a time when colleges across the country are closing or consolidating, we've been thriving," said Midcap. "We grew nearly 10 percent in credit enrollment during the 2025-26 academic year compared to the previous year, and have increased enrollment by over 30 percent in the last four years.

"The increase in student athletes – we've gone from 70 in 2021 to 194 this year – has played a big role in that success," said Midcap.

Midcap said revenue generated by the expansion of intercollegiate athletics has helped the College launch a radiological technology program and keep its in-county tuition rate at $99 per credit since 2021. It has also helped GC improve student success metrics – including this spring's 96 percent satisfactory academic standing rating.

Midcap said the capital campaign, which started last June, should be wrapped up by late summer.

"We've already received commitments for 23 of the 27 major gift opportunities," he reported. "We are working now on identifying donors for the final four major namings – the four remaining spots on the Donor Archway."

The College and the Foundation recently announced two smaller naming opportunities that will help close out the campaign.

"We've just launched a locker-naming campaign – similar to the seat-naming initiative that was part of the Performing Arts Center Capital Campaign," said Foundation representative Janet Kepple. "We are also establishing a donor wall right inside the renovated 700 Building that's similar to the donor instillation inside the PAC."

The donor wall has three giving tiers - $10,000 (gold), $5,000 (silver), and $1,000 (bronze).

Individuals interested in information about giving to the GCF Athletics Capital Campaign should contact Cherie Krug at cherie.krug@garrettcollege.edu or 301.387.3100.

THANK YOU FOR READING
THE PARSONS ADVOCATE

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Tucker county since1896

TCHS Students Take on DC











Tucker County High School Staff Chris Wilson and Julie Davis chaperoned students from TCHS on a recent field trip to Washington D.C. This trip, along with one to Philadelphia, were funded by the Tucker County Commission. Wilson thanked Commissioners Rosenau, Knotts and Davis for their generosity. "Everyone had a great time, we learned new things (me included) and some lifelong memories were made," Wilson said. Photos courtesy the Tucker County Commission and Chris Wilson.

Blackwater Ridge

COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE & YARD SALE

SATURDAY, JUNE 13TH

8:00 AM - 1:00 PM



46 Fernwood Drive
Thomas, WV 26292

JOIN US FOR:

Tours of The Pines 55+ Villas & Condos

Tours of The Rapids Workforce Apartments (Under Construction Now!)

WDNE 98.9FM Live Broadcast

Community Organizations

Free Coffee, Pastries & More!

YARD SALE

Browse great deals from our community members!

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LET US KNOW "WHAT'S HAPPENING"
304-478-3533

Celebrating Thomas's Early Merchant Families

Sat, June 20th at 3 PM



Public Event! Part of the Blackwater Exhibit!

- Food & Drink
- Guest Speakers
- Local Stories
- Historical Artifacts

The Rudolph's Bldg.
300 East Avenue
Downtown Thomas
West Virginia 26292

Exhibit is open from 11 am to 5 pm. Event is at 3 pm.
For more information, call (304) 345-7663 or email jeremiah@saveblackwater.org

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