The Parsons Advocate

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF TUCKER COUNTY SINCE 1896

Volume 131 No. 24 | Wednesday, June 17, 2026 | $1.50 (tax incl.)

INSIDE: An Exclusive Response from Fundamental Data



Tucker United and their supporters met Sunday for a Community Solidarity Picnic at Canaan Valley State Park Pavilion. The pot luck event included BBQ chicken, a video presentation, games and activities and a drum circle, as well as a protest along the main road of the park.

Tucker United Hosts Solidarity Picnic

Members of Tucker United and their supporters met at the main pavilion at Canaan Valley State Park Sunday for a picnic and protest as a response to the West Virginia Legislature's three day Interim Committee visit to Canaan Valley State Park Resort. During the Committee sessions on Monday, Tucker United encouraged their supporters to wear yellow tee-shirts that were distributed at the event on Sunday as a show of solidarity. The group was visited throughout the day on Sunday by members of other anti-data center organizations from across the State and Washington D.C.

See PICNIC page 9

Monongahela National Forest Road 19 Closed For Maintenance

Elkins, W.Va. — Forest Road 19 on the Cheat-Potomac Ranger District, which provides access to the Dolly Sods Wilderness Area on the Monongahela National Forest, will be closed beginning June 22, 2026. Access to the Dolly Sods Wilderness is still available from FR19 via Jordan Run Rd near Hopeville, WV. The closure will limit access on FR 19 from the west at the existing gate near Laneville, WV and extend to the intersection with FR75. Foot access on FR19 is permitted and visitors are asked to avoid construction areas. The closure is in place to protect public safety while repairs are completed. The closure timeline is still being determined.

Visitors are asked to respect all posted closures and avoid attempting to bypass the affected area. Updates will be shared on the Monongahela National Forest website and social media as new information becomes available.

Bohanon Pleas to DUI With Bodily Injury

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Malicia Bohanon pleaded guilty to DUI with Bodily Injury before Judge Shaffer during his July 9th session of the 22nd Circuit Court at the Tucker County Courthouse in Parsons. The 50 year old appeared in Court along with her attorney Sam Hess. The count was a misdemeanor lesser included charge in Bohanon's original indictment. Under the plea agreement, Bohanon is not eligible for deferred adjudication. The charge comes with up to a year in jail, but the plea deal recommends it be served as two years of probation under home confinement and fine. There is no restitution in the case.

When questioned on the plea agreement, Tucker County Prosecuting Attorney Savannah Hull Wilkins said she felt it was in both the best interest of justice and Ms. Bohannon. Wilkins went on to say that she did not want to make a felon out of someone with no previous criminal history.

"It is a situation where it is an accident," Wilkins said.

A visibly emotional Bohanon signed the plea agreement, answered all of the Court's questions and listened as her rights were explained. Judge Shaffer acknowledged Bohanon was visibly upset and crying and asked if she was able to continue with proceedings. Bohanon said she could.

Wilkins explained to the Court that on May 26th, 2025, the Tucker County Sheriff received a call of an accident on Highway 219 in which a silver Chrysler had gone over an embankment. Upon arrival, the driver, Bohanon, was found outside the vehicle Bohanon repeatedly tried to reenter the vehicle after being advised not to. Officers indicated that Bohanon appeared intoxicated by her



Judge Steven Shaffer

See BOHANON page 2

Mallow to Serve Jail After Probation Revocation

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Clayton Mallow will serve the remainder of his sentence behind bars following a revocation order by Judge Steven Shaffer June 9th during his session of the 22nd Circuit Court at the Tucker County Courthouse in Parsons. The motion, made by Tucker County Prosecuting Attorney Savannah Hull Wilkins, came following evidence Mallow had been in contact with minors, a violation of his probation. Mallow appeared in person from the Tygart Valley Jail represented by his attorney Jamie Fox.



Clayton Mallow

See MALLOW page 2

Davis Council Discusses Recycling, Landfill Issues

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

The Town of Davis Council discussed options for recycling in the area, as well as concerns over the local landfill at the June 10th regular session at Town Hall. The discussion, led by Council Member Catherine Fleischman, emerged from Fleischman's update to the Council on her efforts to discover more about recycling option around the Davis area.

Fleischman said she had approached the Davis Shop n' Save, but was informed that the store does not participate in the program. Following this, she approached Sunrise Sanitation, who informed her of their intentions to open a recycling center in Belington within the year. The company has plans to

See LANDFILL page 8

Davis Dodges Bullet in Court



Donald Davis

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Donald Davis accepted a plea deal June 9th during Judge Shaffer's session of 22nd Circuit Court at the Tucker County Courthouse in Parsons. The 26 year old plead guilty to fleeing by vehicle, a lesser included misdemeanor charge. Judge Shaffer accepted the guilty plea and sentenced Davis in Court. Davis was sentenced to 1 year in jail to be served as probation and a $500 fine. In total. Davis will serve two years of probation under Shaffer's order.

"I think there needs to be some form of consequence for fleeing from the police," Judge Shaffer stated during sentencing.

The offense comes with a mandatory fine of $500 to $1,000 and a year in jail. Davis appeared in court along with his attorney Sam Hess. Savannah Hull Wilkins represented the prosecution.

Davis informed the Court that he understood all his rights and what rights he was waiving by accepting a plea deal and pleading guilty. He also said that he was satisfied with Hess' representation throughout the duration of his case. A verbal and signed, written plea were entered to the Court.

Wilkins said Davis had no priors, other than a couple of traffic tickets that the State Patrolman involved in the case had issued prior to the case. She expressed sympathy for what she termed a "young offender" when explaining to the Court why she extended a plea deal in the case.

"I didn't want to slap a young person with a felony right out of the gate," Wilkins said.

Hess when asked if he recommended that his client take a plea agreement, said that he had, adding, "This is his best day in court."

On October 11, 2025, near Highways 32 and 48, a sports bike with no registration plate was spotted by Trooper Short of the West Virginia State Police, Wilkins stated to the Court. Short recognized the bike because he had ticketed the bike and rider previously. A stop was attempted on Spruce Street in Thomas, but the rider fled, leading to

See DAVIS page 2

Plum Sentenced to 60 Day Probation Sanction

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Stephen Plum came before Judge Steven Shaffer June 9th for a Probation Revocation hearing in the 22nd Circuit Court at the Tucker County Courthouse in Parsons. He appeared in person from the Tygart Valley Jail represented by his attorney Sam Hess. Tucker County Prosecuting Attorney Savannah Hull Wilkins represented the prosecution in the matter.



Stephen Plum

Wilkins entered the motion to revoke probation. Hess said that his client intended to enter a stipulation. Plum admitted to a failed drug test and to alcohol in the house, specifically beer, triple sec and Fireball.

On April 14th, Plum was sentenced to a misdemeanor offense and sentenced to one year of probation. At that time he had an initial positive to a variety of substances, according to the Court, including: methamphetamine, Benzodiazepines, fentanyl, and amphetamines. It was brought up by a witness for the prosecution from the Probation Office that on April 25th, there was a second failed drug test.

After the Court found that Plum had violated probation, Hess and Shaffer debated over the nature of the offense. Specifically, as to whether methamphetamine constituted simple possession under the law in regards to a 60 Day Sanction under the State's graduated sanction statute. Judge

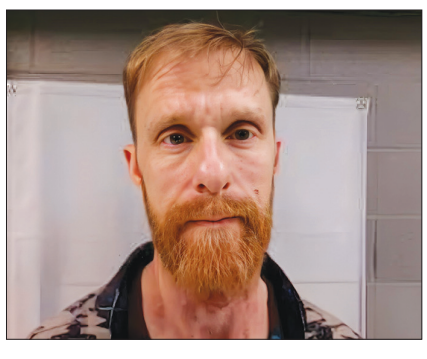
See PLUM page 8

Martin Pleads to Domestic Assault

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Jonathan Martin pleaded guilty June 9th to a misdemeanor charge of Domestic Assault before Judge Shaffer during his session of the 22nd Circuit Court at the Tucker County Courthouse in Parsons. The charge was a lesser included charge. The plea deal also included a deferred judgment on the felony charge of Possession with Intent to Deliver. Martin appeared in Court along with his Attorney Seth Hoy.

Under the Domestic Assault charge, the 44 year old faces six months in jail sentence and a $100 fine. Martin also surrenders his firearm rights



Jonathan Martin

under the charge. Sentencing on the misdemeanor charge will be held on July 20th.

The Possession with Intent to Deliver felony charge is subject to a deferred adjudication. Under such conditions, Martin was not judged guilty in Court that day. Instead, he will be held under probation, and other strict Court terms such as programs, drug testing, etc, for a term of two years. At the end of the two year period, if all conditions have been successfully met, Martin will be allowed to withdraw his felony plea and replace it with a misdemeanor plea.

Tucker County Prosecuting Attorney Savannah Hull Wilkins said she believed the deal was in the fairest interest of justice in the case. Wilkins went on to inform the Court that she had spoken to the victim in the case

See MARTIN page 9

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM

Find us on Facebook

News of Record

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

- **Harry W. Hardy and Carolyn S. Hardy,** Black Fork District, 1.572 acres to Timothy S. Cushey and Sharon L. Cushey, $30,000.
- **Eric Flanagan,** Dry Fork District, Quitclaim Deed – 77 acres to Eric Flanagan, Trustee, The Eric and Joan Living Trust and Joan Culbertson, Trustee.
- **Mark Erskine Kimball and Grace Kimball,** Dry Fork District, Quitclaim Deed - .95 acres, Lot 102, Northpoint Woods to The Mark and Grace Kimball Living Trust U/, Mark Erskine Kimball, Trustee and Grace Kimball, Trustee.
- **Janis A. Scali, Laura B. Thomas/FKA/Laura B. Sanders, Laura B. Sanders/AKA/Laura B. Thomas and Donald W. Wieland,** Dry Fork District, Unit 1107 Ash Lodge of Beaver Ridge Condo to Moriah Paddison Munsch, $125,000.
- **Peter F. Radue and Nanette P. Radue,** Dry Fork District, Deed of Correction – Correcting Grantee; Lot 34 Northface, .239 acres to Gap Holdings LLC.
- **Gap Holdings LLC,** Dry Fork District, Lot 34 Northface .239 acres to Rita M. Dutoit, $800,000.
- **Robert D. Schaaf,** Dry Fork District, Lot 30 Blackwater Section, 5.02 acres to Ronald C. Walton, $499.000.
- **Wilbert R. Phillips,** Licking District, Revocable Transfer on Death Deed, Lot 51 to Linda Britton, Beneficiary and April D. Childers, Contingent Beneficiary.
- **GST B2 Trust of Martha R. Weaner and Scott Weaner, Trustee,** Parsons Corporation, Lot 23, 24 and 25 Preston Miller Addition to Josh Warner, $155,000.
- **Edward T. Kachmarek,** St. George District, .896 acres to Maya B. Paul.
- **Francis X. Guerrieri and Gregory J. Ashby,** Thomas Corporation, Two Half Lots totaling 60 x 110 feet to Ceproperties LLC, $50,000.

BOHANON

Cont. From Front Page 1

actions and the redness of her eyes. There were still two passengers inside the vehicle, as well as a dog. Animal control was called for the dog followed Bohanon's failure of field sobriety tests. Bohanon tested positive for alcohol and marijuana. When questioned by the Court, Bohanon admitted to having a drink and an edible before driving.

Hess said that since the accident, Bohanon has submitted to random drug screens. All of which have been clean.

Bohanon's aunt was a passenger in the car and suffered a fractured foot, but declined to want any sort of charges brought in the case. The male passenger suffered various fractures including broken ribs and the loss of teeth. It is his injuries that Bohanon pleaded to, according to Wilkins in Court.

The guilty plea to misdemeanor DUI with Bodily Injury was accepted by the Court and Bohanon submitted verbal and signed pleas while in Court. All other counts in the indictment were dismissed. The charge comes with up to a year in jail and a $200 to $1,000 fine. Sentencing in the case is scheduled for July 20th.

DAVIS

Cont. From Front Page 1

a chase that reached speeds of over 100 miles per hour. Trooper Short stopped chase in Grant County out of safety after identifying the rider from the previous stops and contacts. Davis was later apprehended. When asked by the Court if it was him on the bike, Davis admitted that it was.

Davis was given the opportunity to speak after sentencing. Davis acknowledged that he endangered himself and public and expressed remorse for his actions that day.

"I am aware that it was a really dumb decision and I endangered my life as well as many others," Davis said. "It is not like me to do something like that and I am very sorry."

Judge Shaffer told Davis, "You dodged a bullet." He explained to the young man that felonies make getting employment far harder and that he had a lenient prosecutor and a good attorney backing him, that doesn't always happen.

"Ms. Wilkins cut you a break, you had a good attorney," Judge Shaffer said. "You need to understand that."

MALLOW

Cont. From Front Page 1

Fox said that the defense would stipulate that Mallow had contact with a minor. Wilkins said there was evidence on Mallow's phone to indicate there had been contact with multiple minors. Wilkins also said there had been a report filed by a Randolph County boy reported to the Randolph County Sheriff's Department.

"I really don't know what to do with Mr. Mallow," Wilkins said.

Wilkins expressed exasperation with the situation and said she felt that he would continue to not only engage in online contact with minors and what she considered "grooming" activities, it would escalate over time. She also outlined to the Court the information of the case that had already been presented before: the purchase of socks and underwear, the theft of account information in order to purchase items for others.

"I view him as a predator towards children," Wilkins said.

The defense had recommended an inpatient facility in New Jersey. Fox said the facility accepted Mallow's insurance and would supply transportation for him, as well. Wilkins argued that Mallow should not only stay in West Virginia, but also more importantly, not enough was known about the New Jersey facility. Wilkins said from what research she was able to do on the facility, they did not treat what she viewed as the "sexual compulsive" component of the case. Wilkins said that the County's own Community Corrections Department offers therapy through the Probation Department.

Fox argued that they were unable to find a facility in West Virginia that would accept Mallow for a variety of reasons. Most had no openings or only offered outpatient care, or simply would not accept his insurance plan.

"For society and Mr. Mallow, this type of treatment is best to fix Mr. Mallow," Fox said.

Judge Shaffer found that Mallow had "substantially violated" the terms of his home confinement. As a result, his probation was revoked.

"I'm revoking the rest of your sentence," Judge Shaffer said. "Whatever the D.O.C. (Department of Corrections) determines, I'm good with that."

However, confusion remained over how long Mallow's term in jail would actually be. Fox argued that Mallow's term was nearly served with around three months remaining in his sentence from Judge Courrier. There was some debate over the matter of day-to-day counts as it applied to Mallow's case specifically. The Court and attorneys were going to research further and determine the exact length of time Mallow still had remaining on his sentence to be served out in jail. Due to the relatively short length of Mallow's sentence remaining, the chances are he will serve the remainder of his time at the Tygart Valley Jail and not be transferred to a larger correctional facility.

Mallow was sentenced in December of 2025 to two years of Home Confinement on four counts of felony Fraudulent Use of an Access Device. Mallow also had to pay $5,367 in restitution, which as since been paid in full. A fifth count was suspended with one year of probation waived when the restitution was paid in full. The sentencing followed Mallow's acceptance of a plea deal in October of that year.

WVDEP to Honor Adopt-A-Highway Volunteers During Annual Appreciation Day Celebration

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection and the West Virginia Department of Transportation will host a daylong celebration for the dedicated volunteers who help keep our state roadways free of litter.

The annual Adopt-A-Highway Volunteer Appreciation Day will take place on Saturday, August 1, 2026, at Lakeview Golf Resort in Morgantown. Volunteers will be served lunch, have an opportunity to participate in fun activities, and be honored for their participation in the Adopt-A-Highway program. Years of service certificates and lapel pins will be awarded, and the 2026 Adopt-A-Highway Volunteer of the Year will be announced.

Volunteers are asked to register for the event by July 10, 2026, by emailing DEP.AAH@wv.gov or calling (800) 322-5530.

Adopt-A-Highway volunteers remove approximately 215,000 pounds of trash along our state roads each year. In 2025, nearly 7,000 volunteers representing more than 450 organizations cleared litter along more than 1,700 miles of roadways.

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

The Parsons Advocate

FROM THE MOUNTAINS
TO THE VALLEYS
YOUR HOMETOWN
OR YOUR SECOND HOME

We bring you news from
Tucker County every week.

Fill out this coupon to subscribe today or visit us online at
www.parsonsadvocate.com

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

— Circle One —

In-State	Out-of-State	Web Only
$47/Year	$52/Year	$41/Year

Anywhere Print & Web	Monthly Print & Web
$69Year	$6.50/Month
	Autorenewal Credit/Debit only

SEND CHECKS TO THE PARSONS ADVOCATE
P.O. BOX 345 PARSONS, WV 26287

The Parsons Advocate

Publisher Michael Showell
Associate Publisher Lydia Crawley
Office Manager Teri Cayton
Production Design Erika Wright
Advertising Debra Smith - debra@mountainmedianews.com

The Parsons Advocate (422-420) is published weekly at 219 Central Ave Parsons, WV 26287. Phone 304-478-3533. Fax 304-478-1086.; email mikie@parsonsadvocate.com. Yearly subscription rates: $47 annually in West Virginia; $52 annually outside West Virginia; Web Only: $41; Anywhere Print & Web: $69; Monthly Print & Web Auto-Renewal $6.50. Periodical postage paid at Parsons, WV. 26287. Established Nov. 27, 1896. Member: West Virginia Press Association and National Newspaper Association. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Parsons Advocate, 219 Central Ave, Parsons, WV 26287. **www.parsonsadvocate.com** *"Without, or with, offense to friends or foes, I sketch your world exactly as it goes."*

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

WV Knocks Off OH in 31st Annual BACF Allstar Game

By: Adam Freeman

Three Tucker County football players had the opportunity to lace up their cleats and represent their school one final time under the Friday night lights as seniors Reid Kisamore, Josh Crossland and Keelyn Eichelberger took part in the 31st annual Battle Against Cystic Fibrosis (BACF) Football Classic at Bill Hanlin Stadium on June 12, 2026.

The trio joined some of the top senior football players from across the Mountain State in a game that not only showcased athletic talent but also raised money and awareness for those battling cystic fibrosis.

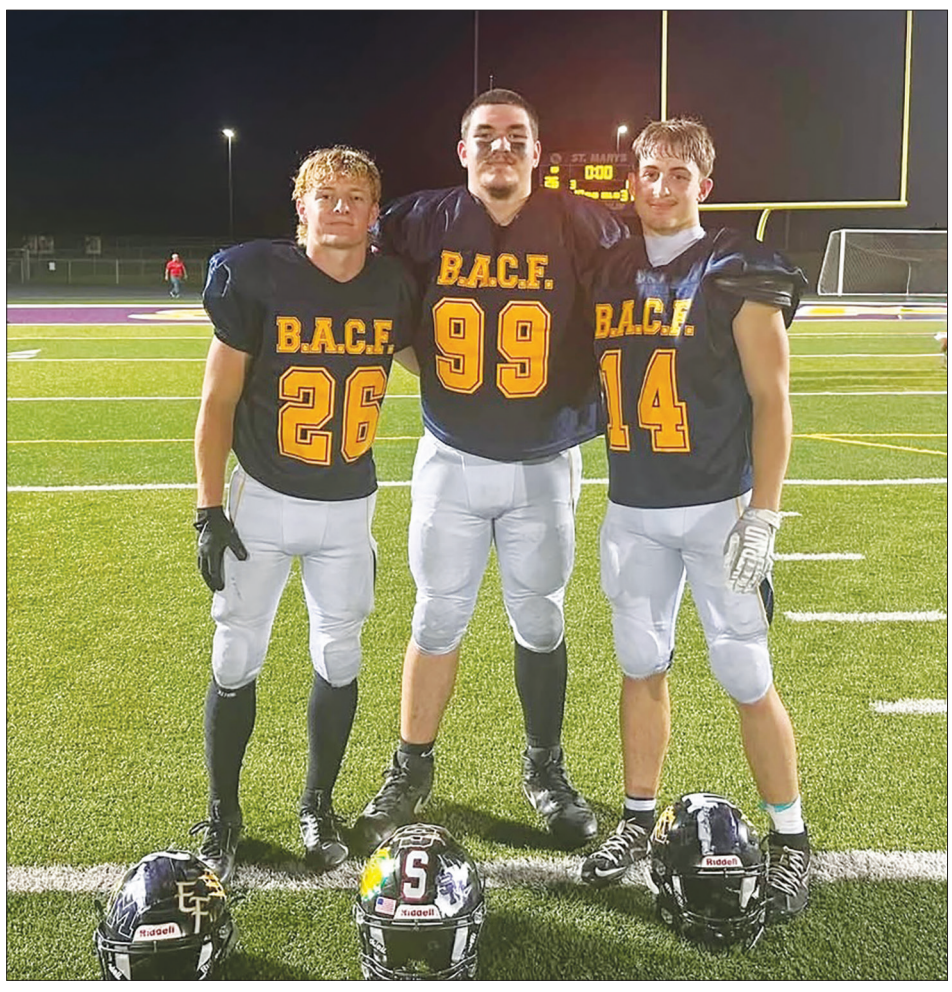
West Virginia delivered a dominant defensive performance Friday night, snapping a two-game losing streak to Ohio with a convincing 26-7 victory in the annual all-star contest. The Mountaineers controlled the game from start to finish, limiting Ohio's offensive opportunities and setting the tone with a physical defensive effort.



Kisamore runs in a touchdown for WV.

Tucker County's Reid Kisamore provided one of the night's biggest highlights, finding the end zone twice to help lead West Virginia to victory. Crossland and Eichelberger also represented Tucker County with pride, contributing to the West Virginia squad in their final game before moving on to their next chapters of their lives.

Beyond the action on the field, the evening marked a significant milestone for the Battle Against Cystic Fibrosis Football Classic. Organizers announced that the 31st annual game raised the most money in the event's history for cystic fibrosis research and support efforts, making the victory even more meaningful for everyone involved.



L-R: Eichelberger, Crossland, and Kisamore

For Kisamore, Crossland and Eichelberger, the night served as a fitting conclusion to their high school football careers.



Leadership Garrett County graduated its 10th class last Thursday. Pictured, left to right, are Garrett College Coordinator of Professional Education Kimberly Govi, David Middleton, Andrew Tichinel, Anca Johnson, Chelsie Warnick, Kimberley Harless, Mandy Sturtz, Jeff Hovis, Director of Community & Professional Education Kaitlyn Glotfelty, and Registration Associate Emily Germond. Photo by John Rudd.

Leadership Garrett County graduates 10th class

Group takes on volunteerism challenge as cohort mission

McHenry, MD – Leadership Garrett County's Class of 2026's goal was simple – but that didn't make the objective any easier.

"We knew many people were interested in giving back to the community – they were just unsure where to begin," said Andrew Tichinel, a Garrett County Government employee who was one of the seven members of this year's class. "Our goal became to find practical and sustainable ways to increase awareness of community service opportunities."

The 10th LGC class, which graduated last Thursday, met at Garrett College throughout their five-month program. After much consideration, the group settled on one major strategy and several related initiatives to support their ultimate goal.

"We developed a volunteer interest survey," reported LGC participant Kimberley Harless, who works at First United Bank & Trust. "The survey identified past experiences, interests, and volunteer categories that could help match volunteers with organizations."

Respondents to the survey, launched at this spring's Garrett County Job Fair, identified those community service initiatives they would most be interested in supporting. More than 54 percent indicated animal services while 47 percent identified environmental/outdoor/parks as an interest. (Respondents could identify more than one choice.)

Class member Jeff Hovis, who works for the Green Room Lounge, said the "challenge was to create a catalyst to get from Point A" – willingness to be involved – "to Point B" – actually becoming a community volunteer. The survey ended up being an effective strategy toward that goal.

While the survey provided important information, it didn't achieve the cohort's ultimate goal – providing an online opportunity to connect potential volunteers with organizations needing additional volunteers. The cohort is looking for a local entity to step forward and match volunteers with organizations needing assistance.

Class of 2026 member Mandy Sturtz, a mortgage officer with First Peoples Community Federal Credit Union, said local businesses can play a huge part in supporting community engagement. She noted several of the community-related initiatives First Peoples supports.

"First Peoples offers employees time off to participate in volunteer activities," said Sturtz. "They provide employees the opportunity to take Volunteer Time Off [VTO] in increments of eight to 16 hours."

First Peoples also tracks volunteer hours so that employees can qualify for the company's annual Volunteer Award while providing "dollars for doers" – a program where First Peoples permits employees to designate funding to benefit volunteer organizations they support.

Anca Johnson (Ace's Run), Chelsie Warnick (Dove Center), and David Middleton (Garrett County Government) were also honored as graduates of the seven-member class.

Notes: Representatives of Leadership Garrett County's Class of 2024 and Class of 2025 also provided updates on their projects as part of the LGC graduation, which took place in the Performing Arts Center at Garrett College.

The 2027 Leadership Garrett County cohort will start in February 2027. Individuals interested in applying for a slot in next year's cohort should contact Kimberly Govi at kimberly.govi@garrettcollege.edu or 301.387.3084.

Short-Handed Tucker Boys Handed First Loss of Summer League

By: Adam Freeman

The Tucker High School boys' basketball team continued its summer play in the Keyser High School Summer League.

In its first matchup against Fort Hill, Maryland, the team was only six players deep. Despite its efforts, Tucker fell in overtime by a score of 71-62.

The following Thursday, the Mt. Lions returned to the court and faced Elkins. This game was a stark contrast to the first, as Tucker dominated from tip-off to the final buzzer, securing a 16-point victory over the Tigers.

Tucker will resume its summer regimen next week with games scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday.





Little League All-Stars Headed to Summersville Regional Tournament

By: Adam Freeman

Two Little League All-Star teams will travel to Summersville on June 20 to compete in the regional tournament. Game times and opponents have not yet been announced.

The first team consists of players ages 8-10 who have worked hard throughout the season to earn their spot in regional play.

The second team, made up of 11- and 12-year-olds, enters the tournament after a strong season and will look to continue that success against regional competition.

Your community.
Your healthcare.
Good Luck!
Tucker County High Mt. Lions
Tucker Valley Wildcats
Davis Thomas Bears
St. George
MEDICAL CLINIC, INC.
stgeorgeclinic.org

The Parsons Advocate

Classifieds

P.O. Box 345
Parsons, WV 26287
304-478-3533

Fax: 304-478-1086
email: mikie@parsonsadvocate.com
www.parsonsadvocate.com

Notary Services Available

OFFICE HOURS
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m
Monday thru Friday

DEADLINE 3PM FRIDAY

START YOUR WEEK AT WORSHIP

The following merchants urge you to attend your chosen house of worship this sabbath.

Parsons Advocate
Parsons, WV • 304-478-3533

Kingsford Manufacturing Co.
Parsons, WV • 304-478-2991

Mountain Valley Bank, NA
Parsons, WV • 304-478-2461
www.mountainvalleybank.com
Member FDIC

Jim's All Star Foods
Parsons, Wv 304-478-3248

WV Paving Company
"Builders of Highways & Byways"
Parsons, WV • 304-478-2400

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.

NOTICE

ALL STATE PAVING Driveways, parking lots, basketball courts, resurfacing old asphalt, patchwork, seal coating – Machine laid and rolled – All Work guaranteed – Over 45 years experience – Licensed and insured- Competitive prices and discounts – Free Estimates – 304-472-8097. WV014137.

LUMP HOUSE COAL. Adkins Home Center. 304-478-2488.

CONTINUOUS GUTTER NOW IN STOCK ON A MOBILE UNIT. Adkins Home Center, Parsons. 304-478-2488.

FAIRVIEW CEMETERY HOMECOMING

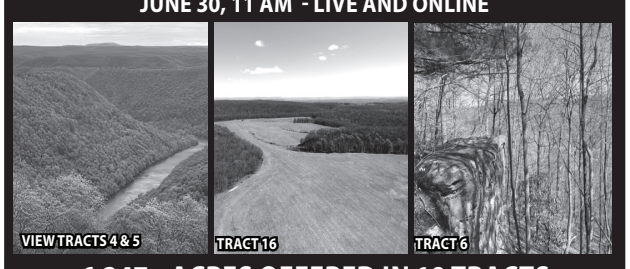
50th Anniversary
1976-2026

SUNDAY JUNE 28

LOCATION: ROAD CHURCH PAVILION
Covered dish lunch at noon
Everyone Welcome

Send mowing donations to:
Fairview Cemetery Fund
c/o Mountain Valley Bank, NA
PO Box 383 | Parsons, WV 26287

FAYETTE AND RALEIGH COUNTIES, WEST VIRGINIA
REAL ESTATE AUCTION
JUNE 30, 11 AM - LIVE AND ONLINE



6,247± ACRES OFFERED IN 19 TRACTS

Whether you're seeking a timber investment, agricultural property, recreational haven, or private mountain retreat—this property checks every box. Multiple creeks wind through the property, enhancing its scenic character and supporting abundant wildlife. Take in sweeping views of the New River and the world-renowned New River Gorge, all just minutes from Beckley. Auction and Previews Held at Tamarack Conference Center, Beckley, WV. Previews: June 13 and 14 from 10 AM to 2 PM.
Jim Woltz, Broker

SCAN ME

WOLTZ & ASSOCIATES, INC.
800.551.3588 • WOLTZ.COM
5% Buyer's Premium • 2% Broker Participation Offered
WV #1000

Audien Hearing

The World's First Hearing Aids With Touchscreen Controls.

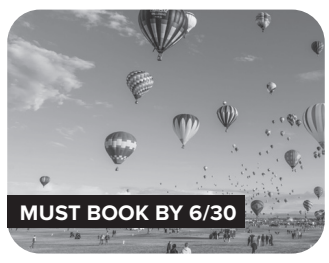
No tiny buttons. No apps. No prescriptions.

Call 866-327-9323 to get your 45-day risk free trial.

- Revolutionary technology with touchscreen control.
- Hearing modes for any environment.
- Multiple models to choose from.
- Portable charging case.
- 48-hour battery life.
- UV cleaning.
- Background noise cancellation.
- 45-day risk free trial.
- Proudly located in the U.S.A.
- Free shipping direct to your door.
- 1.5 million+ happy customers.
- Lifetime support.

Atom X





YMT vacations

SAVE $250 ON ALL TOURS!
MORE THAN 50 GUIDED TOURS AVAILABLE

Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta & Southwestern Tour

10 DAYS STARTING AT ~~$2,749~~ $2,499*

BASED ON SEP 25, 2026 DEPARTURE

- Witness the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta
- Soak up the history & culture of New Mexico in Albuquerque and Santa Fe

CALL US: 1-833-649-1532

**Per person based on double occupancy & includes tax service/gov't fees. Ask your Travel Consultant for terms & conditions. Add-on airfare with transfers available for most major gateways.*

DEADLINE 3PM FRIDAY

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

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM

Answer

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

Super Crossword

Answers

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

West Virginia Statewide Classified Network

Featured in WVPA Newspapers Across West Virginia

HEALTH/MEDICAL

AUDIEN HEARING. The world's first hearing aid with touchscreen controls. No tiny buttons, apps or prescriptions. 45-day risk free trial. Free shipping. Lifetime support. More than 1.5 million happy customers. Call Audien 1-866-327-9323

DONT LET THE STAIRS LIMIT YOUR MOBILITY! Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call AmeriGlide today! 1-844-592-5113

PORTABLE OXYGEN CONCENTRATOR May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 833-274-3943

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-405-3412 www.dental50plus.com/press #6258

INTERNET/TV

GET DISH SATELLITE TV + INTERNET! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To $600 In Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-855-736-4350

CONNECT TO THE BEST WIRELESS HOME INTERNET WITH EARTHLINK. Enjoy speeds from 5G and 4G LTE networks, no contracts, easy installation, and data plans up to 300 GB. Call 844-230-3640

MISCELLANEOUS

DONATE YOUR CAR, TRUCK, BOAT, RV AND MORE TO SUPPORT OUR VETERANS! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-888-964-4167 today

REPAIRING OR REPLACING APPLIANCES AND HOME SYSTEMS LIKE HEATING AND COOLING CAN BE COSTLY. A home warranty plan can help. Start saving and get 30% off any plan today. Workmanship Guarantee included. Terms apply. Call Cinch Home Services 1-855-968-0741

JACUZZI BATH REMODEL can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waiving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. (Offer ends 12/27/26.)

CONSUMER CELLULAR - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just $20/month. For more information, call 1-855-615-6411

WE BUY 8,000 CARS A WEEK. Sell your old, busted or junk car with no hoops, haggles or headaches. Sell your car to Peddle. Easy three step process. Instant offer. Free pickup. Fast payment. Call 1-844-640-0583

PREPARE FOR POWER OUTAGES TODAY with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-844-901-2301 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

UP TO $15,000.00 OF GUARANTEED LIFE INSURANCE! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral and other final expenses. Call Physicians Life Insurance Company- 888-217-5559 or visit www.Life55plus.info/wv

SAFE STEP. NORTH AMERICAS #1 WALK-IN TUB. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and $1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-844-803-1282

NO MORE CLEANING OUT GUTTERS. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-844-295-2840 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Get 15% off your entire order. Plus, Military & Seniors get an additional 10% off. Limited time only. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details.

TRAVEL

YMT VACATIONS. Over 50 guided tours available. Affordable, social and stress-free travel designed for mature travelers. Our tours include accommodations, transportation, baggage handling, sightseeing, entrance fees, a professional Tour Director and select meals. For a limited time SAVE $250 on all tours. Call YMT today. 1-833-649-1532

Place YOUR statewide ad today
Call the WV Press at (304) 342-1011

WEST VIRGINIA Press
ASSOCIATION • SERVICES • FOUNDATION

What's Happening

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.

Huge Yard Sale and Bake Sale

DeLeurere Carports across from Hendricks Post Office on Saturday, June 20 from 9 a.m. - ? Baked Goods featuring brownies, cinnamon rolls and salted caramel fudge. Items for Sale: furniture, blankets, towels, jewelry and much more.

Gospel Sing

Gospel Sing, Saturday, June 27 at 6:00 p.m. at Union Chapel Church, 162 Brushy Fork Rd. (off of Clover Run Rd.) Parsons WV ~ Featuring Woman of Faith group from Philippi. All are Welcome.

I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High. (Psalm 9:2, NKJV)

Fall Clothing Giveaway

There will be a fall clothing giveaway from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 27 at the Southern Baptist Church in Rowlesburg.

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



Hopefully sometime in July I will be eating some fresh strawberries from my new patch. I repurposed an old wooden coffee table that was about 3"x3" and it worked out perfectly. Now I have an old netting from a trampoline that I am going to use to make a shade awning for them. ***Momma Said,*** "Rescue, renew, reuse everything that you can to save the world."

That is my motto and I try to do that in everything that I can. I wouldn't call myself a hoarder but I can see a purpose in things that other people throw away. So here I am up to my knees in other people's stuff. I hope to start cleaning out some of my stuff and see if other people can use some of it as well.

I used to make Christmas decorations and I have an outbuilding full of things to use for Christmas. Maybe that will be my first attempt to scale down some inventory. I need to make more room for my furniture renovations and that is one way to do it. I am going to try as soon as the weather cooperates and I can operate outside.

That was the reason for my third outbuilding, a place to work and now it is full so I am back to square one. I need my furniture to start selling better so I can have more space. ***Momma Said,*** "Waste not, want not, I just can't seem to pass other people's waste that they don't want."

Air Fryer Chicken Thighs

Ingredients

- 4 bone-in, skin-on chicken thighs (2 – 2 1/2 pounds)
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon smoked paprika
- 1⁄2 teaspoon onion powder
- 1⁄2 teaspoon salt
- 1⁄2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1⁄2 teaspoon dried oregano

Instructions

- Preheat the air fryer to 400 degrees Fahrenheit (200 degrees Celsius) and pat the chicken thighs dry with paper towels.
- In a small bowl, mix the olive oil with the garlic powder, paprika, onion powder, salt, pepper, and oregano. Rub the spice paste all over both sides of the chicken thighs.
- Arrange the thighs in a single layer in the air fryer basket, skin side down. Cook for 10 minutes, flip them over, and cook for another 10-15 minutes or until the internal temperature reaches 165 degrees Fahrenheit (75 degrees Celsius).
- Take the chicken out of the air fryer and let it rest for 2-3 minutes. Serve with potatoes, salad, or your favorite dipping sauce.

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 17, 1813: General Thomas Maley Harris was born at present Harrisville. He rose to prominence after the Civil War, when he served on the military commission that tried conspirators who acted with John Wilkes Booth to assassinate President Abraham Lincoln.

June 17, 1916: The West Virginia High School Athletic Association was organized at Charleston with 11 charter members. Its name was changed to the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission in 1955.

June 17, 1961: A Wayne County bridge was named in honor of TV newsman David Brinkley. The bridge's condition had become a news item during the 1960 presidential primary; state officials closed the bridge, repaired it, and invited Brinkley to return for the ceremony officially naming it the "Brinkley Bridge."

June 18, 1944: It's Wheeling Steel aired its last program. A half-hour musical variety radio program that drew upon talented Wheeling Steel employees and families, the show ran eight years and was broadcast nationally.

June 19, 1905: Senator Rush Dew Holt was born in Weston. At 29, Holt was the youngest person ever elected to the U.S. Senate, earning him the nickname "Boy Senator." Since the Constitution sets 30 as the minimum age for senators, Holt had to wait until his birthday in June 1935 to take his seat, nearly six months into the 74th Congress.

June 19, 1909: Oak Park, an amusement park in Preston County, opened. The park was an easy ride from Morgantown and helped fill up trains on weekends and holidays. On one summer day in 1909, 14 trains brought more than 4,000 people to the park.

June 20, 1861: Francis Pierpont was unanimously elected governor of the unionist Reorganized Government of Virginia, which sat at Wheeling until West Virginia entered the Union two years later.

June 20, 1863: West Virginia became the 35th state. Arthur Boreman was the state's first governor.

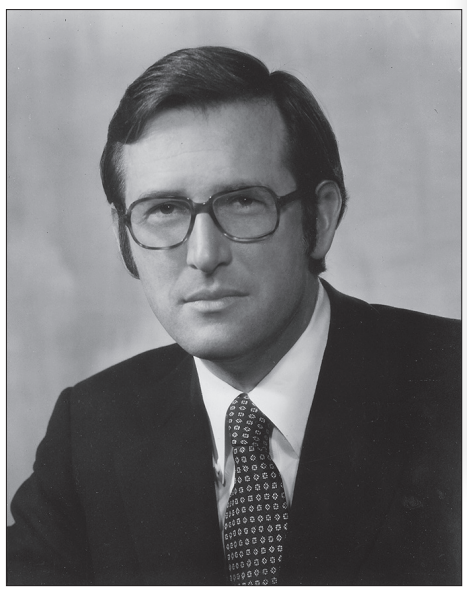
June 20, 1932: The West Virginia capitol was officially dedicated. Construction had begun in 1924.

June 20, 1963: On the 100th birthday of West Virginia, President John F. Kennedy made his last appearance in West Virginia. Speaking at the state capitol in a pouring rain, he said, "The sun does not always shine in West Virginia, but the people do."

June 20, 1970: The play Hatfields and McCoys opened at Grandview State Park amphitheater. Written by Billy Edd Wheeler with music by Ewel Cornett, the show joined Honey in the Rock as a regular summer offering.

June 20, 1974: The Abraham Lincoln Walks at Midnight statue was unveiled at the state capitol. Designed by Fairmont native Fred Torrey and sculpted by Bernie Wiepper of Charleston, it depicts Lincoln walking the halls of the White House on New Year's Eve 1862, pondering whether to make West Virginia a state.

June 21, 1920: Wheeling Steel Corporation was organized when La Belle Iron Works, Whitaker-Glessner Company, and Wheeling Steel & Iron Works combined. In the 1920s, Wheeling Steel employed more than 17,000 workers and ranked as the nation's third-largest steelmaker.



June 18, 1937: Jay Rockefeller was born in New York City. He served as West Virginia's 29th governor from 1977 to 1985 and in the U.S. Senate from 1985 to 2015.

June 21, 1959: Musician Kathy Mattea was born in South Charleston but grew up in nearby Cross Lanes. She rose to country music stardom in the 1980s. Since 2021, she has hosted the Mountain Stage radio program.

June 22, 1926: Earl Olgebay died in Cleveland. He was one of West Virginia's most successful industrialists and a generous benefactor.

June 22, 1949: Artist Paula Clendenin was born in Cedar Grove, Kanawha County. She has earned national acclaim for her paintings, richly colored, textured shapes that merge West Virginia's mountain landscape with mystical and spiritual symbols.

June 23, 1944: A tornado struck Shinnston and surrounding areas, killing 103 people and injuring hundreds more.

June 23, 1952: The Toledo Mud Hens moved to West Virginia's capital city, making the Charleston Senators part of the Class AAA American Association for the first time.

June 23, 2016: Eight inches of rain fell in a 12-hour period. The Meadow, Cherry and Elk rivers, as well as Howard Creek, flooded downtowns and The Greenbrier resort, killing a total of 23 people.

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.

Weather Totals
June 2 - June 9, 2026

Nursery Bottom
Parsons

Temperature		Precipitation	
Max	89° F	Week	0.06"
Min	42° F	June	0.06"
		2026	22.72"

Snowfall

Winter Total	46.5"

U.S. Forest Service

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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: ◆

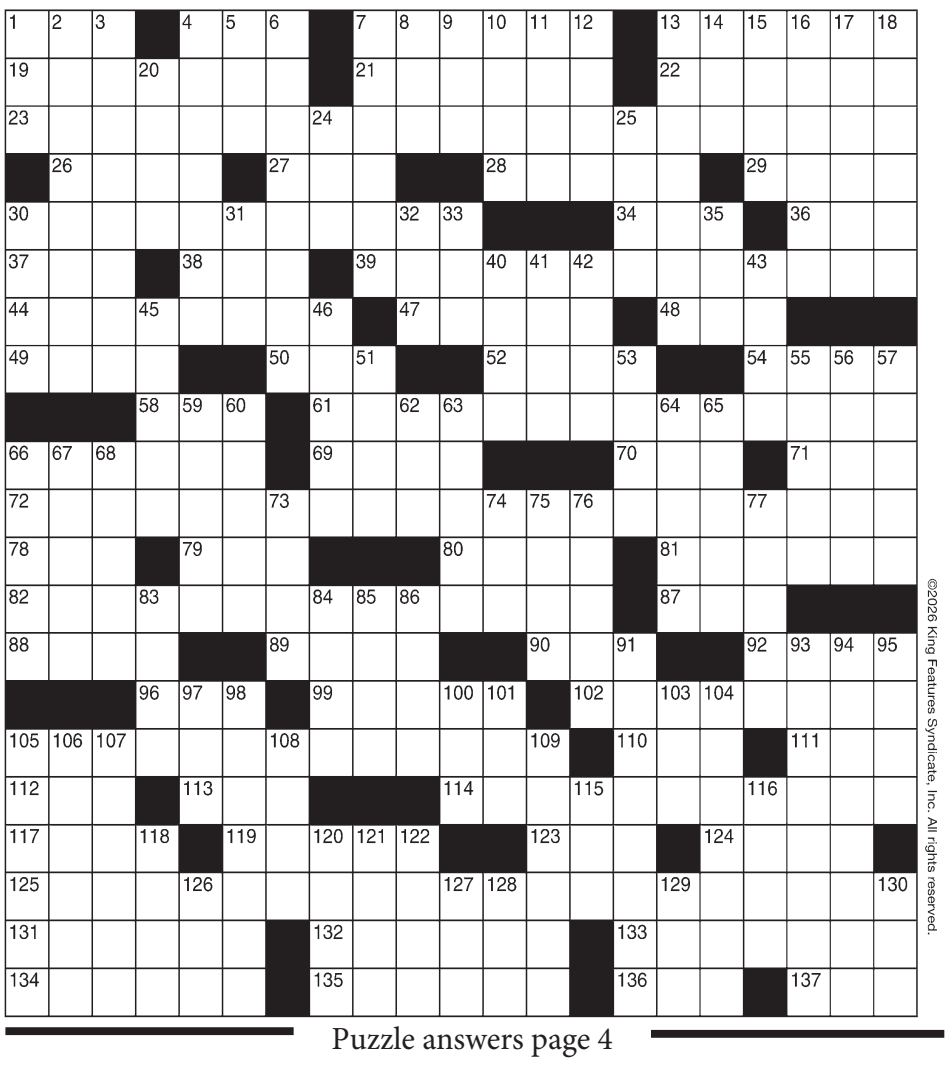
◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

Super Crossword — "LO AND BEHOLD!"

ACROSS
1 Police dept. alert
4 Celtics, on scoreboards
7 Like messy beds
13 Beard go-with, for short
19 French department head
21 Got ready, with "up"
22 Epithets
23 Refreshing a web page that has detailed contract wording?
26 Half a quart
27 Meadowland
28 Navigate
29 It might make you red in the face
30 Annual bebop music festival in Sri Lanka's capital?
34 Discontinue
36 That girl
37 It might make you red in the face
38 Unbroken
39 Basketball-stuffing pros taking part in a zigzag ski race?
44 "C'mon, do me this favor"
47 Fountain in Rome
48 Spoil
49 Writer Ferber
50 Visualize
52 "—, vidi, vici"
54 Sheriff Taylor's son
58 Dol. units
61 Becoming less energetic at the disco?
66 Barbie's little sister
69 "I won't — word"
70 Male bud
71 D.C.'s land
72 Having a boss who will only communicate with you by singing?
78 Boxer Laila
79 Wanted-poster abbr.
80 "Let — already!"
81 IRS probes
82 Technique of kneading bivalve mollusks before cooking them?
87 Big inits. in fashion
88 Watering aid
89 Rescue
90 Big inits. in fuel additives
92 This, in Lima
96 "Golly!"
99 Dog tether
102 Maligns
105 Girls' shirts worn as part of a classroom dress code?
110 Province west of Sask.
111 "Nope"
112 — kwon do
113 Born as
114 Strauss opera performed correctly in every detail?
117 Europe-Asia border river
119 Tree yielding chocolate
123 Zodiac feline
124 Actress Teri
125 Repainting all your yuletide ornaments black and white?
131 Prairie canine
132 Taken illicitly
133 ID attached to luggage
134 Unfurled, e.g.
135 Trunks
136 That girl
137 Hurly-burly

DOWN
1 Spring mo.
2 Got ready
3 Native of Belmopan
4 Officer patrolling an area
5 Condition with rituals, in brief
6 Ben and Jerry of comedy
7 "Roots" actress Leslie
8 After-tax
9 — -jongg
10 War god
11 Masterful
12 Falco of TV
13 Breastbone
14 Gratuity
15 Razor option
16 Trite phrase
17 "Taxi" actress Marilu
18 Acid-alcohol compounds
20 "Happy Days" cool guy, with "the"
24 Natal lead-in
25 Requirement
30 Agree (with)
31 Yoko of art
32 Deli classic
33 Rowing blade
35 Genetic ID
40 — Strauss
41 Pizza cooker
42 Very valuable vase
43 Ray of McDonald's
45 Vanzetti's old partner in crime
46 Actress Thompson
51 Israeli airline
53 "— happy to!"
55 Second-century pope
56 Map extra
57 "By Jove!"
59 Kind of wave
60 Japanese watch brand
62 Olive of old comics
63 "Which — Up?" (1977 comedy film)
64 Orderly lineup
65 "— ordo seclorum" (phrase on a dollar bill)
66 Break to bits
67 Verizon, e.g., in brief
68 Pseudonym
73 Salary limits
74 Depot: Abbr.
75 Trendy Aussie boots
76 Bards
77 Did nothing
83 Toy brick brand
84 Galleria
85 2004 Chevy debut
86 Football Hall of Famer Junior
91 Military units
93 Mexican miss
94 Mine railway
95 Tennis star Arthur
97 Untold eras
98 Voted in
100 Boise-to-Vegas dir.
101 Witch's spell
103 Gore and Hirt
104 Heat-vs.-Suns matchup, e.g.
105 Wall plaster
106 Drive-in restaurant server
107 Cry from a town crier
108 Sunlight ray
109 Hair parlors
115 Cartoon pic
116 Tardy
118 Jungle cat
120 Put in a role
121 Regarding
122 Stench
126 Holy Mlle.
127 Raised rails
128 Co. bigwig
129 Cheering cry
130 Many an intl. charity



©2026 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

Puzzle answers page 4

LEGAL

HAMRICK
WV3304704
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 affect drinking water quality, please attend any regularly scheduled water board meeting held on the ***second Monday*** of each month at ***4 p.m.*** in the Hamrick PSD office at 76 2nd Street Hendricks or call JASON S. LIPSCOMB at 304-478-2898.

Your water comes from Surface water:

Source Name	Source Water Type
INTAKE - DRY FORK	Surface 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 1785 and is required to test a minimum of 2 samples 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/1)

Parts per Billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter(ug/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: HAMRICK PSD

Regulated Contaminants	Facility Name	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
BARIUM	Treatment Plant	3/5/2025	0.0192	0.0192	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
NITRATE	Treatment	3/5/2025	0.3	0.3	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
NITRATE-NITRITE	Treatment Plant	3/5/2025	0.3	0.3	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)	#1 Leadmine BPS	2024	67	33-115	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM	#1 Leadmine BPS	2024	60	29-116	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Lead and Copper	Monitoring Period	90th Percentile	Range (low/high)	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER, FREE	2022-2024	0.0734	0.006-0.121	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD	2022-2024	2	0-5	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems: Erosion of natural deposits

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 and 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 formulæfed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. HAMRICK PSD 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 yourself 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 HAMRICK PSD and JASON S. LIPSCOMB at 304-478-2898. 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.

HAMRICK PSD completed lead tap sampling in 2022 - 2024, the results are available for review and can be accessed by visiting the Hamrick PSD office at 76 2nd St., Hendricks, WV 26271.

HAMRICK PSD has prepared a service line inventory identifying service line materials throughout the water distribution supply. The most up to date inventory is located at the Hamrick PSD office. 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, galvanized requiring replacement, or 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 JASON S. LIPSCOMB at 304-478-2898.

Source Water assessment and Protection

When required by West Virginia State law, HAMRICK PSD 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 (GWUDI), 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 JASON S. LIPSCOMB at 304-478-2898. 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 \NVBPH 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.

Chlorine/Chloramines Maximum Disinfection Level	MPA	MPA Units	RAA	RAA Units
7/1/2025 - 7/31/2025	2.00000	MG/L	1.40000	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 JASON S. LIPSCOMB at 304-478-2898.

Total Organic Carbon Lowest Month for Removal	Facility Name	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	TT	Typical Source
CARBON, TOTAL	INTAKE-DRY FORK	6/18/2025	3.6	0.72-3.6	MG/L	0	Naturally present in the environment

Analyte	Facility	Highest Value	Unit of Measure	Month Occurred
Turbidity	TREATMENT PLANT	0.31	NTU	November

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	0.31	November	Treatment Plant	Yes

Total Organic Carbon

The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set, unless a TOC violation is noted in the violations section.

TOC	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	TT	Typical Source
CARBON, TOTAL	6/18/2025	3.6	0.72-3.6	MG/L	0	Naturally present in the environment

Secondary Contaminants-Non Health Based Contaminants-No Federal Maximum Level (MCL) Established	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	SMCL
NICKEL	3/5/2025	0.54	0.54	UG/L	0
SODIUM	3/5/2025	8.23	8.23	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
147778	1/1/2025-3/31/2025	MCL, LRAA	MCL	TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	Locational running annual average was greater than MCL	
147779	1/1/2025-3/31/2025	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	
147780	7/1/2025-10/24/2025	CCR Report	RPT	Consumer Confidence Rule	Failed to deliver Consumer Confidence Report to the state or consumers on time	
147781	10/1/2025-10/24/2025	CCR Adequacy/ Availability/ Content	RPT	Consumer Confidence Rule	Inadequate Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) of failure to deliver a CCR Certification form to the state on time	

Additional Required Health Effects 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.

Your CCR is available at Hamrick PSD Office. To receive a paper copy in the mail, please contact us at the phone number above.

LEGAL

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

LEGAL

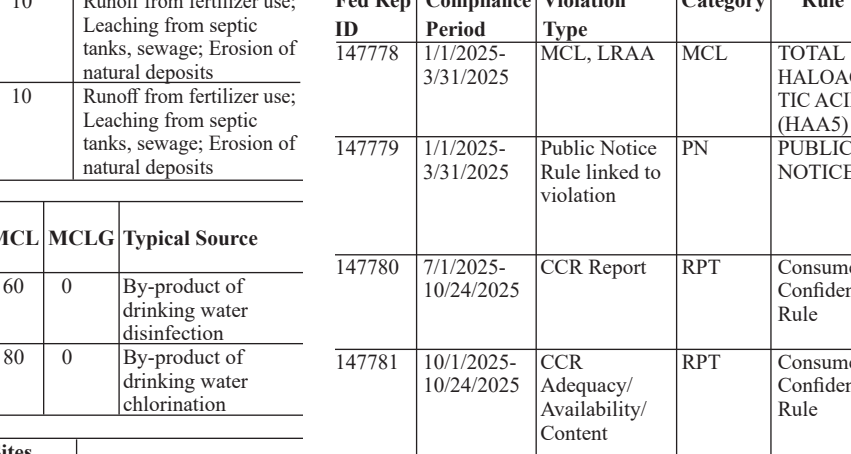
PUBLIC NOTICE

The WV Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) and A.L.L. Construction, Inc. have proposed a settlement of Administrative Consent Order No. 10397 which resolves violation(s) of the WV Water Pollution Control Act which occurred in Tucker County, WV. In accordance with the proposed Consent Order, A.L.L. Construction, Inc. has agreed to pay administrative penalties and to comply with the Act. Final settlement is subject to comments received during the thirty (30) day period following this publication. Further information about this Administrative Consent Order is available by contacting the Chief Inspector, WVDEP/Environmental Enforcement, 601 57th Street SE, Charleston, WV 25304, (304) 926-0470 or by accessing WV Department of Environmental Protection's website at https://dep.wv.gov/pio/Pages/Settlements.Ordersouttopublicnotice.aspx.

DEADLINE 3PM FRIDAY

WVDNR accepting applications for Waterfowl Hunt at McClintic WMA

Hunters have until Aug. 14 to apply for the October hunt



CHARLESTON, W.Va. — The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) today announced that it is accepting applications for a controlled waterfowl hunt, scheduled to take place on Oct. 3-11 at McClintic Wildlife Management Area near Point Pleasant in Mason County.

Waterfowl hunters who wish to participate must submit their application by 11:59 p.m. on Aug. 14 at WVhunt.com. Successful applicants will be notified by mail by the second week of September.

"Controlled hunts like this are an important part of our mission to manage wildlife resources responsibly, while also giving hunters access to high-quality hunting experiences," said WVDNR Director Brett McMillion.

The event allows hunters to hunt from a shooting station in a controlled waterfowl hunting zone at McClintic WMA during the October split of the waterfowl season. Hunters who are successful in the lottery draw are assigned an area free of charge and are permitted to bring one guest. A shooting station is also available for hunters who have a disability.

Hunters successful in the draw will be randomly assigned a day to hunt. They must report to the McClintic WMA office prior to 6 a.m. that day. Applicants not selected may come to the McClintic office on the morning of each day's hunt to sign up for an opportunity to hunt shooting stations not filled by selected hunters.

For more information, consult the West Virginia Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations, which will be available online at WVdnr.gov and at WVDNR offices by the end of August.

LEGAL

PARSONS CITY OF
WV3304707
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 of suggestions, please attend any regularly scheduled City Council Meeting held on the ***1st and 3rd Tuesday*** of each month at ***6:00 p.m.*** in the ***Parsons City Hall*** or call Bruce Kulson at 304-478-2311.

Your water comes from Surface water:

Source Name	Source Water Type
INTAKE-SHAVERS FORK	Surface 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. EPNCDC 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 1461 and is required to test a minimum of 2 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 2024 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, 2024. 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/1)

Parts per Billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter(ug/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: PARSONS CITY OF

Regulated Contaminants	Facility Name	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
BARIUM	Treatment Plant	6/4/2025	0.0144	0.0277	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE	Treatment Plant	6/4/2025	0.55	0.55	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
NITRATE	Treatment Plant	3/5/2025	0.23	0.23	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks and sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
NITRATE-NIRITE	Treatment Plant	3/7/2023	0.3	0.3	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks and sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection By-products	Sample Point	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	ADKINS HOME CENTER	2025	23	23-23	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM	ADKINS HOME CENTER	2025	32	32-32	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Lead and Copper	Monitoring Period	90th Percentile	Range (low/high)	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER, FREE	2023-2025	0.0823	0.0295-0.102	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD	2023-2025	0.57	0-2.7	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

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 and 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 formulæfed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. PARSONS 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 yourself 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 PARSONS CITY OF and Bruce Kolsun at 304-478-2311. 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.

PARSONS CITY OF completed lead tap sampling in 2023-2025, the results are available for review and can be accessed by visiting the City of Parsons, City Hall.

PARSONS 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 ***Parsons City Hall or Parsons Water Treatment Plant***. 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, galvanized requiring replacement, or 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 Bruce Kulson at 304-478-2311.

Source Water Assessment and Protection

When required by West Virginia State law, PARSONS 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 (VWBPH). For systems utilizing surface water or groundwater under the direct influence of surface water (GWUDI), 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 Bruce Kolsun at 304-478-2311. 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 VWBPH 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-youo-help-protect-source-water.

Chlorine/Chloramines Maximum Disinfection Level	MPA	MPA Units	RAA	RAA Units
4/1/2025-4/30/2025	2.60000	MG/L	2.10000	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: John Lipscomb at 304-478-2311.

Total Organic Carbon Lowest Month for Removal	Facility Name	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	TT	Typical Source
CARBON, TOTAL	Intake-Shavers Fork	9/16/2025	1.6	0-3	MG/L	0	Naturally present in the environment

Analyte	Facility Name	Highest Value	Unit of Measure	Month Occurred
Turbidity	TREATMENT PLANT	0.1	NTU	February

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	Months Occurred	Violation	Highest Single Measurement	Month Occurred	Sources	Level Indicator
100.00	12	NO	0.1	February	Treatment Plant	Yes

Total Organic Carbon

The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set, unless a TOC violation is noted in the violations section.

TOC	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	TT	Typical Source
CARBON, TOTAL	09/16/2025	1.6	0 - 3	MG/L	0	Naturally present in the environment

Secondary Contaminants - Non Health Based Contaminants - No Federal Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Established	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	SMCL
SODIUM	6/4/2025	18.9	18.9	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
778985	1/1/2023-12/31/2023	Public Notice Rule linked to violation	PN	Public Notice	Failed to issue public or failed to provide a copy of the notice and certification to the state	Staff will send in reports in a timelier manner
778986	7/1/2025-8/9/2025	CCR Report	RPT	Consumer Confidence Rule	Failed to deliver Consumer Confidence Report to the state or consumers on time	Staff will send in reports in a timelier manner
778987	7/1/2025-9/30/2025	Monitoring, Routine (DBP) Major	MON	Carbon, Total	Failed to monitor/report as required for chlorine or disinfection by-products	Staff will send in reports in a timelier manner
778988	7/1/2025-	Monitoring Routine (DBP) Major	MON	Carbon, Total	Failed to monitor/report as required for chlorine or disinfection by-products	Staff will send in a timelier manner

Your CCR is available at **Parsons City Hall**. To receive a paper copy in the mail, please contact us at the phone number above.

Lars Byrne to Present at the Darden Mill on the History of the Elkins Railyard, Then and Now

Elkins, West Virginia — Lars Byrne is set to present on the history of the Elkins railyard on July 16th at the historic Darden Mill. Byrne has dedicated more than twenty-five years to preserving and promoting West Virginia's railroad heritage and will present on the development of the Elkins Railyard through the years, with emphasis on the early beginnings and the later years of the mid 20th century.

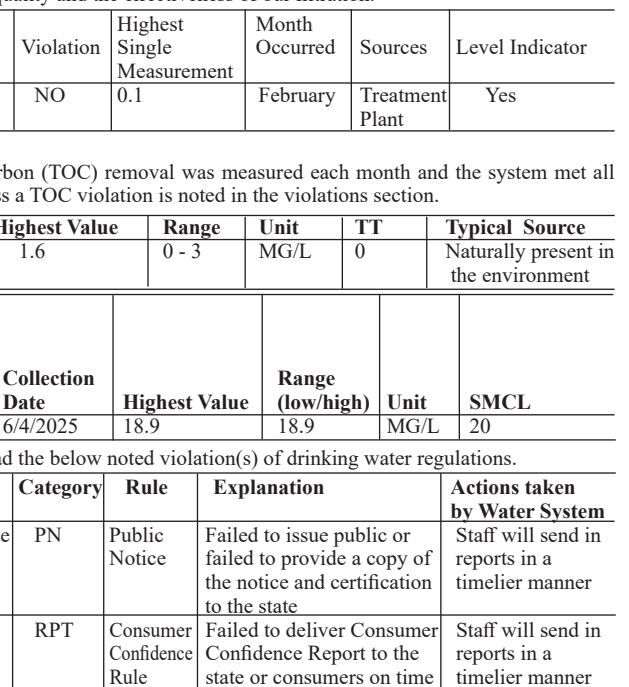
Currently serving as the Senior Dispatcher for the Durbin & Greenbrier Valley Railroad, Byrne's railroad career spans multiple historic rail operations, including the Durbin & Greenbrier Valley Railroad, West Virginia Central Railroad, Cass Scenic Railroad, and Shenandoah Valley Railroad.

Byrne began his railroad career in 1999 as a volunteer excursion train host and commentator. He joined the Durbin & Greenbrier Valley Railroad as a part-time employee in 2000 and became a full-time employee in 2007. Throughout his career, he has earned certification as both an engineer and conductor.

Among his many railroad accomplishments, Byrne served as conductor of the Mountain Explorer Dinner Train for 12 years and as a Polar Express conductor for seven years. He is also recognized as the unofficial historian of the Durbin & Greenbrier Valley Railroad and is a frequent speaker for the railroad's public programs, sharing his extensive knowledge of West Virginia railroad history with visitors and enthusiasts.

Previously, Byrne has served as an adjunct instructor for the WVU Fire Service Extension and as a Road Scholar (formerly Elderhostel) presenter. His commitment to public service includes many years with the Philippi Volunteer Fire Department, where he served as Fire Chief, as well as service as Director of the Barbour County Office of Emergency Services.

This presentation is free to all and will take place on July 16th at the Darden Mill at 101 Railroad Avenue in Elkins. Doors will open at 6:00 and the presentation will begin at 6:30 PM.



WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM

Opinion

Tucker County at the Crossroads: Fundamental Data Responds to Community Concerns

To the Editor of The Parsons Advocate,

Tucker County is at a crossroads. The choices made about development in the county, including Ridgeline, a project that is planned to include data centers and on-site power generation, will help decide whether Tucker County has an economy that will support its population or whether the next generation must depart for greener pastures. I am grateful to the Advocate for the chance to make that case for Ridgeline, and to Zina Raye of Tucker United, whose recent article raised questions of legitimate community concern for a project of this scale. I want to answer those concerns honestly, and to explain what Ridgeline could mean for the place you call home.

I, along with other members of the Fundamental Data team, had the opportunity to hear from Davis residents at a public town hall meeting, the broader community at a private forum, and many more residents in local restaurants and breweries in the area. I know that many residents support the project and the vast economic opportunity it could bring. Others have legitimate health, safety, and environmental concerns. Both sides are passionate and understandably so – this is your home and you want what is best for your families, your neighbors, and your community.

I was able to spend several hours talking with Ms. Raye and other members of Tucker United after her article in the Parsons Advocate was written but before it was published. Most of the people I spoke with, including Ms. Raye, are local residents with real and valid questions about how the project will affect them. I don't blame them for being concerned. The more I listened, the more I came to understand that most concerns are rooted in the unknown or in misperceptions rather than in the project itself.

Some developers begin with big announcements and promises before they hold a single permit or approval. Such projects are often more show than substance, and more of them are cancelled than ever break ground. Tucker County has seen its share of false hope and false promises – and of industries that took what they wanted and left little behind. We want no part of that legacy, and we are not doing this for publicity. Ridgeline is different by design: not an extractive project that packs up once a resource is gone but permanent infrastructure designed to operate for decades.

We prefer to be judged by what we deliver, not by what we announce. We have been deliberate about how we engage this community. Ridgeline is complex and ambitious, and many of its details are still being settled. We would rather bring you a plan you can rely on than float premature details we later have to walk back. As those decisions are made, you will hear them from us directly.

Ridgeline could be by far the largest economic development project in West Virginia history if all phases are completed. If it goes forward, it will create thousands of construction jobs lasting up to a decade as the phases build out, along with hundreds of permanent careers in plant operations, security, equipment maintenance, and IT infrastructure. Based on figures already calculated by the state, if completed as planned, Ridgeline's first phase alone would more than triple the tax base of the area. In practical terms, that would be funding for what every family relies on – schools, roads, ambulances, and the first responders who keep us safe – all paid for by property taxes on the facility. We are not asking for, nor do we expect to receive, any special tax treatment. We will be paying the same rates as everyone else.

For those who support Ridgeline and those who need jobs, I know this can't happen fast enough. We are doing everything we can to push this project forward and get people in Tucker County working again. For those who oppose it, we continue to take your concerns into consideration and try to mitigate them. We hope to earn your trust over time.

For those who are unsure, and worried about what Ridgeline might mean for tourism, I understand the concern – protecting what makes this area special matters to us, too. But I am confident that worry is unfounded. I do not expect Ridgeline to have any material impact on existing tourism to Blackwater Falls, Timberline, Canaan Valley, or other local attractions. It will sit on reclaimed industrial land – not untouched wilderness – well over a mile from neighboring structures, and the natural topography would completely obscure any line of sight from the scenic corridors.

Let me speak plainly about the environment, because I know it is what worries people most. The air you breathe and the water you drink are not abstractions to us – many of the people who will build and run this facility will be drinking that same water and breathing the same air. We are working to hold our environmental footprint to the absolute minimum the project allows, and no one here has any interest in making anyone sick or fouling West Virginia's air or water. The country faces an urgent need for reliable power, and we intend to help meet it in the most responsible way available: natural gas combined cycle, the cleanest form of the around-the-clock generation the grid still depends on.

Ms. Raye posed a number of specific technical questions, and some of the answers depend on final engineering and permitting decisions that have not yet been made. We would rather give the community real answers than speculative ones, and we will hold a public meeting early in our process – well before any operation begins – to address them in detail. But the worry underneath most of those questions is simpler, and entirely fair: is this facility safe to live near? The rest of this letter speaks to that question directly.

Emergency Services

Fundamental Data has planned Ridgeline to be privately financed, without any direct public financial support. The facility is being designed with its own dedicated, on-site industrial safety and fire-suppression capability, sized for the assets it will protect and for response and any remediation that may be required. The principle is simple: Ridgeline is designed not to become an operational or financial burden on local taxpayers, and not to lean on volunteer departments or distant commercial crews to protect itself.

We also intend to be a resource to our neighbors. We will work toward a formal, written mutual-aid arrangement under which our on-site fire and medical teams can support regional emergency management when an incident exceeds local resources, and we welcome your first responders' input in shaping it. Our staff will be members of this community – the very people reading this right now – and it only makes sense that we plan for everyone's safety together.

Fire Management

In the highly unlikely event of a fuel fire, industrial emergency protocols do not rely on local volunteer departments manually battling flames with standard fire trucks. Our current design concepts include built-in, automated suppression infrastructure: systems engineered to cool adjacent tanks and prevent structural collapse, while specialized foam injection systems work to seal off the fire's oxygen supply. Redundant secondary containment is being designed to ensure that fuel and firefighting runoff is captured safely on-site without reaching the surrounding watershed.

To ensure regional drought conditions never affect our ability to suppress a fire, the facility is being designed to maintain its own independent, on-site water reserves. Every major safety system at Ridgeline is being designed to be highly fault-tolerant and redundant, utilizing the same defense-in-depth engineering philosophy found in critical infrastructure nationwide.

It is too early to finalize details like training schedules, since the facility has not even broken ground yet. When those details are set, safety will be the first concern, as it is now. Our setbacks will place the nearest structure more than a mile away, buffered by terrain and heavy tree cover. Given that location, the design, the setbacks, the surrounding topography, and our safety strategy, I am confident this facility can operate without putting nearby communities at risk.

Protection and Security

As a critical infrastructure facility, Ridgeline must be protected from natural phenomena – lightning, floods, storms, and the like – through various engineering measures, and from human threats through a substantial security team for physical defense (including against drones) as well as cybersecurity measures commensurate with the investment and the critical nature of the facility.

Our physical security strategy plans for a highly trained, prepared, and equipped team capable of dealing with modern threats. We will secure the facility with protocols and practices commensurate with major critical infrastructure. We will collaborate closely with local law enforcement, working to establish resources and communication channels that ensure seamless coordination with our security personnel in any eventuality. We will not be able to make our full security plan public because bad actors could use that information against us.

We recognize that an industrial facility of this scale is a major adjustment for Tucker County. But we want to emphasize that our security teams, our plant operators, and our safety technicians will not be anonymous outsiders – they will be your neighbors, your friends, and members of this community. We are not asking Tucker County to absorb public risk for our private profit. We are developing a privately funded anchor infrastructure designed to protect itself, protect the surrounding environment, and provide the economic foundation to fund county schools, roads, and emergency services for generations. Our hope is that the young people of Tucker County can stay in West Virginia, earn a good living, and raise their families right here at home.

We look forward to sharing the finalized plan when it's ready.

Sincerely,
Lewis Reynolds
Fundamental Data LLC

Vandalia Health Davis Medical Center earns NICHE Exemplar redesignation for excellence in care for older adults

ELKINS, W.Va. – Vandalia Health Davis Medical Center has once again achieved Exemplar status for its Nurses Improving Care for Healthsystem Elders (NICHE) program, earning a redesignation that reflects the hospital's sustained commitment to providing quality, specialized care for older adult patients.

The NICHE Exemplar designation is the highest level of recognition awarded by the program and highlights Davis Medical Center's continued success in implementing evidence-based, system-wide initiatives that improve outcomes and enhance the patient experience for older adults.

Davis Medical Center first achieved NICHE designation in 2016 and reached Exemplar status — the program's highest level — in 2024. This redesignation marks the hospital's second time earning Exemplar recognition and reflects its ongoing commitment to advancing geriatric care through evidence-based practices and interdisciplinary collaboration.

"Older adults often have unique needs during hospitalization, and NICHE helps ensure we approach their care in a thoughtful, evidence-based way," said Kim Haher, BSN, RN, Gero-BC, NICHE Coordinator at Vandalia Health Davis Medical Center. "This redesignation reflects the dedication of our nurses, providers and interdisciplinary teams to creating an environment where older patients feel supported, respected and safe throughout their care experience."

Davis Medical Center submitted a comprehensive report of its NICHE program activities for review by NICHE faculty. Based on established criteria, the program was recognized for its sustained commitment to excellence and innovation in geriatric care. As an Exemplar NICHE member, the hospital will continue advancing interdisciplinary, patientcentered practices that support improved clinical outcomes and quality of life for older adults.

"Achieving this level of recognition requires engagement across every area of patient care," said Diana Landsverk, RN, BSN, MBA, Chief Administrative Officer of Vandalia Health Davis Medical Center. "Our nursing teams continuously work to strengthen the way we care for older adults through education, collaboration and evidence-based practices that support both patients and families."

"As the population we serve continues to age, programs like NICHE play an increasingly important role in helping patients remain healthier and more independent," said Jeff Goode, Executive Vice President, Vandalia Health. "This redesignation reflects the hospital's long-term commitment to investing in care models that improve the experience and outcomes of older adults across the region."

"The leadership and staff of Vandalia Health Davis Medical Center have demonstrated a tremendous ability to meet the needs of older adults," said Mattia J. Gilmartin, PhD, RN, FAAN, Executive Director of NICHE. "Their capacity to bring together geriatric nursing resources and support to enhance care marks them as a leader in the field and signals their resolve to provide quality, person-centered care for older adults."

For more information, visit VandaliaHealth.org.

= Energy Express =

Energy Express is back for the summer! This six week summer reading program focuses on creativity, small groups, drama, recreation, and fun. Students work through weekly themes, have one on one reading during the day, and work with mentors and community volunteers to build their confidence and skills.

We are looking for "found objects" that they can use during the program. If you have any of the items listed, you can drop them off at the Extension Office during regular operating hours.

-Sour cream/cottage cheese containers
-Fabric
-Glue
-Paint
-Tape
-Lightly used books (K-6 grade)
-Paint brushes
-magazines
-Miscellaneous craft supplies

If you would like to learn how you can volunteer with Energy Express give us a call at 304-478-2949.

www.parsonsadvocate.com

PLUM

Cont. From Front Page 1

Shaffer has a historically hard-line on drug offenders. Following some heated debate between the attorney and Judge, including Wilkins presenting a copy of the Statute to Judge Shaffer for review, Judge Shaffer said, "What you're saying is methamphetamine is just a simple possession."

"I think the statute is pretty straight forward," Hess said.

Judge Shaffer ruled that Plum would serve a 60 Day Sanction on the violation, but made it clear it would be the only sanction he would give in the case. Hess also issued a stern warning to his client before they left the courtroom that there would be no more sanctions, any more drugs, he would be going to jail.

Plum was remanded to the custody of the Tygart Valley Regional Jail.

LANDFILL

Cont. From Front Page 1

expand recycling into plastics in the future. Fleischman also said the company had plans to meet with the Tucker County Solid Waste Commission about possibly placing a drop off at the Landfill in the future. The next step for the Council Member, she said, would be to contact Commissioner Fred Davis, who is the Tucker County Commission's representative on the TCSWA Board.

"Right now, the only thing they can do is cardboard," Fleischman said.

Fleischman said that she had also been contacted by a constituent about concerns with plastic bags escaping the Tucker County Landfill facility and blowing in trees.

"It kind of leads to the conversation of, if we have an issue with trash escaping, basically, is it easier for the landfill or is it more cost effective to try to recycle and keep it out?" Fleischman said.

The Tucker County Landfill has been installing movable wind fencing as a measure to mitigate windblown trash at the facility. The facility recently put in a request for additional fencing to be purchased and is currently in the process of constructing a new cell to accept additional refuse.

Landfill Director Jody Alderman said that this past fall the Landfill purchased five new panels of fencing (125 linear feet) at a cost of $42,000. The Landfill is budgeting to purchase an additional five panels this fall using a SWMB grant application to help in the purchase, as they had done twice in the past.

Alderman said the Landfill also utilizes netting between stationary fencing to aid in the capture of windblown trash as well. The Landfill purchased an additional 500 feet from Gorilla netting to extend some of the stationary fencing and plans to continue to purchase as time and money allows, Alderman said.

"We are also working with the Rubenstein Center to get additional help in maintaining the fence and litter pickup," Alderman said. "However, there are not always available. Its pretty much day by day on when we receive the additional help."

Town of Davis Mayor Al Tomson said that about a decade ago, when the area had what he called "more robust recycling," Sunrise worked with the Tucker County Landfill and collected recycling where the cardboard is currently collected.

"Sunrise did it in the past because they were receiving grant funding," Tomson said.

Fleischman said it was her thought that if the residents of Davis put more thought into what they were putting into the Landfill, it would serve the residents of Davis better. Council Member Joe Holmes said that while the idea is a good one, Davis only amounts to around five percent of what goes into the Tucker County Landfill.

"You're still going to have bags flying around because we're only five percent of what's going in there," Holmes said. "We should make a change for us."

Tomson said that in his house, half of what his house produced was recyclable materials under the old program, now it all goes to the Landfill.

Another concern raised by not only the Council, but from some of the residents in attendance was the Tucker County Landfill's return to accepting chicken parts to the facility. The facility had suspended taking any chicken pending research into products and methods to mitigate odor from the facility. The facility began taking the refuse again after staff found a product that could be applied effectively to greatly eliminate odors and other issues from the refuse.

Alderman said that the Landfill utilizes odor eliminator manufactured from Atmos technologies to assist with odor on the new trash as it enters the facility. The product is applied with the Landfill's hydroseeder, which broke down three weeks ago due to a clutch issue. As of Monday, Alderman said, the clutch repair was completed and the facility was awaiting a seal to come in. The seal, which arrived on Friday of the previous week, was all that was needed to complete the repair by the end of the day on Monday. Once repairs were completed, Alderman said the Landfill would resume daily spraying of refuse.

"Please keep in mind this only helps with the odor of the trash and will not eliminate the smell of the gas that's an entirely different issue," Alderman said.

The Landfill had previously been in negotiations for a company to capture and process the methane gas produced within the Landfill for sale to the natural gas pipeline. However, the company backed out of the project after reconsidering the amount of gas the facility produced and determining that it was too low to meet the needs of operations. There has been interest from another, unnamed company, Alderman said, but negotiations are in the early phases.

"There has also been some interest in another company possibly interested in doing a gas recovery project, but we are still in the beginning stages," Alderman said.



Front row l-r: Robert Wolford, Jasmine Hall, Cheryl Sanders, Avery Colebank, Missy Simmons, Dr. Thomas Striplin, President of Eastern, Charlotte Ockerman, Lillian Callaway, Marissa Ward, Joelle Strietbeck, and Racheal Spencer. Second row l-r: Samantha Long, Shana Price, Brittany Goldizen, ShyAnna Feagans, Nikole Miller, Jennell Borror, Chloe Herron, Maria VanMeter, Tara Aylor, Treavor Mayle, and Caleb Nelson. Third row l-r: Lawanda Schoonover, Tori Adams, Destiny McWhorter, Sadie Smith, Miranda Simon, Makyiah Shirk, Kaitlyn Shockey, Aidan McCrory, Hannah Haines, and Vanessa Webster. Fourth row l-r: Odessa Cullers, Mariah Baublitz, Nicole Thompson, Elizabeth Williams, and Alessa Unruh. Fifth row l-r: Tristian Ritchie, Trevor Smith, Lila Martin, Lori Moran, Ashley Dawn Lucas, Grace Willis, Lindsey Thompson, Americus Shanholtz, Bonnie Taylor, Ramanda Evans, and Sarah Zirkle. Sixth row l-r: Bryan May, Amanda Moorehead, Makayla Dove, Margaret May, Madison Miller, Jacob Harris, Brittany Whittaker, and Britani Pearce.

Eastern WVCTC Honors 2026 Graduates at Commencement Ceremony

MOOREFIELD, W.Va. – Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College honored 36 Fall 2025 and 64 Spring 2026 graduates at the college's commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 9, at Moorefield High School. 68 graduates participated in the ceremony.

Speakers for the ceremony included Lillian Callaway, who provided the invocation, and Keira Ridgeway, who performed the National Anthem. President Thomas Striplin welcomed attendees and recognized donors. Joe Miller, Eastern Foundation Board president, and Andrew Blackwood, Board of Governors vice chair, provided welcome messages. Board of Governors Chair Sheldon Arbaugh presented the Harold K. Michael Founders Award, and Director of Workforce Education Lauren Arbaugh presented the APEX Award.

Callaway reflected on the graduates' journey and the importance of resilience during the invocation.

"This moment is one of reflection, gratitude, and shared trial. Each of you has taken a unique path to reach this day. Some journeys are steady, others are challenging, but all require resilience," Callaway said. "Along the way, we gain not only technical knowledge and professional skills, but something deeper: the discipline to keep going when you are exhausted, the courage to ask for help when you need it, and the sense of community you built by supporting one another."

She encouraged the graduates to maintain a commitment to integrity and growth as they enter the next chapter of their lives.

"Use your skills to not only build a career but to make a meaningful impact on the world around you," Callaway said. "With clear minds and hopeful hearts, we officially begin this ceremony."

Student speaker Miranda Simon, a business management graduate, spoke about her non-linear and difficult, but rewarding, journey to completing her degree.

"My journey here wasn't a straight path, and I want to share this today to possibly influence someone in the audience to step out of their comfort zone and try something different," Simon said. "After graduating high school in 2013, I started at Eastern in the Certified Medical Assistant Workforce program, which led me into urgent care and eventually into healthcare roles, where I continued to learn and grow."

Simon discussed her struggles with self-doubt after failing a semester in 2016. "In 2023, I made a decision; not because things suddenly got easier, but because I didn't want that chapter to be the end of my story," Simon said. "I came back and was placed on academic probation. I had to rebuild my confidence, my discipline, and my belief in myself, one course at a time."

She reflected on how her children watched her work for hours on her laptop, noting she was finishing her degree for them as much as for herself. "I want them to know that even when life doesn't go as planned, you don't quit, you keep going. We put so much pressure on ourselves to follow a timeline, to have everything figured out by a certain age," said Simon. "The truth is there is no one right way to succeed... To my fellow graduates, you are not behind, you are not too late and you are far more capable than you think."

The Harold K. Michael Founders Award, which recognizes outstanding contributions to the college, was presented to Ward Malcolm for his leadership in organizations including the West Virginia Poultry Association and the Board of Hardy Tele-Communications.

The APEX Award, which honors organizations serving the Potomac Highlands, was presented to Superintendent Clayton Burch and the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind in Romney.

"It is much more than a school, it is a center for innovation," said Lauren Arbaugh. "In recent years, they have transformed their campus into a hub for career and technical education, ensuring that their students are not just graduating, they're entering our economy with specialized skills, certifications, and the confidence to lead."

Burch accepted the award, stating he chose to join the community because of its values. "I wanted to be a part of what this community represents," Burch said. "When I got here, one of the first phone calls I made was to Dr. Striplin and Eastern because I've always seen potential in students. No matter what the obstacle is, find a path for them."

Three faculty members were recognized for their dedication to student success. Seyed Mirkhani, division chair for Business, Computer, and Information Technology, was honored for his 25-year tenure, where he went above and beyond for students and community members. He will retire in July 2026. Adjunct faculty members Sarah Purol and Allison Riggleman were both recognized with the Outstanding Leadership Award for excellence in teaching and leadership.

Burch delivered the commencement address, drawing on his 30 years of educational leadership, including his time as the 32nd State Superintendent of Schools. He began his speech with lighthearted remarks before offering insight into the nature of success.

"Don't be me. I've been very fortunate in my career...but for a long time I was on autopilot," Burch said. "I was always, 'what's next,' and it worked well, but there were these moments that would come up; big and small. It wasn't until my 50s when I thought, 'Why didn't I pause?'"

Burch used a highway metaphor to describe life after graduation. "There are times when you are going to need to take exits... This is not something [graduation] you finish; this is something you're starting. I hope at some point, far future, you are sitting somewhere thinking, 'How did I get here?' and you recall right now, and you go, 'Oh, I did this. I made the choice.' Make sure you take the exits you need to take. This is an exit you can always come back to."

Alec Kidwell gave the benediction to conclude the ceremony.

To view the recorded graduation, visit us on Facebook. A complete list of the area's Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 graduates will be released later this month.

About Eastern

Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College, based in Moorefield, serves six counties in the Potomac Highlands of West Virginia and offers academic programs and workforce training. Learn more about Eastern at https://easternwv.edu.

By the Numbers: State Agencies Highlight Fireworks, Grilling, and Boating Risks for Summer 2026

CHARLESTON, W.Va. The West Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control Administration (WVABCA), West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR), and the West Virginia Fire Commission Office of the State Fire Marshal have united to educate the public and keep everyone safe this summer. Throughout West Virginia people will be outdoors enjoying the warmer weather and the Nation's 250th anniversary.

"Working with other state agencies allows us to better educate and protect the public from potential dangers that take place during the summer months," ABCA Commissioner Fred Wooton stated. "Keeping everyone safe is our goal and message."

Recreational activities on the water pose a greater risk of injury and death when alcohol in consumed. In 2025, there were 13 boating incidents with 6 fatalities in West Virginia. The WVDNR Law Enforcement Section will be working throughout the summer season to keep everyone safe and enforce the laws. These efforts will increase during the Fourth of July weekend for "Operation Dry Water" a nationwide enforcement campaign designed to heighten awareness and enforcement of Boating Under the Influence (BUI). According to Capt. Goodson with the WVDNR, last year 63 DNR police officers participated in "Operation Dry Water" and 1,162 vessels were contacted, 75 citations were issued, 2 BUI's were issued, and 165 various boating warnings were issued.

As much as water is part of the summer experience, so are land activities such as cookouts, festivals and fireworks. The U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission reports that in 2024, there were 11 deaths and approximately 14,700 ER visits due to fireworks-related injuries. In addition, WV State Fire Marshal's Office public information officer Tim Rock reported that according to the National Fire Protection Association there were, on average, 12,141 fires per year resulting from grilling that required fire departments' response. These fires caused 15 civilian deaths and 171 injuries.

The combination of alcohol and an elevated heat index can increase dehydration and cause a more rapid increase in your Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) level. This can lead to impaired judgement, slowed reactions, and loss of coordination. Elevated BAC levels can impact the body's ability to process the alcohol consumed and can lead to a life-threatening situation such a heat exhaustion, heat stroke or even death.

So, if you hike, bike, or ATV, sit by a pool or relax on a boat, we encourage you to be careful and consume alcohol legally and responsibly.

MARTIN

Cont. From Front Page 1

and the victim had agreed to the agreement.

"I believe it is with the fair administration of justice, Your Honor," Wilkins said.

Judge Shaffer asked Martin if he had a medical marijuana card. Martin said that he did. The Judge said that one of the conditions of the deferred adjudication included abstaining from drugs, including medical marijuana because it is still federally illegal.

"You can take it (medical marijuana card) to the Tucker County Landfill and throw it away," Shaffer said.

Wilkins informed the Court that on October 12th, 2025, a call was received about a domestic incident in which an argument had erupted between Martin and his ex, the victim. The argument was during an exchange of their son at Martin's residence in Davis. The female victim caller escaped through the back door after the defendant threw a cup at her. Martin followed the victim from the residence. The victim was found bloodied later by police and EMS. Martin and the boy were later found at a coffee shop up the street.

Upon arrival at the residence, police located an indoor marijuana growing operation that included many plants and equipment including scales, bags and various other paraphernalia. When questioned by the Court about whether the marijuana plants were his, Martin admitted to the plants.

Martin claimed the altercation was verbal. He admitted to taking the phone.

When questioned by the Court, Hoy said he recommended his client take the plea. A verbal and written plea were entered to the Court that day. The Court accepted the guilty plea on the misdemeanor, deferred judgment on the felony pending completion of the terms of Martin's two year probation and all other counts in the case were dismissed. Sentencing in the case is scheduled for July 20th.

PICNIC

Cont. From Front Page 1



Members of Tucker United and their supporters protested along the main road in Canaan Valley State Park. Protesters lined both sides of the road in anticipation of the arrival of busses carrying members of the West Virginia Legislature who were in the park for the Interim Committee Schedule over Sunday and Monday.



Tucker United were joined throughout the day by members of other organizations, including those from across the State who are fighting data centers of their own. Some supporters came from as far as Washington D.C.

The event included a protest along the main road of the park, a pot luck chicken BBQ, a 20 minute video presentation, sign making, origami, games and ended with a drum circle by the Tucker United Drum Circle.

Sunday's agenda for the Committee included off site visits to Dolly Sods, Big Timber and the National Youth Science Academy. Monday's schedule included meetings of the Joint Standing Committee on Finance, the Joint Standing Committee on the Judiciary, Joint Standing Committee on Education, Joint Standing Committee on Government Organization, Joint Standing Committee on Economic Development, Joint Standing Committee on Health and a site visit to Valley View. Tuesday the Committee schedule concluded with off site visits to Mt. Storm, Bowden State Fish Hatchery and the Tygart Hotel/Augusta Heritage Center/Railyard Event & Conference Center in Elkins.

Mountaineer Garden Club Announces June Yard of the Month Selections







The Mountaineer Garden Club is pleased to recognize three outstanding properties as the June 2026 Yard of the Month selections. These recipients have demonstrated exceptional care, creativity, and pride in enhancing the beauty of our community through their landscaping and gardening efforts.

Residential Yard of the Month

Jane and Bud Parsons

Jane and Bud have created a stunning landscape that captures attention from the street and beyond. Their mailbox garden features beautiful purple and lavender flowering perennials, creating a vibrant focal point that welcomes visitors. Ornamental grasses add texture and movement throughout the landscape, while colorful flower beds extend around the property and patio areas.

In addition to the ornamental plantings, the Parsons maintain a well-kept vegetable garden that showcases both beauty and functionality. Their dedication to gardening and property maintenance has resulted in a landscape that is both attractive and inviting.

Residential Yard of the Month

Jeanette Bishoff

Jeanette's property features a welcoming display of lush hanging ferns adorning the front porch. The walkway is lined with bright yellow and orange begonias that provide a cheerful burst of color, while established rose bushes add elegance and charm to the landscape. The carefully maintained flower beds and inviting front porch create a warm and picturesque setting that exemplifies community pride.

Business Yard of the Month

Mountain Valley Bank

Mountain Valley Bank has been selected as the June Business Yard of the Month for its beautifully maintained landscape. Vibrant begonias provide seasonal color around the bank's entrance and signage, complemented by neatly maintained shrubs that create a polished and professional appearance. The attractive landscaping enhances the property while contributing to the overall beauty of the community.

The Mountaineer Garden Club congratulates all of this month's recipients and thanks them for their efforts in making our town a more beautiful place to live, work, and visit. Their commitment to maintaining attractive landscapes inspires others and helps showcase the pride that residents and businesses take in our community.

The Mountaineer Garden Club recognizes Yard of the Month recipients throughout the growing season to encourage beautification efforts and celebrate outstanding landscaping achievements throughout the area.



Bruce Kolsun, Chairman of the Tucker County Republican Executive Committee, Joe Strait and Chris Phares, Secretary/Treasurer of the committee, were in attendance for the presentation.

The Doris Bonner Scholarship

The Tucker County Republican Executive Committee presented The Doris Bonner Scholarship to Reid Kisamore, an outstanding student and athlete, who will be attending Glenville University to study Health Science to become a Physician's Assistant. He will also be participating in football and running track. The scholarship is for $500. To earn this award, Reid had to write an essay on why it is important to be a patriot in America.

This quote was taken from Reid's essay, "I believe patriotism is shown through service to others. Some of the most patriotic people are not the loudest people online or the ones looking for attention. They are the people who quietly serve their communities every day."

Eastern recognizes Tucker County students for spring 26 semester honors

Multiple Tucker County residents achieved academic honors during the Spring 2026 semester at Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College.

Earning President's List honors, which requires completing 12 or more credit hours this spring with a 4.0 grade point average, were county residents Zachary Cuppett, Daniel Evans, and Reid Kisamore.

Dean's List recipients, earned for completing 9 or more credit hours this spring with at least a 3.5 grade point average, were Estoria Chase, Jacob Hensley, Miriam Spencer, Sarah Spencer, Hailey Supak, Ava Wilfong, and Lela Wright.

Merit List recipients, which requires completing 6 or more credit hours this spring with a 3.25 grade point average, were county residents Alyssia Carr, Caitlyn Clark, Izek Eichelberger, Peyton Hicks, Rachel Hile, Shilah Jones, Alexander Lambert, Mikaila Lawrence, Joanna Leary, Tyler Ricottilli, and Lillian Snider.

Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College, located in Moorefield, serves six rural counties in the Potomac Highlands. The college offers 14 degree programs (including six fully online), 12 certificates, and over 30 transfer pathways to four-year schools. Its Workforce Education department provides 15+ training programs in various formats and specialized Agriculture Innovation training, including mentorship opportunities for Farm Fellows. Eastern supports students and the community through its Career Center, offering job placement, resume help, and interview preparation. The college is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

Tucker County Fall 2025 Graduates

Jeanna-Lee Boyles - Associate in Applied Science: LPN to RN Bridge Program

Krista Liller - Associate in Applied Science: LPN to RN Bridge Program

Tucker County Spring 2026 Graduates

Lillian Callaway - Associate in Applied Science: Nursing

Daniel Evans – Associate in Applied Science: Board of Governors.

Woodlands Development and Lending Launches Tech Toolshed to Help Businesses Improve Their Marketability

The program provides free access to audio, camera, and lighting equipment with pilot locations in Greenbrier, Franklin, and Tucker counties.





ELKINS, W. Va. - Woodlands Development & Lending presents "Tech Toolshed," a cost-free program that allows small businesses and non-profits to borrow high-quality tech tools and equipment to further their business goals and mission.

This program was created to help businesses and organizations present their services professionally, as most rely on social media and marketing materials to increase sales.

The current inventory includes professional photography, video and audio recording equipment kits that contain everything needed to create a mobile photography or recording studio. The Audio Kit consists of a microphone and headphones system to record podcasts, two-person interviews, or voiceovers. The Camera Kit is customized for beginners and can be adapted for professional photography and videography. It includes a full-frame mirrorless camera equipped with additional microphones and accessories for photography and video production, content creation, and hybrid shooting.

Both kits were curated by Curren Sheldon, an award-winning filmmaker based in Elkins. Sheldon also provides detailed video instructions on how to set-up and use the kits.

The Lighting Kit provides a simple, beginner-friendly lighting set up for product shots, head shots, portraits, and more. It includes soft boxes that diffuse light, two light stands, and two professional light bulbs.

This kit was curated by photographer Michelle Waters, a photographer and teacher in Parkersburg, WV.

We thank the photography professionals for their insight and assistance in this program.

Funding for the Tech Toolshed was provided through a joint initiative between Appalachian Community Capital and Goldman Sachs, helping CDFIs deploy capital to small businesses in the region. As part of this effort, Woodlands invested in the kits to help businesses increase their visibility and strengthen their brand.

The Tech Toolshed kits are available to pick up at the following locations and must be returned at the same place. Some locations may allow for on-site use. Late fees may apply.

Greenbrier County EDC
804 Industrial Park Rd, Suite 5,
Maxwelton, WV
(304) 497-4300

Pendleton County CVB
43 Maple Ave,
Franklin, WV
(304) 358-3884

Tucker County Visitor's Center
410 William Ave,
Davis, WV
(800) 782-2775

To create an account and reserve equipment, visit the Mon Forest Tech Toolshed website: http://woodlandswv.org/techtoolshed

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.

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

PATRIOT
1ST CUSTOMER FIRST AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE
J.D. POWER 2020 CERTIFIED
CHRYSLER DODGE RAM Jeep
KING OF THE 4WD
Jeep RAM
www.PATRIOTCHRYSLERDODGEJEEP.com - 2499 Maryland Highway, Oakland - 301.334.2137

Obituaries

Roger Lee Miller



Roger Lee Miller, age 78 years, a resident of Hambleton, WV departed this life Friday evening, June 5, 2026, at Autumn Lake Healthcare at Crystal Springs, Elkins, WV. Death was unexpected.

He was born Wednesday, November 19, 1947, at Altoona, Pa, a son of the late Roger W. Miller and Shirley McKee Miller. He was twice married. First to Rebecca Dean of Altoona, PA. and second, on September 8, 1979, at Altoona, PA, to Kathleen L. Wilson Miller, who survives at Hambleton, WV.

Surviving are one son, David W. Miller of FL; one daughter, JoAne Lantz; three grandchildren, Jordan/Shasha Miller of Portland, Aliza Sollenberger (Devon) of Altoona, PA, and Hunter Learn of Altoona, PA; one great grandson, Devon Sollenberger, Jr.; three sisters, Deborah Miller of Hollidaysburg, Nancy Fowkes and Lynnette Ivory (Ty), all of Duncansville; one brother, Kenneth Miller of Altoona, PA; three cousins, Nick Bell of Altoona, PA, Steve Bell of Ridley Park and Sandra Rager of FL.

He was a 1965 graduate of Altoona Area High School. He was a Veteran of the United States Air Force, having served in Vietnam and Korea, as a heavy equipment operator. After his time in the military, he was an Apple computer representative, selling to several school districts. He attended Vo Tech School for computers and later obtained his bachelor's degree at Mount Aloysius College. Roger was an avid outdoorsman, enjoyed bicycling, backpacking, hiking and fishing and studied several types of martial arts.

Mr. Miller's request for cremation was honored. A memorial service will take place at a later date. The family suggest that expressions of sympathy be in the form of contributions to the Hinkle House Food Pantry, 102 1st St., Parsons, WV 26287 or Five Rivers Library, 301 Walnut St., Parsons, WV 26287. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is honored to be in charge of the arrangements for Roger Lee Miller. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com.

Sammie Lee Regester



Sammie Lee Regester, 46, a resident of Hambleton, passed from this life Wednesday, June 6, 2026, at his home surrounded by his loving family and under the care of WV Caring.

Sammie was born in Elkins on Friday, September 11, 1979, a son of Loretta W. Falls Pennington of Hambleton and the late Harry Burdette "Sut" Pennington.

Also left to cherish Sammie's memory are his siblings, Cindy Vance Sigley of Hambleton, Tracy Daman and husband Rob and Chris Regester and wife, Crista, all of Belington, and several nieces and nephews.

Preceding Sammie in death besides his father was a brother, Harry "Bo" Pennington, III.

Sammie was a graduate of Tucker County High School. Sammie enjoyed being around people and watching them, going on car rides, walking, and being outdoors. He also enjoyed eating popcorn, ice cream, and his favorite, milkshakes. Although disabled, Sammie endured the many hardships of his life with a smile. He loved his family and showed his affection for them with hugs and smiles.

Visitation was held at the Hostetler Funeral Home on Wednesday, June 10, 2026, from 11 am to 2 pm, the funeral hour. Rev. Kevin Hostetler officiated, and interment followed at Parsons City Cemetery in Parsons. The Hostetler Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements for Sammie Lee Regester. Send online condolences to the family at www.hostetlerfuneralhome.com.

Treasurer Pack Reminds Families to Apply for Hope Scholarship Before Full-Funding Deadline Closes for 2026-2027 School Year

Families Must Apply by June 15 to Receive 100% Full-Year Award Amount of $5,435.62

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – State Treasurer Larry Pack, who serves as Chairman of the Hope Scholarship Board, is encouraging more families to apply for the Hope Scholarship Program before the application deadline for full-funding closes one week from today on Monday, June 15 for the 2026-2027 academic year.

Applications are available online at www.HopeScholarshipWV.gov.

"Every child deserves a shot at a bright future – and that's what the Hope Scholarship offers. We've already seen exponential growth in applications since expanding eligibility to all West Virginia children in grades K-12 for this upcoming school year," Treasurer Pack said. "My team is excited to welcome new students to the program because at the end of the day, this is all about empowering parents and students to find the education that fits their unique needs. We encourage West Virginia families to submit their applications by June 15 so they can receive the full award amount."

Treasurer Pack announced in March that existing private school and traditional homeschool students who have not previously been eligible for the Hope Scholarship Program are now eligible to apply to participate in the State's Education Savings Account program that provides funding to students exercising school choice in lieu of attending public school full-time.

So far, 25,675 students have started applications for full funding of the Hope Scholarship Program for the 2026-2027 academic year. Of the 25,675 applications, 13,298 are returning Hope Scholarship recipients who submitted their Continuing Participation Confirmations and 12,377 are new students who applied for the program. There are currently 14,549 active participants (applications in Approved status) for 2025-2026.

A student application submitted within the following dates will receive the associated level of Hope Scholarship funding:

- March 2-June 15: 100% of Hope Scholarship annual award amount.
- June 16-Sept. 15: 75% of Hope Scholarship annual award amount.
- Sept. 16-Nov. 30: 50% of Hope Scholarship annual award amount.
- Dec. 1-Feb. 28: 25% of Hope Scholarship annual award amount.

Current Hope Scholarship students who wish to renew their participation in the program during the 2026-2027 school year have until June 15 to submit their Continuing Participation Confirmations.

The Hope Scholarship award amount varies each school year depending on the amount of state aid funding per pupil provided to county boards of education for public school students. The scholarship amount for the 2026-2027 school year is $5,435.62. Scholarship funds will now be distributed on a quarterly basis.

Families who participated in the Hope Scholarship Program during the 2025-2026 school year are encouraged to complete the Hope Scholarship Parent Satisfaction Survey that was emailed to them last month by June 30, 2026.

For more information on the Hope Scholarship, visit www.HopeScholarshipWV.gov.

Friends of the Cheat Announces Summer Events Celebrating Rivers, Recreation, and Community

Kingwood, W.Va. – Friends of the Cheat (FOC) invites locals and visitors alike to a series of summer events filled with outdoor recreation, live music, and community across the Cheat River watershed. FOC's upcoming events offer opportunities for people of all ages to connect with the outdoors and one another.

The season begins with the Tucker County Meet the Cheat on Sunday, June 14, in partnership with Blackwater Outdoor Adventures (BOA). Participants will enjoy an 8-mile paddle from Holly Meadows to St. George along the beautiful Cheat River Water Trail.

The event begins at Blackwater Outdoor Adventures, 60 Location Road, Parsons, WV 26287, at 10:00am. Kayak and canoe rentals are available through BOA. Participants renting boats should select the 8-mile, 10:30 a.m. trip option when registering. A portion of every rental supports the Cheat River Water Trail. Participants bringing their own boats should register at https://cheatriverwatertrail.org/events/. Registration is $10 per person - kids under 12 are free. Carpooling is encouraged, as parking is limited. And bring the fishing gear - June 13-14 are WV Free Fishing Days!

Following the paddle, attendees can enjoy food from Blosser Boys BBQ from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., browse FOC merchandise and info tables, and connect with fellow river enthusiasts. For questions, contact Beth Warnick at bwarnick@cheat.org.

The summer fun continues on Friday, July 10, when Friends of the Cheat hosts a free community concert from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Cheat River Trailhead, 10922 River Rd, Kingwood, WV 26537.

Community members are invited to bring a lawn chair, gather with friends and family, and enjoy an evening of live music featuring Appalachian Soul Man Aristotle Jones.

The event will also feature family-friendly activities for children, refreshing drinks from Izzy's Lemonade, and food truck fare.

The concert series wraps up on Friday, July 31st, with another free community concert from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Cheat River Trailhead. Guests can enjoy live music by Hello June, kid's activities, delicious barbecue from Sweet P's BBQ, and refreshing drinks from Izzy's Lemonade.

Admission to both Trailhead community concerts is free and open to the public. Attendees are encouraged to consider making an optional donation for parking, with all proceeds supporting the maintenance and improvement of the Cheat River Rail-Trail and Trailhead facilities.

"Staying true to the original community vision for the property, we are bearing witness to the evolution of the rail-trail and trailhead - from abandoned properties to community assets."

said Amanda Pitzer, Executive Director of Friends of the Cheat. "We welcome everyone to participate in these events and see for themselves what happens when everyday folks work together to craft a shared vision for change in their community." "Summer is when our watershed really comes alive. These events bring people together to enjoy the rivers, trails, music, and outdoor spaces that make this region special. Whether you're a longtime supporter or visiting for the first time, we invite you to join us in celebrating and connecting with the Cheat River watershed."

About Friends of the Cheat

Friends of the Cheat (FOC) is a nonprofit watershed organization dedicated to restoring, preserving, and promoting the Cheat River watershed through water quality improvement, public access initiatives, environmental education, and community engagement. To learn more, visit https://cheat.org/ and sign up for FOC's mailing list, and follow FOC on Facebook (Friends of the Cheat) and Instagram (cheatriverfriends).

New ALICE Data Shows Rising Cost of Basics Historically Outpaces Overall Inflation in West Virginia

Research zeroes in on households living paycheck to paycheck, priced out of survival

The cost of household necessities in West Virginia rose faster than inflation for more than 15 years, leaving many households vulnerable to the growing affordability crisis, according to new data from United For ALICE, in partnership with the United Ways of West Virginia.

The latest State of ALICE report for West Virginia includes data from the ALICE Essentials Index, which tracks the rising costs of only six basics families need to live and work: housing, child care, food, transportation, health care and technology. Between 2007 and 2024, the ALICE Essentials Index for WV increased 65%, compared with 52% for the broader Consumer Price Index (CPI), which reports inflation across more than 200 categories of goods and services.

The report highlights the growing financial strains on the demographic known as ALICE® (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed). With income above the Federal Poverty Level but unable to afford basic expenses, 204,987 WV households were ALICE in 2024. When combined with households in poverty, 45% of all households in WV fell below the ALICE Threshold of Financial Survival.

"Behind these numbers are families making impossible choices every day — between groceries and utilities, child care and rent," said Brett White, Tygart Valley United Way CEO. "The ALICE data helps guide our work with partners across West Virginia, so we can respond to immediate needs and help build stronger paths to stability."

The crux of the struggle for ALICE families is the gap between wages and expenses. In 2024, a family of four in West Virginia needed $78,156 just to cover the essentials — over two times the Federal Poverty Level of $31,200. Yet even with both parents working full time in two of the state's most common jobs — a cook and a teller — this family's combined income still fell short of the cost of basics by $23,333.

The State of ALICE in WV also reveals that in 2024:

- West Virginia ranked 46th in financial hardship among all 50 states plus the District of Columbia, with one of the nation's highest percentages of households struggling to make ends meet.
- ALICE households were found in every major industry statewide, with the highest levels of hardship in food service and accommodation (48%), retail trade (39%), and other services except public administration (27%).
- Minimum-wage workers in WV were paid an hourly wage of $8.75 in 2024, unchanged since 2015. Yet for one full-time adult worker with one school-age child, that wage still was not enough to support the ALICE Household Survival Budget, the minimum cost of basics, in any county across West Virginia.

"The ALICE research shows that the affordability crisis is not new," said Stephanie Hoopes, Ph.D., National Director at United For ALICE. "Already stretched thin, ALICE families have no cushion for rising gas or utility costs — forcing tough tradeoffs with other necessities. That's the insight policymakers and community leaders need to build a stronger future for ALICE and all."

More state and local data is available through the interactive dashboards on UnitedForALICE.org/WestVirginia.

NOTICE TO MON POWER CUSTOMERS WITH RIGHTS-OF-WAY ACROSS THEIR PROPERTY

Mon Power has contracted to maintain portions of its rights-of-way with an aerial saw consisting of approximately ten 24-inch rotary blades powered by a motor and suspended on a vertical boom beneath a helicopter. This maintenance method allows for the quick, safe, and efficient trimming of trees along our transmission lines. The aerial saw will be operating April through September 2026 in the following counties in West Virginia:

Tucker-Randolph-Pendleton Counties (William-Seneca # 160 138 kV)
A transmission line in Tucker, Randolph and Pendleton Counties, extending in a southeasterly direction from William Substation near Thomas, WV. The line crosses State Route 93 approximately one and one-half miles north of Davis and then travels in a straight-line east of Davis continuing through Canaan Valley, near State Route 32 and running along the ridges east of Harman. The line crosses the Allegheny Mountains near the Randolph/Pendleton County line, continuing near Onego and Teterton and ending near Germany Valley Limestone Company at Seneca Substation.

For more information about Mon Power's Transmission Aerial Saw Program, call 1-800-686-0022. When contacting, please alert our Representatives that your call is pertaining to our Transmission Aerial Saw Program.

MonPower®
A FirstEnergy Company

Snyder selected as Maid Silvia for the 88th Mountain State Forest Festival



Elkins, WV – Hambleton resident Miss Emma Grace Snyder has been selected as Maid Silvia for the 88th Mountain State Forest Festival by Director General Nathaniel Bonnell. The selection of Maid Silvia has been kept confidential for months.

"Selecting Maid Silvia is one of the most important responsibilities of the Director General, and Emma stood out from the very beginning," Bonnell said. "She is accomplished, thoughtful, and has a genuine appreciation for the traditions and values the Mountain State Forest Festival represents. As we celebrate the 88th Festival with the theme 'Autumn in Color,' Emma reflects the spirit of the season - bringing energy, tradition, and the next chapter of Festival history into full color. I am confident she will represent the Festival with grace and serve as an outstanding ambassador throughout her reign."

Snyder, 21, is the daughter of James and Kim Snyder of Hambleton, WV. She is the granddaughter of Alta Snyder and the late Kenneth Snyder of Hambleton, Mary Mauldin and the late Lieutenant Colonel Mack Mauldin of Hendricks, and David and Wilda Shrout of Thomas. Emma has one brother, Adam Lambruno.

The future Queen Silvia is a 2023 graduate of Tucker County High School, where she ranked in the top 10 in her class, was a member of National Honor Society, and a class officer.

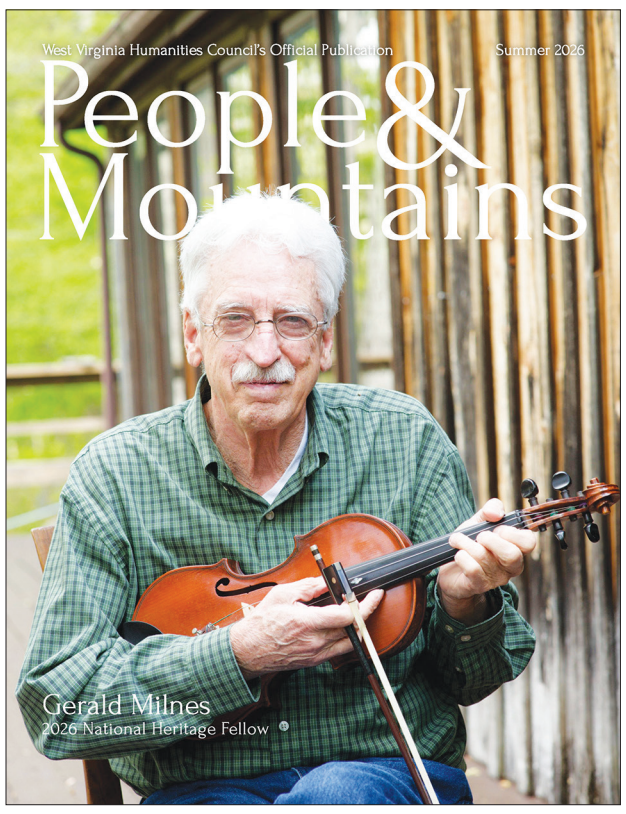
Emma graduated with honors from West Virginia University in May 2026, earning a degree in Anthropology with a minor in Religious Studies. She was named Outstanding Senior in Anthropology, served as a researcher and lab manager in the ceramics lab, and presented research at undergraduate symposia, winning her category in the Fall of 2025. Emma also presented at a professional conference in San Fransico, studied abroad in Italy to gain hands on experience, and served as Secretary of the Anthropology Club.

Maid Silvia Emma is continuing her education at WVU for a Master's in Public History and plans to attend law school. In her spare time, she enjoys skiing, traveling, and hiking. Snyder worked as a mentor for the AmeriCorps program, Energy Express, and she served as a Princess in the 86th Mountain State Forest Festival.

Snyder will be crowned as Queen of the 88th Mountain State Forest Festival during the Royal Coronation at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, October 2, 2026, at the Citizens Bank of WV Outdoor Amphitheatre located on the campus of Davis & Elkins College. Attended by forty Princesses from around the state, two Maids of Honor, and a Minor Court, she will receive her crown in an elaborate outdoor ceremony.

The 88th edition of the Mountain State Forest Festival with the theme "Autumn in Color" will take place from Saturday, September 26, 2026, through Sunday, October 4, 2026. More information is available by visiting festival social media, www.forestfestival.com, or calling the festival office at 304-636-1824.

Humanities Council Releases Summer Issue Of People & Mountains



Charleston—The West Virginia Humanities Council has released the summer 2026 edition of its digital magazine, People & Mountains. This issue profiles folklorist Gerald Milnes, the Robert Higgins House in Moorefield and history-related board games. The magazine can be accessed from the Council's website: wvhumanities.org.

Gerald "Gerry" Milnes is a folklorist, musician, filmmaker, author and teacher from Elkins. In April, the National Endowment for the Arts named him as a 2026 National Heritage Fellow and this year's sole recipient of the prestigious Bess Lomax Hawes National Heritage Fellowship. This national honor recognizes his lifetime dedication to preserving and promoting Appalachian and West Virginia folk traditions. He is one of only seven West Virginians ever to receive the honor.

An article in People & Mountains examines Milnes' 50 years as West Virginia's preeminent folklorist through his work documenting traditional music, dance, folk medicine, farming practices, log construction and other customs. Before retiring as Folk Art Coordinator at the Augusta Heritage Center in Elkins, Milnes created a vast multimedia archive while also producing influential books, documentaries and record albums. His work has inspired generations of artists, musicians and folklorists.

The city of Moorefield is restoring the historic Robert Higgins House as a visitor center and local history museum. An article in the new People & Mountains highlights the house's architectural history and Higgins' role in America's founding. Higgins experienced frontier conflict from a young age and later served in the Revolutionary War, eventually leading a company selected by George Washington. Captured by the British in 1777, he endured more than three years as a prisoner of war before returning to the South Branch Valley. In 1786, he built the modest log house in Moorefield that now bears his name.

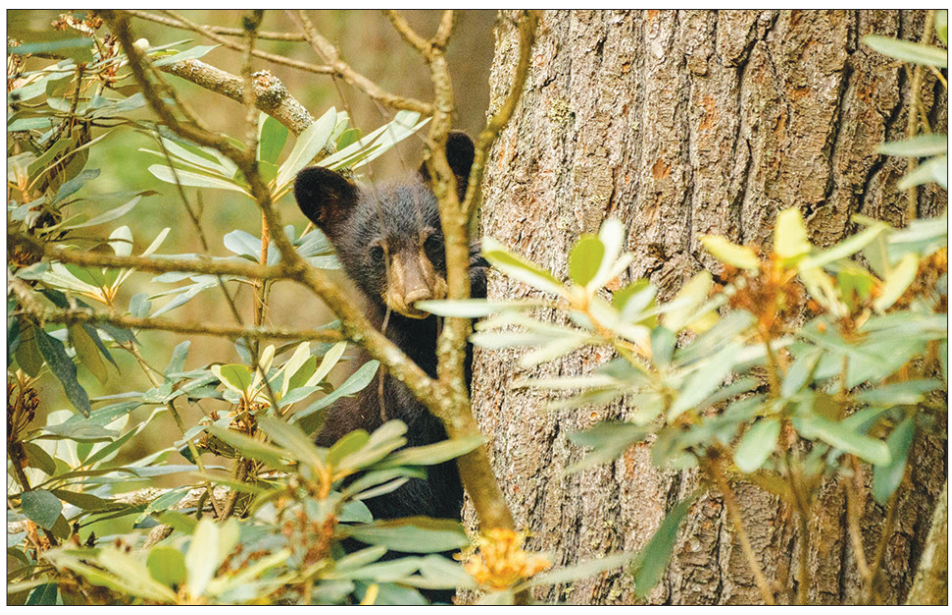
The summer issue of People & Mountains also takes a look at the increasing popularity of historical board games. A growing but still limited number involve references to West Virginia. Some games currently in the works will focus on Mountain State-specific topics, such as a pending game about the Mine Wars.

People & Mountains is published by the West Virginia Humanities Council three times a year. It profiles the Council's work and developments in the humanities statewide. It is available for free on the Council's website: wvhumanities.org.

The West Virginia Humanities Council, an independent nonpartisan nonprofit institution, is the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). With the support of the NEH, the State of West Virginia, the West Virginia Department of Tourism and contributions from the private sector, the Council supports a vigorous program in the humanities statewide in West Virginia. This year, the Council is celebrating 25 years of its Little Lectures program, the 20th anniversary of its West Virginia Encyclopedia and the 10th anniversary of its West Virginia Folklife Program.

WVDNR Reminds Public to Leave Young Wildlife Alone

Handling of wild animals discouraged and violates state law



CHARLESTON, W.Va. — The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) today reminded the public to leave young wildlife alone, noting that handling wild animals can harm them, spread disease and violate state law.

"Watching wildlife is one of the many joys of outdoor recreation in West Virginia," said WVDNR Director Brett McMillion. "When it comes to public safety and what's best for our native wildlife, it's always best to not disturb young animals and leave wildlife alone."

Each spring, the WVDNR receives calls about fawns, birds and other young animals that may appear abandoned. In most cases, these animals are not orphaned and are behaving as they should in the wild. For example, white-tailed deer often leave fawns hidden for hours while they feed. A fawn's camouflage and lack of scent help protect them from predators. Approaching or handling a fawn can increase its risk of harm. Similarly, many young birds found on the ground are fledglings learning to fly and should be left alone.

Touching, picking up or even approaching young animals can leave behind human scent, which may attract predators and put the animal at risk. Contact with wildlife also increases the chance of spreading diseases and parasites such as rabies, ticks, Lyme disease and roundworms.

The WVDNR reminds the public that possessing wildlife without a permit is illegal. Violations can result in fines ranging from $20 to $300 and up to 100 days in jail. To learn more about wildlife in West Virginia, visit WVdnr.gov.

Taste of Tucker Farmers Market

Planning on planting a garden this summer? Looking for an outlet for your extra produce? Consider becoming part of the Taste of Tucker Farmers Market. The market runs till October if produce is available and is located at Mill Race Park once a week.

For more information, contact the office by calling 304-478-2949.

Youth Healthy Eating Initiative Returns to Tucker County

The highly anticipated Kids Market at the Store officially returns to Tucker County this June, offering local children a hands-on opportunity to select fresh, nutritious food. Funded by the Tucker County Commission and Citizens Bank, this educational community program empowers youth to build healthy eating habits at zero cost to families.

How It Works

• Free Grocery Tokens: Young participants receive complimentary market tokens.

• Independent Shopping: Kids use their tokens to choose from a vibrant selection of seasonal items.

• Rotating Fresh Stock: Weekly inventory includes tomatoes, cucumbers, squash, potatoes, and more.

Schedule and Locations

• Program Dates: Thursday, June 4 through Saturday, June 20.

• Weekly Restocks: Every Thursday throughout the program duration. For best selection shopping should be down Thursday – Saturday at each location.

• Two Locations: Parsons - St. George Pharmacy & Thomas - Mountain State Brewing Co.

Get Involved

Space and supplies are limited. If you have questions or would like to know how you can be involved contact the Extension office via phone at 304-478-2949 or via email at Jesica.Streets@mail.wvu.edu.

Canning season

Canning season is almost here and WVU Extension offers a free dial gauge testing for your pressure canner. This free test ensures safe home food preservation and is recommended by the USDA to be done annually. Over time and use, gauges can lose accuracy resulting in over or under processed foods. All you will need to bring when you visit is your canner lid with the dial gauge. Weighted canners are mechanically accurate and do not need tested annually. Start your canning season off right and call 304-478-2949 to set up a time to test your canner gauge this month!



