The Parsons
Advocate
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DON'T MISS INFORMATION ABOUT MOUNTAINEER DAYS INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

Corridor H Opens to Parsons



Federal, State and Local Officials assembled in Kerens June 22nd for the opening of a new 11 mile section of Corridor H that leads to the interchange between Parsons and St. George.

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Kerens – Decades of delay came to an end Monday, June 22nd as Governor Morrisey along with other State and local officials cut the ribbon and officially opened the new 11 mile section of Corridor H from Kerens to the interchange between Parsons and St. George. Now drivers from Elkins headed to Parsons on U.S. Route 48 can do more than look down a desolate four lane pristine road and wish, they can experience 112 miles of Corridor H from Weston to Parsons, leaving only 19.6 miles, with 8 to 9 miles in Tucker County, of the controversial infrastructure project remaining to be finished to the Virginia State line.

Plenty of Tucker County officials and community members joined the over 100 in attendance for the event with such familiar faces as Davis Mayor Al Tomson; Tucker County Commissioners Mike Rosenau, Tim Knotts and Fred Davis and former Parsons Mayor Bruce Kolsun among the crowd. Other notable faces included members of the Go North movement who were on hand to protest for an alternative route for the remaining 8 to 9 miles of Corridor H to be constructed through upper Tucker County.

Opening remarks were given by West Virginia Transportation Secretary Todd Rumbaugh. Rumbaugh said that traveling between Kerens and Parson for years meant traversing narrow, winding two-lane roads, but the opening of the new section of Corridor H would deliver "safe, modern, four-lane highway through some of the most rugged, geo-technically challenging terrain in the entire Appalacian highlands."

While Rumbaugh said the new road would shorten response times for emergency crews, it was a sentiment echoed by Tucker County Director of Emergency Management Kevin White, who said that prior to the opening, the only time he had been on the new road, was in an emergency capacity. The new road, according to the WVDOH is expected to shorten travel time between Kerens and Parsons 15 to 20 minutes.

U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito, R-W.Va. was also on hand to give remarks during the presentation. Capito said in her remarks that she had worked tirelessly to secure funding to complete the project as Chair of the Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee. Capito said whenever she would bring up the "tough questions" to Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Administrator Sean McMaster, Corridor H was always first.

Capito told an anecdote that her son decided to take Corridor H back to Washington D.C. with his daughters a while back. They had to stop in Parsons when the youngest said, "Get me off the swervy road of death."

"When I hear the description of the curvy roads and the mountains you have to go from Kerens to Parsons, I think Rose had a pretty accurate description of the swervy road of death," Capito said.

Governor Morrisey in his remarks, thanked federal and state level government for the coordinated effort the project has

See CORRIDOR H page 2

4th Annual Fishing With Dad



The 4th Annual Fishing With Dad at Pulp Mill Pond in Parsons was a rousing success with this year's event drawing 135 kids and 188 adults from across the area. Families from across the area spent the day together in the sun and shade reeling in the big fish and enjoying hot dogs cooked up by the Lions Club of Parsons. First Place went to: Brantley Rosier; Second Place to: Darrius Williams and Third Place to Avery Lycliter and Bradin Williams. Photos courtesy the Tucker County Family Support Center.

See FISHING page 12 for more photos

Blackwater PSD Receives $1.5 Million From Congressman Moore



By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

The Blackwater Public Service District received $1.5 million in Community Project Funding from Congressman Riley M. Moore on June 23rd at Thomas Town Hall towards the PSD's wastewater treatment plant project. The funding was secured through the Moore's work on the House Appropriations Committee. On hand from Tucker County to accept the check were Tucker County Commissioners Mike Rosenau, Tim Knotts and Fred Davis along with Blackwater PSD Member Davis Mayor Al Tomson and Thomas Mayor Jody Flanagan.

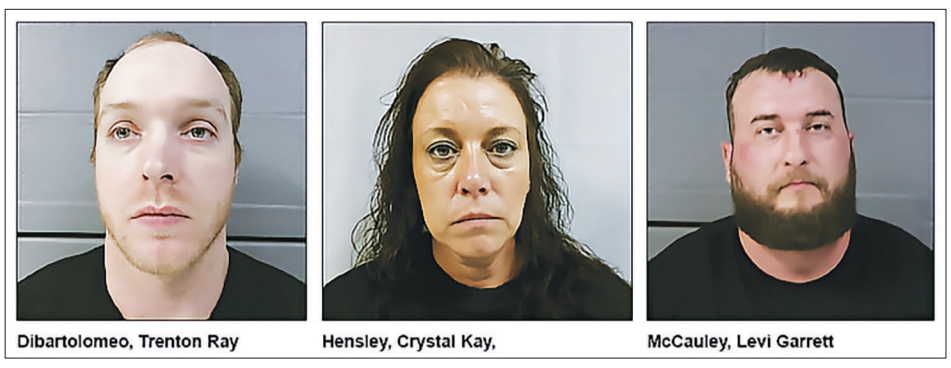
The Blackwater PSD's wastewater treatment plant project is designed to address existing capacity and regulatory challenges, as well as improve environmental compliance and provide the infrastructure needed to accommodate future residential, commercial and industrial growth in the Mountain Top region of Tucker County.

Both the Towns of Davis and Thomas have struggled with regulatory compliance issues with the WVDEP in recent years with their aging treatment plants. The proposed Blackwater PSD facility will incorporate both towns and other surrounding areas into one system for more effective treatment and disposal.

The following statement was released by the Congressman's office:

"I am proud to secure $1.5 million for the Blackwater Regional Wastewater Treatment Project. Reliable infrastructure is the foundation for economic growth and prosperity. This investment will not only modernize aging wastewater systems in Davis and Thomas, but it will also create new opportunities for housing, business development, tourism, and job creation throughout Tucker County. I will keep working to secure critical infrastructure investments to ensure this region will continue growing and thriving for generations to come," Congressman Riley M. Moore said.

DiBartolomeo, McCauley, Hensley Sentenced in Parsons Burglary, Strangulation Case


Dibartolomeo, Trenton Ray | Hensley, Crystal Kay, | McCauley, Levi Garrett

The final three co-defendants were sentenced in the Parsons Burglary and Strangulation Case June 18th by Judge Steven Shaffer in Tucker County Circuit Court.

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Trenton DiBartolomeo, appeared before Judge Steven Shaffer in the Tucker County 22nd Circuit Court June 18th to be sentenced on five counts from a May 4th plea agreement. He was accompanied by his attorney Jeremy Cooper. Tucker County Prosecuting Attorney Savannah Hull Wilkins represented the prosecution.

Under the plea agreement, DiBartolomeo plead guilty to one count of DUI in court. The other counts were to be under a suspended sentencing agreement. The DUI charge was given a 6 month sentence in jail with a $500 fine.

DiBartolomeo saw his remaining counts suspended under seven years probation with GPS monitored home confinement. The felony burglary charge was given 1-15 years, the two counts of felony strangulation were given 1-5 years consecutive and the felony conspiracy was given 1-5 years

See CASE page 9

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News of Record

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

- **Linda L. Kidd/FKA/Linda L. Brunsell,** Black Fork District, Transfer on Death Deed: 81.71 acres +/- (minerals only) to Billy E.C. Kidd, Jr., Michael E. Kidd and Richard Ephraim Kidd.
- **Stephanie Loughrie,** Clover District, .29 acres and .75 acres to Lindsay Weaver, $195,000.
- **Inka Properties LLC,** Davis Corporation, Lot 347 to R. Gregory Bair, $40,000.
- **Stephanie Baxter,** Dry Fork District, 8.5 acres, Lot 21 Flat Ridge Farm to Patricia A. Wood, Trustee; Patricia A. Wood Revocable Trust, $575,000.
- **Roderick Tayloir,** Dry Fork District, Unit C-304, Herzwood Condominiums to Slope-side Rentals LLC, $300,000.
- **The Quintessential Family LLC,** Dry Fork District, Deed of Gift: Unit H-4 Northwoods Condo to Peter R. Holden, Trustee, Mary Gayle Holden, Trustee; The Holden Family Trust.

CORRIDOR H

Cont. From Front Page 1



Governor Patrick Morrisey delivers his speech at the opening of the new 11 mile stretch of Corridor H June 22nd in Kerens.



Tucker County Commission President Mike Rosenau cuts sections of the ribbon for souvenirs following the Grand Opening of the new section of Corridor H June 22nd.

taken to accomplish. In recent memory, he said, every Governor of the State has made it his top priority to see that Corridor H is completed. The Governor warned, however, that while the opening may seem like a victory, the job is still not done.

Senator Robbie Morris, Chair of the Corridor H Authority, stated that the opening of the 11 mile stretch of Corridor H was another promise fulfilled for the people of the State. Morris thanked those who rarely are thanked by officials, the property owners and families whose lands were impacted by the construction of the project.

"Projects of this magnitude inevitably require sacrifice," Morris said. "And many individuals and families gave up property that had been in their family for generations. These were not merely parcels of land on a map, they were homes, farms, memories and pieces of family history. Those property owners, I want to say thank you for the sacrifices you made so that future generations of West Virginians can benefit from this project."

Congressman Riley Moore, R-W.Va. was also in attendance. He quipped that the Corridor H project had been in construction longer than he had been alive. While speaking on the importance of bringing dreams to life and how the opening of the 11 miles was the culmination of generations of dreams of federal and state officials and workers, he said it was his dream to never drive through Maryland again on his way to Charleston.

"This is going to connect a lot of the communities in West Virginia, but as you heard a lot of the other speakers say, its really going to open up West Virginia, the interior of West Virginia," Moore said. "And I think we are one of the best kept secrets in America as it relates to outdoor tourism and recreation in the entire country. Indeed it is true we have the best people in the country."

Last to speak was Federal Highway Administration Administrator Sean McMaster said that while statistics are easy to look at and "get lost in," those numbers "represent real asphalt, real bridges and real jobs right here in West Virginia." He said that his department was working at the "Speed of Trump" to bring projects like Corridor H to fruition.

Senator Jim Justice did not attend in person, but sent a statement that was read by Rumbaugh. In the statement, Justice recalled his work on Corridor H during his time as Governor of West Virginia.

"I made Corridor H a priority because I knew what it meant to this region and what it could for the future of our state," Rumbaugh read.

Following the ribbon cutting, Governor Morrisey and other officials were the first allowed to drive on the new road before it was opened to the general public.

Harrisonburg Rock Band Spilling Dew to perform at The Purple Fiddle for July 4th

THOMAS, WV — Harrisonburg, Virginia rock band Spilling Dew will play The Purple Fiddle in Thomas on Friday, July 4th — their first-ever appearance at the beloved Tucker County venue.

The show comes on the heels of the band's recent release of The Best Mess Ever, an album recorded in the late 90's and shelved for nearly three decades before finally seeing the light of day in 2026. The record's unlikely resurrection — and the story behind it — has drawn attention well beyond the Shenandoah Valley.

Spilling Dew plays high-energy rock and alternative with plenty of groove, the kind of band built for a summer holiday crowd. Expect a full evening of original material alongside the energy that comes with a band that's been making music together, on and off, since the mid-90s.

The Purple Fiddle is located at 96 East Ave in Thomas, WV. Spilling Dew will play two sets starting at 8:30pm and another right after the fireworks. FREE SHOW! For more information, visit https://purplefiddle.com/ and https://spillingdew.com/.

Monongahela National Forest Announces Acquisition of Cunningham Knob Addition



ELKINS, W.Va. —The Monongahela National Forest announced the purchase of the Cunningham Knob Addition, a 427-acre tract in Randolph County, from The Nature Conservancy. The addition expands public ownership near Cunningham Knob and the Laurel Fork area and supports long-term stewardship of this working landscape. The newly acquired land will be managed under existing Forest Plan direction and applicable laws and regulations. The Forest Service will continue coordinating with neighboring landowners, permittees, and partners as stewardship of the area moves forward.

"Through the generosity of The Nature Conservancy, Monongahela National Forest recently acquired a 427-acre parcel of land connecting the Laurel Fork Wilderness to the Cunningham Knob Range Allotment. This is a key landscape on the Greenbrier Ranger District increasing public access, protecting trout streams, improving high-elevation spruce ecosystem connectivity, protecting cultural resources and sustaining heritage grazing activities in this unique landscape near the famed Sinks of Gandy." – Shane Jones, Greenbrier District Ranger.

Todd Miller of The Nature Conservancy West Virginia said, "The Nature Conservancy works with public and private landowners to protect and restore our most resilient landscapes to support nature and people. The Cunningham Knob area is one of those landscapes. Its limestone geology has created rich pastures along with cold, spring-fed streams and unique wetland habitats,

See CUNNINGHAM KNOB page 8

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

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

Submitting a letter does not guarantee it will be published. All letters become 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.

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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.

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SPORTS

Tucker's Youth Baseball Season Ends as 9-10 All-Stars Fall in Summersville



Garrett Eye



Harlin Hebb



Branson Moore

By: Adam Freeman

The Tucker County 9-10-year-old All-Star baseball team's season came to an end last Friday with a tough loss to the hometown Summersville squad during the regional tournament.

The young All-Stars battled hard but ultimately came up short, falling 11-0 and bringing the curtain down on an exciting summer of baseball. Although the season ends here, this Tucker County team leaves the field with valuable experience and lasting memories that will help fuel its growth in the seasons ahead.

Tucker 3rd & 4th Grade Basketball Represents on the Biggest Stage



L-R: Coach Devin Smith, Zayden Williams, Landon Smith, Kye Shillingburg, Ashton Roberts, Ty Bonner, Nevin Luzier, Beau Barb, Jake Herron, and Coach Dustin Luzier.

By: Adam Freeman

The Tucker County 3rd & 4th grade travel basketball team recently embarked on an exciting journey to Gatlinburg, Tennessee, to compete at Rocky Top Sports World in the Bracket Sports National Championship. The tournament featured teams from three different states, giving the young Mt. Lions an opportunity to compete against some of the region's top talent.

In their opening game on Saturday, Tucker County faced nationally ranked Patterson Elite. The Mt. Lions came out strong, controlling the first eight minutes of the game. Patterson Elite, however, found its rhythm and pulled away in the second half to earn a 36-13 victory.

The boys quickly regrouped for their second game, battling Mountain State Select in a hard-fought contest. The game remained close from start to finish, but Tucker County came up just short, falling 32-26.

On Sunday, Tucker County wrapped up tournament play against Phantom Elite. Once again, the Mt. Lions competed until the final buzzer in another closely contested matchup. Despite a determined effort, they were unable to overcome Phantom Elite, dropping the game 33-26.

While the results didn't fall in their favor, the young men of Tucker County represented their community with outstanding attitude, effort, and coachability throughout the weekend. Their resilience and ambition suggest that they have a bright future ahead, one that all Mt. Lions fans should be excited for.

Tucker County Boys Basketball Extends Summer League Dominance

By: Adam Freeman

The Tucker County boys basketball team continued its impressive run in summer league play with two commanding victories.

The Mountain Lions opened with a 64–50 win over Fort Hill (Md.), using a balanced offensive attack and solid defensive effort to keep Fort Hill from mounting a late comeback.

In their second matchup, Tucker County overwhelmed East Hardy, cruising to a 69–35 victory. Their high-energy offense and relentless defense proved to be the difference for the Mt. Lions as Tucker controlled the tempo from start to finish.

Tucker County's trio of guards, Cayden Arnold, Ethan Cummings, and Braylon Ward continue to be too much for their opponents on both ends of the gym.

The back-to-back wins highlight Tucker County's depth and preparation, positioning the Mountain Lions as a formidable contender as summer league play continues.

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Super Crossword

Answers

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What's Happening

Community Cookout

Join us for Fellowship and St. Paul's UMC FREE Community Cookout, Wednesday July 1 6:00 pm.

Parson Rail Road Depot

Join PRO members for a "historic" interview with Martha Washington, wife of George Washington and Revolutionary War Captain Salathiel Goff. Captain Goff was from St. George! This program will have a special start at 6 pm Thursday July 2nd. Please plan to join us!

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.



July 4, 1918: Poet Muriel Miller Dressler was born in Kanawha County. Her poem "Appalachia," published in 1970, was her signature piece.

July 1, 1861: Francis Pierpont, governor of the pro-Union Reorganized Government of Virginia, called the legislature into session. The general assembly re-established governmental functions, provided for the raising of military units and elected new U.S. senators and representatives.

July 1, 1937: Watoga State Park was opened to the public. The Pocahontas County park is the largest of the state parks and among the oldest.

July 1, 1971: Southern West Virginia Community College was formed by joining the Marshall University branch campuses at Logan and Williamson. In 1995, the name changed to Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College.

July 1, 1980: Congressman Riley Moore was born in Morgantown. He is the grandson of former Governor Arch Moore and nephew of U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito.

July 2, 1934: Woodchopper Arden Cogar Sr. was born in Desert Fork, Webster County. He won nine national championships, set numerous records and exhibited his skills at the 1965 New York World's Fair.

July 3, 1863: At Gettysburg, Union troops in the 1st West Virginia Cavalry took part in a fruitless charge against Confederate infantrymen during the waning moments of that historic battle.

July 4, 1882: The steamboats Scioto and John Lomas collided on the Ohio River as they were returning from holiday excursions. The Scioto sank almost instantly, and 70 people drowned.

July 4, 1928: West Virginia dedicated its first state park—Droop Mountain Battlefield. Droop Mountain was one of the most important Civil War battles fought on West Virginia soil.

July 4, 1938: Musician Bill Withers Jr. was born into a miner's family of 13 children in Slab Fork, Raleigh County. In 1971, he released his first album, Just As I Am, including his first Grammy-winning song, "Ain't No Sunshine." In 2015 he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

July 4, 1944: Jazz drummer Butch Miles was born in Ohio. He grew up in Hinton and Charleston and eventually performed with Mel Torme, Count Basie, Frank Sinatra, Lena Horne, Ella Fitzgerald, Benny Goodman, Tony Bennett, Itzak Pearlman, and many others.

July 5, 1896: Cartoonist Kendall Vintroux was born at Fraziers Bottom. He began his career with the Charleston Gazette when he submitted a cartoon about the town of Poca's first paved road. Many of his drawings are now in the collection of the University of Charleston.

July 5, 1923: Football coach John McKay was born in Everettville, Monongalia County. He became the winningest coach at the University of Southern California (USC) and later the first head coach of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, of the National Football League.

July 6, 1806: Statesman Charles James Faulkner was born in Martinsburg. Faulkner served in the West Virginia legislature, U.S. Congress (1851–59, 1875-77), and as U.S. minister to France.

July 6, 1848: Historian Virgil A. Lewis was born in Mason County. In 1905, Governor Dawson appointed Lewis as the first director of the Bureau of Archives and History.

July 6, 1883: Judge "R. D." Bailey was born at Baileysville, Wyoming County. Bailey came into wide prominence as the judge of the Matewan Massacre trial in 1921.

July 7, 1928: The Madonna of the Trail monument was dedicated in Wheeling. It is one of 12 such statues erected along the National Road to honor America's pioneering women.

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.

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



Father's Day has come and gone again and the best father I ever had was my mother. I cannot remember a time when dad played ball with us or just about anything else. We played with the neighbors or made our own fun, but just about every weekend in the summer Mom had us out doing something.

The first day of Summer has passed and now the days begin to get shorter. Momma Said, "Time marches on and that is one thing we cannot do anything about, as far as us mere mortals know." I am sure out there somewhere there are beings that can do just that, stop or reverse time. We think we know so much but there are vast universes out there where we are probably considered as primates.

There is proof that there have been visitors here from outer reaches but we just don't understand so much of what they have to teach. There are places on earth where rocks have been surgically cut to fit together and other phenomena that we cannot explain. Those events happened a long time ago and there is nobody left to explain.

Our 250th Birthday Celebration is fast approaching and if you are traveling, I hope you stay safe and enjoy all the festivities. Momma Said, "Just be careful with the fireworks and enjoy the show."

Cherry Delight

INGREDIENTS

Crust

- 1 stick unsalted butter, melted, 1/2 cup
- 2 ½ cups graham cracker crumbs
- ¼ cup granulated sugar
- Can also use pre-made crust

Filling

- 16 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 tsp. pure vanilla extract
- 1 ½ containers cool whip, 12 ounces total
- two 21 oz. cans cherry pie filling, use 1 & 1/2 cans

INSTRUCTIONS

- In a mixing bowl combine all the crust ingredients – the melted butter, graham cracker crumbs and granulated sugar. Stir until thick.
- Using your fingers, firmly press the crust into a 9×13 pan.
- In a separate mixing bowl, beat the cream cheese with an electric mixer for 90 seconds, until fluffy.
- Beat in the powdered sugar and vanilla extract. Add in 1 & 1/2 containers of cool whip, mix. Spread this mixture evenly over the crust.
- Add the cherry pie filling, carefully spooning and spreading over the filling. You don't want the pie filling to mix into the cream cheese layer. You can use 1 & ½ cans or full 2 cans.
- Refrigerate for at least 2 hours or overnight. The more time this dessert spends in the refrigerator, the more it will firm up and improve in texture.

Weather Totals
June 16 - June 23, 2026

Nursery Bottom
Parsons

Temperature		Precipitation	
Max	83° F	Week	1.48"
Min	50° F	June	3.03"
		2026	25.69"

Snowfall

Winter Total	46.5"

U.S. Forest Service

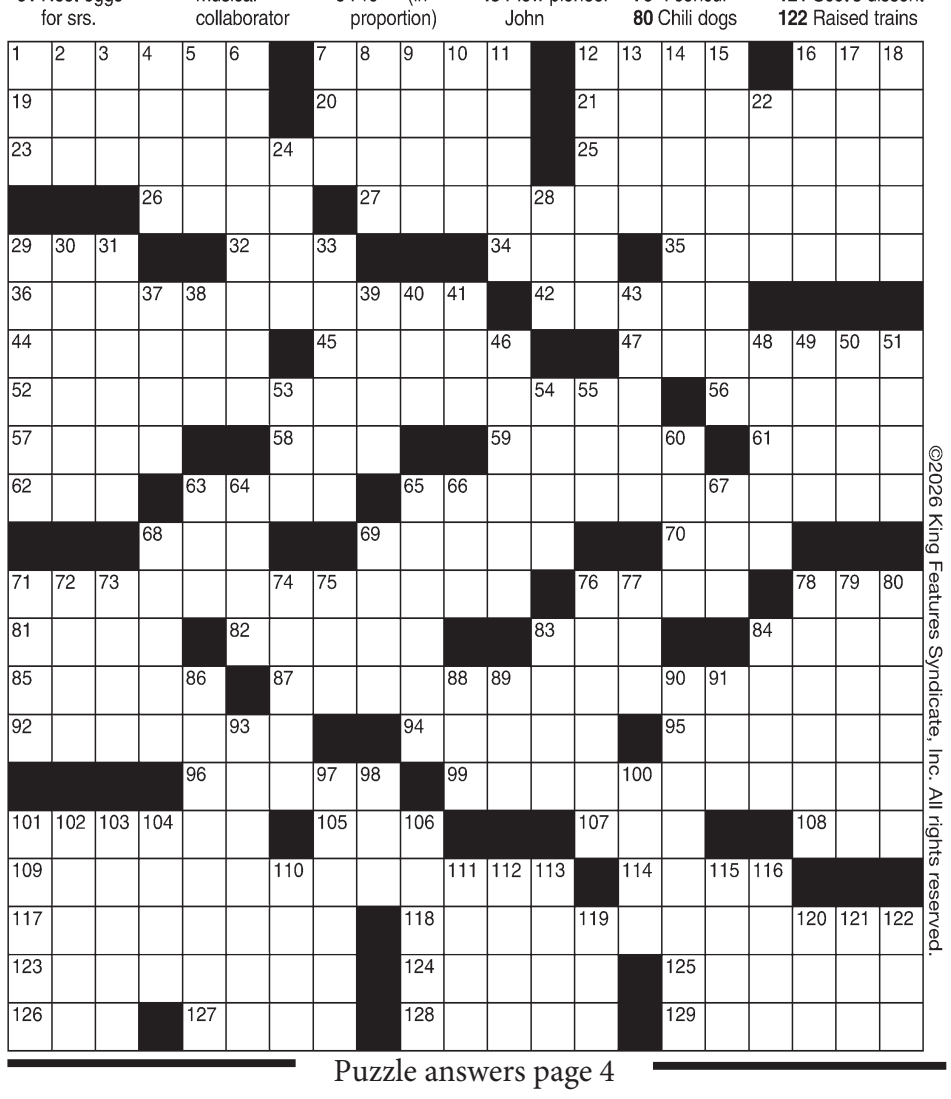
Super Crossword — RAISING A RACKET

ACROSS

1 Streisand of "Nuts"
7 President after Bush
12 Japanese soup
16 Beaker locale
19 Fanatic
20 Boo-boo
21 State of mind
23 "Can this be?!"
25 Color close to aqua
26 Leave shore
27 "I'm to blame for everything"
29 Mil. address
32 Nada
34 "— see!" ("Evidently!")
35 Events that break ground
36 Like K-Cup coffee pods
42 Two-word conjunction
44 Sol's Greek counterpart
45 Bangor locale
47 Built
52 2011 Steve Carell film
56 Puppeteer Lewis
57 Opera song
58 Gallery work
59 Fox hangouts
61 Nest eggs for srs.
62 Flanders on "The Simpsons"
63 Quick, sharp punches
65 Cocktail of bourbon, lemon and mint
68 Purse
69 Ross who ran against Clinton
70 — in the bud
71 It might consist of a dictionary, thesaurus and atlas
76 Pouches
78 Tic- — -toe
81 "You wish!"
82 They may get slammed
83 Dad on "Rugrats"
84 For takeout
85 Fail to remain calm
87 Annual mailing to the IRS
92 Baskers' goals, often
94 Birth-related
95 Home for French presidents
96 Lerner's musical collaborator
99 Kind of salute performed at military funerals
101 Cherubs, e.g.
105 Smartphone buy
107 Emulate Picabo Street
108 Mag bigwigs
109 Heroic fighter pilot of the 1940s
114 Sinister
117 Studios with easels
118 Question you might feel like asking after seeing nine key words in this puzzle?
123 Yellow turnip
124 Roast beef fast-food chain
125 Big brand of cosmetics
126 Water quality org.
127 Pack neatly
128 L.A.'s region
129 Pitfalls

DOWN

1 German auto
2 Spa sigh
3 Material in viral genes
4 Tiny pieces
5 Pro — (in proportion)
6 Post-workout feeling
7 Multivolume Brit. lexicon
8 Matzo — (Passover breakfast option)
9 In — (stuck)
10 Soft shoes, for short
11 Locations
12 Actress Marlee
13 Agenda unit
14 Stick around to see
15 Rig accidents
16 Doozies
17 Fully grown
18 Borscht base
22 Kind of lift for downhillers
24 Yalies
28 Mauna —
29 Waste barrel
30 Capital of South Dakota
31 Mounted to a backing for decoration
33 Big-eyed primates
37 Egyptian city with pyramids
38 Myrna of old movies
39 Spellbound
40 Roman 7
41 Finale
43 Plow pioneer John
46 "Mama" Cass
48 Orang cousin
49 Figure skater Lipinski
50 Epochs
51 Plate
53 Key near Q
54 Brewery kiln
55 Actor Sahay who played Lester Patel on "Chuck"
60 Lip- — (mouth the words)
63 Pantry container
64 Got older
65 Alternative to Mazola or Crisco
66 Charlemagne ruled it: Abbr.
67 Bro's sibling
68 Suit well
69 Orch. section with timpani, cymbals, etc.
71 Performs like Drake
72 Jacob's twin
73 Twain's Huck
74 Clamor
75 Hoodwink
76 Gets trite
77 "La Cage — Folles"
78 Muss, as hair
79 "I concur"
80 Chili dogs
83 Headliner
84 "Ciao 4 now"
86 Beat others in claiming something
88 Dojo surface
89 Old verb suffix
90 Remade musicals, e.g.
91 "Showdown" rock gp.
93 "Easy-peasy"
97 Polish capital
98 Start for Pen or dermis
100 Barely earns, with "out"
101 Informed (of)
102 Still in bed
103 Garbo of old movies
104 Singer Fitzgerald
106 Gyro wraps
110 Ship of myth
111 Sleek, in brief
112 "Fast Money" network
113 "Watermark" singer
115 A party to
116 Constellation next to Hercules
119 Oahu, e.g.: Abbr.
120 Atop, in odes
121 Scot's dissent
122 Raised trains



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Puzzle answers page 4

Serving the people of Tucker County since 1896

THANK YOU FOR READING

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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From Davis to The Farm: Tucker County's Own Earns Stanford Degree

Local 2022 graduate caps a remarkable college career with honors, leadership, and big plans ahead

The road out of Davis is a narrow one, winding through the high country before it ever reaches the wider world. Nevaeh Nichols followed it all the way to California and this spring, she came out the other side with a Stanford degree in hand.

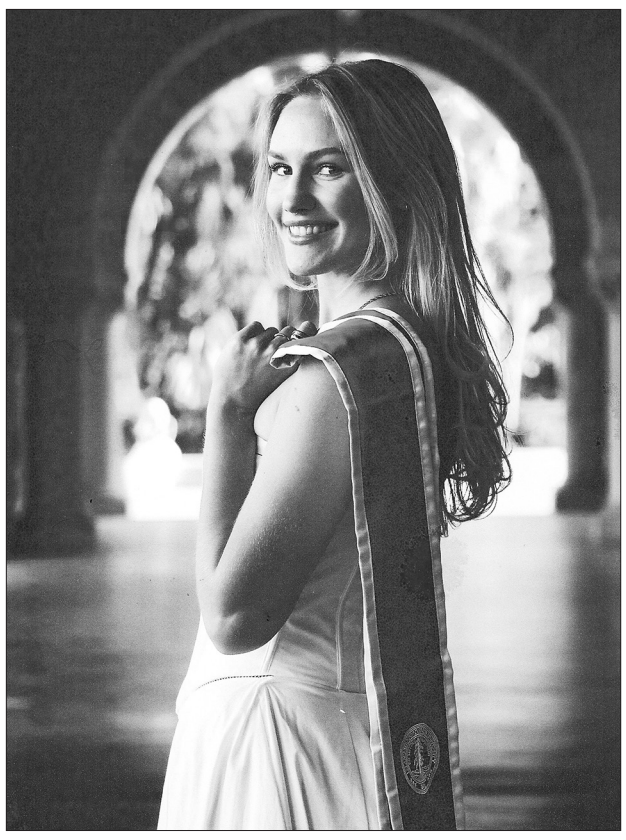
A 2022 graduate of Tucker County High School, Nevaeh has earned her Bachelor of Arts in International Relations from Stanford University, graduating with distinction in the top 10 percent of her class. A first-generation, low-income student and the first in her family to attend college, she arrived on "The Farm" - as Stanford is known carrying her Appalachian roots clear across the country, and proceeded to make the most of every opportunity within reach.

At Stanford, she built her studies around a primary specialization in International Security and a secondary one in Comparative International Governance, capping the degree with a policy practicum under Professor Erica Gould. Over a single quarter, she conducted a research project for CARE International that went on to inform the organization's advocacy around the International Labour Organization's Convention 190-proof that even an undergraduate's work can travel well beyond the classroom.

And travel it did. Nevaeh's college years were defined less by lecture halls than by the places her curiosity took her. As a Cardinal Quarter Fellow through Stanford's Haas Center for Public Service, she completed four fellowships, three of them spent close to home, working summers with the Tucker Community Foundation in Parsons. She studied in Florence and she worked in Washington through the Stanford in Washington program, serving in the office of U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley. She also served as a Young Diplomats Fellow in Brussels, getting a firsthand look at international diplomacy, and during the school year she interned with the Council on Foreign Relations on its Corporate Affairs team.

Her credentials reached the highest levels of public service. Nevaeh was selected for - and received Secret-level security clearance for the U.S. State Department's Foreign Service Internship Program, assigned to the Office of Global Criminal Justice. The placement was ultimately cancelled amid the 2025 federal hiring freeze, but the selection alone marked her as one of the country's most promising young people drawn to diplomacy. Back on campus her senior year, she brought that same seriousness to the everyday, advising fellow students on their finances as a Member Advisor and Student Ambassador at the Stanford Federal Credit Union.

If there's a thread running through all of it, it's leadership. Nevaeh served as financial officer for Stanford Planned Parenthood Generation Action and belonged to both Stanford Women in Law and the Stanford Pre-Law Society. She joined Kappa Alpha Theta her freshman year,



stepped up as Human Resources Director her sophomore year, and sat on the DEI Committee, where she advocated for first-generation and low-income students like herself.

Her largest role came as President of Stanford's Intersorority Council, where she led every sorority on campus. Working directly with university administration, she pushed to mend the long-strained relationship between Greek life and the institution and championed more equitable housing - an effort that will see each sorority meeting standards earn a house of its own. For that dedication to service and to the broader Stanford community, she was honored with the Stanford Alumni Association's Award of Excellence.

What comes next keeps her pointed toward the public good. This fall, Nevaeh heads to Los Angeles to join Edelson PC, a plaintiff-side firm, where she'll work as a mass torts paralegal focused on wildfire litigation. The longer plan is law school - a J.D., and a career in international humanitarian or international criminal law, taking on mass atrocities and the treaties meant to prevent them.

From a town of a few hundred in the West Virginia highlands, to the heart of Silicon Valley, to Europe, and now to Los Angeles, Nevaeh Nichols has carried Tucker County with her every step of the way. Her friends, family, and neighbors couldn't be prouder - and they'll be watching, eagerly, to see where the road leads next.

Opinions

Dear Editor Crawley,

Thank you for asking the Fundamental Data representatives, at the Davis Town Hall May 16th, if nuclear energy--that 20th century costly and deadly energy technology--was a part of Fundamental Data's proposed development. Your insightful question allowed all who listened that Fundamental Data's plans include three phases, and nuclear is potentially a part of their "baseload solution."

I am quoting above, and below, in this paragraph, a letter written by Fundamental Data to several members of Congress. Some of these members of Congress had expressed concerns about Fundamental Data's plans for Tucker and Grant County and had written to the company to express those concerns.

In a March 27th letter, addressed to The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse, Casey L. Chapman of Fundamental Data responded to these Congress members' concerns. Chapman wrote that "nuclear is a critical long-term asset for this country, and it is a technology we are actively considering as part of this project's future development." The letter goes on to state that "a close look at the current U.S. development pipeline reveals that there is virtually no new nuclear capacity capable of producing energy by 2030."

The reason that there is no "nuclear capacity" is because of the 20th century reality: huge, costly nuclear developments with cost overruns; nuclear waste and the problem of where to dispose of it; and accidents like Three Mile Island. These realities made it all too clear that nuclear energy was not the peacetime boon its promoters claimed it would be, as they sought to take what had been developed as a weapon used by President Truman in WWII and turn it into a domestic energy option. The improved capability of truly renewable energy sources (especially when scaled small, and locally or regionally) and their decreasing cost further made nuclear energy undesirable. Nuclear has progressed since that time (for example, smaller reactors), but despite these advances has never regained the traction its promoters sought last century.

It seems Fundamental Data not only is NOT transparent as to its overall plans, but also seeks, along with billionaire/millionaire investors now again promoting nuclear energy in our current century, to foist onto the citizens of Tucker and Grant county more possibilities of destruction of our way of life. Diversification of our tourism economy is desperately needed, but not at the expense of our peace of mind.

Deborah Stiles
Limestone Mountain Farm, St. George

Ridgeline Data Center Comments

Story of Origin:

My immigrant ancestors, Rhinehart Dumire (Tomire) and his wife Louisa (?) immigrated to America in 1799 along with their young son John, whose line from which I am descended. They settled in Funkstown, MD for one year prior to moving to Tucker County in 1800 at the top of Location Road on Stemple Ridge between St. George and Aurora. Rhinehart, who had been a whaler from the Palatinate Region of Germany became a farmer. Rhinehart and Louisa are buried in a small cemetery right beside Location Road on the land now owned by the Pifer family.

Rhinehart's son Daniel J. continued to operate the farm while his brother John started his own farm on Minear's Mill Run in St. George where his log home still stands. It is the oldest standing house in Tucker County. John's son Daniel continued to farm on Mill Run and was followed by his son, my grandfather Wilson, until he decided to give up farming and moved to Thomas in the early 1930's with his daughter Ethel who taught at the former Central School across from The Davis Coal & Coke Co. Administrative Office.

Wilson had my father, Paul Dyhre Dumire who started working for Davis Coal & Coke out of the Administrative Office as a civil engineer. He lived to see the mergers and name changes of the company during his time being: Western Maryland Railway Field Office, then Chessie System, then CSX and finally CSX Transportation. Father worked his way up in the company and ended his career as the last Administrator of the Thomas railway office before it closed in 1985. Mother worked in the audit department of the central Buxton & Landstreet Co. Store until she became pregnant with my older sister.

I graduated from Mountaineer High School in 1970 and then went on for a higher education at WVU. My first job was at Canaan Valley State Part at the golf course during the summer and as manager of the ski shop during the winter. At this point I spent forty years away having spent twenty years in commercial banking and twenty more in the housing industry. Upon retirement I moved back to Thomas and purchased a house down the street from where I grew up and began spending my time volunteering for non-profit organizations and working in the garden. I have also successfully done the work of placing the Buxton & Landstreet Co. Store, and the National Bank of Davis on the National Register of Historic Places.

Oppose or Support the Ridgeline Project:

I adamantly oppose the Ridgeline Project. I reject the cloud of secrecy that has surrounded the project from the beginning. This causes fear of the true intentions of the developers and the true impact on our beautiful county. I reject the significant air pollution Ridgeline will bring, the negative impact of Walmart type lighting on our dark skies initiative, the noise pollution created by the constant humming sound, the massive water use when we don't have the capacity to locally provide that amount of water especially considering the drought of the past two years, the potential for leaking valves from the oil storage tanks, and the size of the operation considering 10,000 acres equals 15.625 square miles. Approximately 140-150 years later we are still paying for the damage caused by coal mines which produced acid mine drainage, and ground collapses due to failing mine voids. Let's not allow something similar to happen with Ridgeline. Buyer beware.

Other Thoughts:

Having grown up in Thomas, I learned early on to appreciate our crystal-clear trout streams, safe drinking water, the beauty of our dense forests and abundant wildlife, the comfort of our mountain climate, the ability to hike in our beautiful forests, and the intimacy and caring of our small communities.

The State and Federal government are both doing a good job of taking away our rights as American citizens to determine our own destiny and forcing their desires down our throats instead of listening to the voice of the people. They are destroying environmental regulations which protect not only the local environment but also the world environment. They are taking away our right to freedom of speech. They are seizing our land for projects we don't want. They are taking away our right to vote. They are destroying Democracy. This is scary. I sincerely fear we are headed to a dictatorship in this country. God help us all.

Others to Speak With:

Friends of Blackwater, West Virginia Rivers Coalition, Friends of Cheat, Sierra Club, West Virginia Highlands Conservancy.

Joseph Wilson Dumire
Thomas

LEGAL

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

Deceased	Personal Representative(s)
Adam Cale	Jacqueline G Cale
1st publication 06/24/2026	6498 Holly Meadow Road
2nd publication 06/01/2026	Parsons, WV 26287

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

ATTEST: Barbara Evans, TUCKER COUNTY CLERK

Opinion

Go North Alliance: Corridor H Opening Time to Question Remaining Route

By: Barbara Weaner
The Go North Alliance

On June 22, the Governor joined federal, state, and local officials, highway workers, contractors, consultants, and citizens including a sign-carrying Go North delegation, to open a section of Corridor H between Kerens in Randolph County and Rt. 72 north of Parsons in Tucker County. Eleven years of construction had extended the highway eleven miles.

From the west, 43 miles of the four-lane are now open from I-79 at Weston to Parsons. Construction is ongoing on 3.5 miles from Rt. 72 across the Cheat River bridge to US 219 at Mackeyville. From the east, 66 miles are open from Wardensville to Davis. As ever, Parsons to Davis is the missing piece in the middle. (A shorter outlier from Wardensville to the Virginia border is scheduled for completion before Parsons to Davis begins.)

Other reasons besides its difficulty can help explain why the 10-mile stretch from Parsons to Davis was saved for last. For one, ease of access for visitors from the east to Tucker County's four-season attractions offered a more likely payoff than any other "economic development." Thus, once the corridor reached Elkins, the focus jumped to that side. Now it has returned.

Nevertheless, it is true that the Tucker County connection has been regarded as the

most problematic of the entire corridor. Looking at the just-opened section as a rehearsal for that project, we are worried. Numerous issues plagued and lengthened its years of construction. Most visible has been the bridge over 219 at Moore. The site had to be completely reconstructed after discovery that its piers had slipped. As far as we know, the state and the contractor are still litigating each party's responsibility. We hope there are no further consequences.

For insights into the problems that travelers don't see, we asked Barbara Weaner, who with her husband Scott has lived on a farm on South Haddix Run for fifty years. Here's Barbara's report:

The watershed upstream of us is entirely in the Monongahela National Forest. South Haddix was a breeding native brook trout stream prior to the highway construction. Massive clearcuts and obliteration of many ephemeral streams caused dramatic changes in sedimentation, which not only killed the trout but increased flooding.

The worst flooding in the last 50 years occurred on South Haddix Run on May 26, 2024, shortly after the highway was paved. Water ran off the surface and shot out of the new culverts down steep hollows degraded by construction fill, discarded timber and rubble. Huge volumes of water barreled through our hollow, carrying large trees onto our pastures. Our farm fences were torn down. The stream broke out of its banks, across our fields, into our pond, which then broke out of its banks, flooding the roadway across the hollow. Not even during the flood of 1985 did we see anything like it.

Since then, high water events have continued. The most recent was on May 27, when more than 3 feet of water covered 219 at the newly paved exit ramp at Moore. 219 was closed for many hours. Heavy rain overwhelmed poorly designed drainage ditches and inadequate culverts.

That new intersection is confusing and dangerous in other ways. The ramp exits into a tight curve on an abrupt hump. It's a blind spot coming from either direction on 219. It's probably lucky the flood happened during daylight -- if it had been dark, fatalities would have been likely.

We have maintained good relationships with the highway department, the Department of Environmental Protection and the West Virginia Rivers Coalition, reporting problems with stream turbidity and flooding. During the last five years, there have been dozens of violations and fines.

But the Governor and other officials celebrated the grand opening of the Kerens to Parsons section while these problems remained uncorrected.

The next section of the road from Mackeyville to Davis will cover steeper terrain. Many more trout streams will be threatened. Will our state's highway department, the Federal Highway Administration and the DEP learn from the mistakes made on earlier sections? Will citizens get trained in stream monitoring and participate in the Rivers Coalition's Citizens Scientist program? Will citizens be willing to report flooding, stream sedimentation and erosion along the construction path? Will less destructive practices and a better route be instituted?

LEGAL

DAVIS WATER WORKS
WV3304701
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 or if you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please attend any regularly scheduled water board meeting held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Davis Town Hall, 505 William Ave., or call ALAN TOMSON at 304-866-4801.

Your water comes from Surface water:

Source Name	Source Water Type
INTAKE WEIMER RUN	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 952 and is required to test a minimum of 1 sample(s) per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public.

Water Quality Data

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

Terms & Abbreviations

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Parts per Million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/1)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Testing Results for: DAVIS WATER WORKS

Regulated Contaminants	Facility Name	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
BARIUM	Treatment Plant	10/1/2025	0.013	0.013	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
HEXACHLOROCYCLOPENTADIENE	Treatment Plant	5/2/2023	0.6	0.6	ppb	50	50	Discharge from chemical factories
NITRATE	Treatment Plant	6/4/2025	0.051	0.051	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
NITRATE-NITRITE	Treatment Plant	5/2/2023	0.06	0.02-0.06	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection Byproducts	Sample Point	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	DOLLAR STORE	2025	8	2-7	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM	DOLLAR STORE	2025	4	0-3	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	0.0958	0-0.226	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
COPPER, FREE	2025	0.0577		ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD	2023-2025	29.2	0-49.2	ppb	15	3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
LEAD	2025	8.4		ppb	15	2	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 formula fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. DAVIS WATER WORKS 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 DAVIS WATER WORKS and ALAN TOMSON at 304-259-5502. 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.

DAVIS WATER WORKS completed lead tap sampling in 2023-2025, the results are available for review and can be accessed by contacting Frank Sharp, Chief Operator of Davis Water Treatment Plant, 124 Aqua Drive at 304-259-5502 or water operator@daviswv.us.

DAVIS WATER WORKS has prepared a service line inventory identifying service line materials throughout the water distribution supply. The most up to date inventory is located at Davis Town Hall, 105 William Ave. 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 did not identify any **lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or lead status unknown** service lines in our inventory. Due to this, we are exempt from having to 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 ALAN TOMSON at 304-866-4801.

Source Water Assessment and Protection

When required by West Virginia State law, DAVIS WATER WORKS 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 ALAN TOMSON at 304-866-4801. 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 WVBPH website: https://www.wvdhhr.orq/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
12/1/2025 - 12/31/2025	1.70000	MG/L	1.60000	MG/L

Total Organic Carbon Lowest Month for Removal	Facility Name	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	TT	Typical Source
CARBON, TOTAL	INTAKE WEIMER RUN	7/16/2025	9.6	0-9.6	MG/L	0	Naturally present in the environment

Analyte	Facility	Highest Value	Unit of Measure	Month Occurred
Turbidity	TREATMENT PLANT	0.3	NTU	April

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	0.3	April	Treatment Plant	Yes

Total Organic Carbon

The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system mat 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	7/16/2025	9.6	0-9.6	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	10/1/2025	20.4	20.4	MG/L	20
SULFATE	10/1/2025	2.5	2.5	Mg/L	250

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
342543	7/1/2025 - 12/31/2025	WATER QUALITY PARAMETER M/R (LCR)	MON	TEMPERATURE (CENTIGRADE)	Failed to meet water quality parameter sampling or reporting requirements	Working with State to correct
342550	7/1/2025 - 12/31/2025	WATER QUALITY PARAMETER M/R (LCR)	MON	TEMPERATURE (CENTIGRADE)	Failed to meet water quality parameter sampling or reporting requirements	Working with State to correct
342539	7/1/2025 - 12/31/2025	WATER QUALITY PARAMETER M/R (LCR)	MON	SILICA	Failed to meet water quality parameter sampling or reporting requirements	Working with State to correct
342546	7/1/2025 - 12/31/2025	WATER QUALITY PARAMETER M/R (LCR)	MON	SILICA	Failed to meet water quality parameter sampling or reporting requirements	Working with State to correct
342541	7/1/2025 - 12/31/2025	WATER QUALITY PARAMETER M/R (LCR)	MON	PH	Failed to meet water quality parameter sampling or reporting requirements	Working with State to correct
342548	7/1/2025 - 12/31/2025	WATER QUALITY PARAMETER M/R (LCR)	MON	PH	Failed to meet water quality parameter sampling or reporting requirements	Working with State to correct
342538	7/1/2025 - 12/31/2025	WATER QUALITY PARAMETER M/R (LCR)	MON	ORTHOPHOSPHATE	Failed to meet water quality parameter sampling or reporting requirements	Working with State to correct
342545	7/1/2025 - 12/31/2025	WATER QUALITY PARAMETER M/R (LCR)	MON	ORTHOPHOSPHATE	Failed to meet water quality parameter sampling or reporting requirements	Working with State to correct
342540	7/1/2025 - 12/31/2025	WATER QUALITY PARAMETER M/R (LCR)	MON	CONDUCTIVITY@ 25 CUM HOS/CM	Failed to meet water quality parameter sampling or reporting requirements	Working with State to correct
342547	7/1/2025 - 12/31/2025	WATER QUALITY PARAMETER M/R (LCR)	MON	CONDUCTIVITY@ 25 CUM HOS/CM	Failed to meet water quality parameter sampling or reporting requirements	Working with State to correct
342544	7/1/2025 - 12/31/2025	WATER QUALITY PARAMETER M/R (LCR)	MON	CALCIUM	Failed to meet water quality parameter sampling or reporting requirements	Working with State to correct
342551	7/1/2025 - 12/31/2025	WATER QUALITY PARAMETER M/R (LCR)	MON	CALCIUM	Failed to meet water quality parameter sampling or reporting requirements	Working with State to correct
342542	7/1/2025 - 12/31/2025	WATER QUALITY PARAMETER M/R (LCR)	MON	ALKALINITY, TOTAL	Failed to meet water quality parameter sampling or reporting requirements	Working with State to correct
342549	7/1/2025 - 12/31/2025	WATER QUALITY PARAMETER M/R (LCR)	MON	ALKALINITY, TOTAL	Failed to quality parameter sampling or reporting requirements	Working with State to correct
342537	11/25/2025	PUBLIC EDUCATION (LCR)	TT	LEAD & COPPER RULE	Failed to provide education that meets requirements or to report education information on time	Working with State to correct
342552	12/30/2025	LEAD CONSUMER NOTICE LCR)	MON	LEAD & COPPER RULE	Failed to meet content, delivery, and/or reporting requirements for lead consumer notification	Working with State to correct

Additional Required Health Effects Language:

Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Infants and children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-4264761).

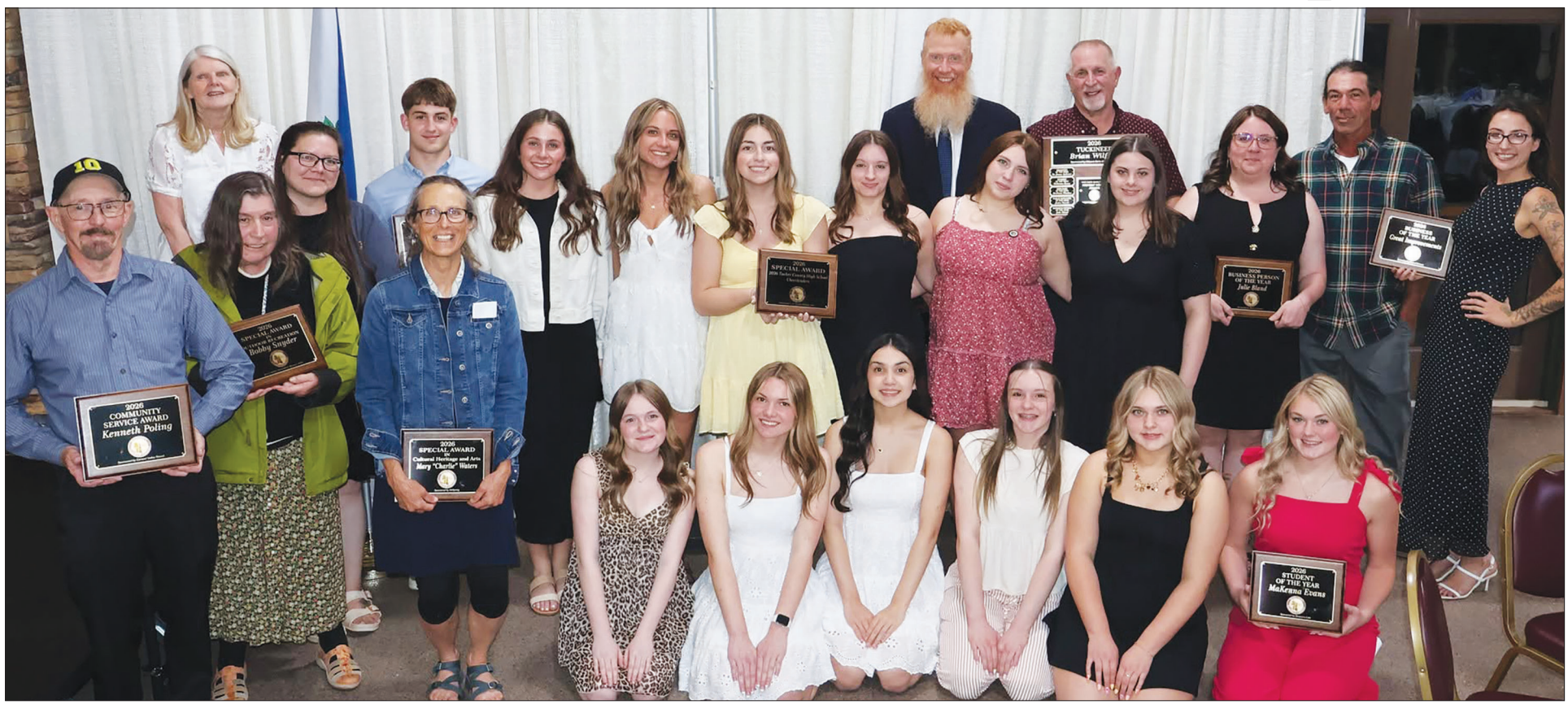
Additional Required Health Effects Violation notices:

Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Your CCR is available at Davis Town Hall, 105 William Ave. or by accessing the Town website at https://daviswv.us. A copy of this report will not be mailed; to receive a paper copy in the mail, please contact us at the phone number above.

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM

2026 Chamber Awards Banquet





























The 2026 Tucker County Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet was held May 21st at the Bear Paw Lodge at Canaan Valley State Park. This year's deserving Tuckineer was announced as Tucker County's own Magistrate Judge Brian Wilfong. Wilfong received his award along with fellow 2026 award recipients: Educator of the Year: Mr. James Ambrose; Student of the Year: Makenna Evans; Athlete of the Year: Reid Kisamore; Employee of the Year: Barbara Worden; Public Employee of the Year, Jessica Streets; Business Person of the Year: Julie Bland; Business of the Year: Great Improvements; Community Service Award: Kenneth Poling; Cultural Heritage and Arts: Mary "Charlie" Waters; Outdoor Recreation: Bobby Snyder; Special Award: Tucker County High School Cheerleaders. Sponsors for this year's awards included: Mountain Hospice, Sirianni's Café, Great Improvements, Inn at Canaan. Tucker Community Foundation, Best of Canaan, Canaan Collection, Canaan Valley Resort, ArtSpring, Snowsports Museum of WV, St. George Medical Clinic and Citizens Bank of West Virginia. Photos courtesy of the Tucker County Chamber of Commerce and David Cooper.

CUNNINGHAM KNOB

Cont. From Page 2

surrounded by remnant red spruce forests. These ecosystems support native brook trout, rare plant communities and numerous wildlife species, as well as a proud local cattle ranching tradition.

We acquired this beautiful property to restore and protect its unique habitats, and to eventually transfer ownership to the Monongahela National Forest. We made a substantial investment to not only purchase and hold the property, but to reforest stream corridors. And we worked with local landowners and contractors to fence the reforested areas and property boundaries so that portions of the property and adjacent private lands could be managed for cattle grazing, continuing historic local land use that maintains lush pastures for grassland birds and other wildlife species.

We truly value our long-term partnership with the United States Forest Service. Our work together has enabled conservation at the landscape scale. We are excited to see this land added to the Monongahela National Forest, where it will be stewarded for nature and future generations."

Visitors are asked to respect the existing closure order affecting two limited locations in the area. The closure order can be found on our website.

FIND US ON

CASE

Cont. From Front Page 1

and a $1,000 fine consecutive. Judge Shaffer also said that he would recommend, should DiBartolomeo violate parole, that he serve the full sentence of 30 years.

"I'm doing this because of the State's recommendation," Judge Shaffer said. "The victim believes it will bring the family together."

However, another reason existed for the sentences. Wilkins said that the victim feared for his safety and wanted the longest supervision over the defendants as possible. With a parole board, there was always the possibility that the defendants would be back on the streets in a couple of years, she said. With the seven years probation, the victim is assured of protection for as long as possible.

"(They) would come up for parole far sooner than if we have (them) under our supervision," Wilkins said.

DiBartolomeo spoke in Court. He blamed his actions that night on a "drinking problem" and said that it cost him everything, including his family and a 15 year career. However, he said he had been sober for 14 months and looked forward to continued sobriety.

"This isn't me," DiBartolomeo said. "I have a drinking problem, a real drinking problem...I did things that I shouldn't. I lost more than most do in a lifetime. There is no one's more sorry than me."

Levi McCauley was sentenced as well on June 18th by Judge Shaffer. He appeared in Court along with his attorney Todd LeNeve. Tucker County Prosecuting Attorney Savannah Hull Wilkins represented the prosecution. McCauley's sentencing stemmed from a December 10, 2025 plea agreement in Tucker County Circuit Court.

Under the plea agreement, McCauley plead guilty to one count of felony Burglary. All other counts in his case were dismissed. Judge Shaffer sentenced McCauley to 1-15 years, suspended for seven years probation with GPS monitored home confinement. As with DiBartolomeo, Judge Shaffer made it clear that if McCauley breaks parole, he will recommend that McCauley serve the full 15 years of his sentence.

"The parole board needs to know what happened there that night with a cord around his neck," Judge Shaffer said.

McCauley spoke in court and said that he would like to be given a chance to prove to the world that he is not who everyone thinks he is. He also said he only wants to do things right.

"I would like to be given the chance to prove to everybody that I'm not the person they make me out to be," McCauley said.

Crystal Hensley was the last of the defendants in the case to be sentenced June 18th. She appeared in Court with her attorney James Hawkins. Tucker County Prosecuting Attorney Savannah Hull Wilkins represented the prosecution.

In a plea agreement on April 14th, Hensley plead guilty to three counts. On one count of felony burglary, Judge Shaffer sentenced Hensley to 1-15 years; on one count of felony conspiracy, she was sentenced to 1-5 years and to one count of misdemeanor battery, she was sentenced to 1 year and a $500 fine, with all to be served consecutively. As with the others, Judge Shaffer suspended the sentence for 7 years of probation, but made it clear that if probation was violated he would recommend that the full 21 years be served.

"It is a very, very serious case," Judge Shaffer said. "We could just as easily be sitting here with a murder charge. What would have happened if he had a heart attack that night?"

Hensley spoke in Court of taking responsibility for her actions in a brief statement.

"I'm sorry about everything that happened and I hold responsibility for it," Hensley said.

During the hearing, Wilkins said that the victim has not informed any of his family where he has moved to out of fear. The attack has also left him with flashbacks and trust issues, she said. Of DiBartolomeo, Wilkins said, "There is enough evidence he should be looking at life." However, she said that is not what the victim wanted. He just wanted it to be over and for his family to heal because it had been divided in two following the attack and arrests.

Judge Shaffer read to the Court from the Victim Impact Statement. In it, the victim requested the longest amount of time possible for his own personal safety.

"I fear for my safety and want the longest supervision possible," Judge Shaffer read.

Judge Shaffer also noted the impact the case will have on everyone involved in the case.

"The victim and the people involved will live with this the rest of their lives," Judge Shaffer said.

Wilkins, who was prepared to play the audio of the case, only quoted from it. According to Wilkins, in the audio, Trenton DiBartolomeo can be heard threatening the victim, "I will tie you up and find the money. I will break a finger every 15 minutes." The money in question was disputed to have been stolen by the victim from the grandmother of the DiBartolomeo brothers, according to the defendants and was the sole reason for the four defendants being at the victim's home that night.

McCauley said he was the one who untied the victim. However, Wilkins said the recording is said to have McCauley's voice, "You know why I'm here? I'm here to hold him back."

During McCauley's sentencing, several character witnesses spoke on his behalf. First was Harrison Cummings of Cummings Construction. Cummings said he had been McCauley's employer since September of 2020 and found him to be, "the most dependable, most reliable person who has ever worked for us" and added, "I wish we had five or six of him." Cummings also commented that he was genuinely shocked by what happened.

Next was Adam Schneider, a pastor and McCauley's weight lifting partner. He said he met McCauley seven years ago and tried to get him to go to church for six years. Schneider claimed there has been a change in McCauley over the past six months.

"There's a big change. We've been having more conversations on what it means to become a man," Schneider said.

Schneider said all four defendants were parents and that the assault never should have happened.

"All four were parents, they should have been in bed getting ready for work," Schneider said. "This never should have happened. Levi has agreed."

Last to speak was McCauley's mother, Denese Saltis. She said that he had shown more promise in the past six months than he ever had in the past. She called him a hard worker and said that he always worked hard whenever she needed him.

Judge Shaffer applauded McCauley for attending Church, but said that what happened that night was "uncivilized."

"If we did not have civil laws, we would have an uncivilized world," Judge Shaffer said. "When people show up at your house in the middle of the night, tie cords around you and strangle you, this is what an uncivilized world looks like."

Judge Shaffer also said during the day's proceedings that he wished that the Court had been filled with the family of the defendants so that they could hear the details of the case and know exactly what transpired that night. He also said he was disappointed that it did not happen.

Of the four defendants, the victim only knew two, the DiBartolomeo brothers. McCauley and Hensley were in a relationship, according to Wilkins and McCauley was a friend of the DiBartolomeos. Hensley had no connection, other than McCauley.

During McCauley's hearing, Schneider said there had even been talk of marriage between McCauley and Hensley. Hensley's attorney, Hawkins, even brought up the no contact order and the fact that his client and McCauley were in a relationship. Hawkins further enquired about the possibility of lessening the restrictions on Hensley and McCauley's order to allow them to continue the relationship unhindered in the future, but acknowledged that he knew it would be some time before anything like that could be arranged. Judge Shaffer said that "today is not the day to ask for that." In fact, even the DiBartolomeo brothers are barred from contacting each other under the terms of the probation.

"This is a life changing event," Judge Shaffer said. You have a family split."

Wilkins said during Hensley's hearing that Hensley plead guilty to holding a knife to victim's throat. Wilkins called Hensley's enthusiasm during the assault "disturbing" as the victim begs for help and quoted from a transcript of the audio. "Every time you look away from me, you're going to pay for it," Wilkins read from the transcript.

"Her enthusiasm and willingness to jump right into the violence is quite disturbing," Wilkins said.

Judge Shaffer commented on the knife.

"I can't imagine having a knife like that against someone's throat. What is going through someone's mind," Judge Shaffer said.

All three defendants are jointly responsible for $7,700 in restitution and they are prohibited from owning or possessing firearms. All three defendants are also under a no contact order that prohibits them from contacting each other and the victim.

Cory DiBartolomeo entered into a Deferred Adjudication agreement January 7th in which he plead guilty to one count of felony Conspiracy. However, due to the terms of the agreement, adjudication of the charge will be deferred in lieu of three years probation under the court determined terms. If probation is successfully completed, at the end of the three years, he can motion to withdraw the plea with objection by the State.

Citizens Bank of WV Announces Retirements



IT Coordinator Jeffery W. Lipscomb



Vice President & Financial Center Manager Shawn O. Nichols

Citizens Bank of West Virginia has announced the retirements of two valued team members at our Thomas Financial Center. Vice President & Financial Center Manager Shawn O. Nichols, retired on Thursday, June 25, 2026, and IT Coordinator Jeffery W. Lipscomb, retired Tuesday, June 30, 2026. Both Nichols and Lipscomb devoted the majority of their banking careers to Miners & Merchants Bank prior to its acquisition by Citizens in March 2026 and continued their service through the transition.

Nichols began his banking career with Miners & Merchants Bank in 1994 as a Loan Officer. Over the course of his 32-year career, he advanced through a series of leadership roles, including Vice President & Cashier and President & CEO. Following the acquisition in March 2026, Nichols joined Citizens Bank of West Virginia as Vice President & Financial Center Manager, a position he held until his retirement.

Nichols earned an associate degree from WVU Potomac State College and a Bachelor of Science from West Virginia University. He also completed the West Virginia School of Banking.

A resident of Parsons, he is married to Kathy Nichols and has two children, Ian and Elizabeth. He is a member of Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish.

Lipscomb began his career with Miners & Merchants Bank in 2015 as a part-time Information Technology Coordinator and transitioned to a full-time role in 2020.

Following the acquisition, he continued his career with Citizens as IT Coordinator, supporting the Bank's technology operations. He will retire with over 11 years of dedicated service.

He attended WVU Potomac State College, where he earned his Cisco Certified Network Associate certification through the Cisco Networking Academy. He is also an A+ Certified IT Technician.

A resident of Aurora, he is married to Pam Lipscomb and has two children, Aron (wife Haylee) and Trevor (wife Alyssa). He is affectionately known as "PapJ" to his beloved grandchildren, Carter, Kamden, and Colsen.

"Shawn and Jeff's knowledge and dedication played a pivotal role in ensuring a smooth transition for both customers and employees of Miners & Merchants Bank," said Nathaniel S. Bonnell, President & CEO. "We are proud to recognize their years of service, their impact on the communities they served so well, and wish them both the very best in retirement."

About Citizens Bank of West Virginia Citizens Bank of West Virginia, with $775 million in assets, provides integrated financial services including retail and commercial banking, wealth management, and mortgage services from eight financial centers in West Virginia, including Elkins, Bayard, Beverly, Buckhannon, New Martinsville, Parsons, and Thomas, as well as one location in Oakland, Maryland. The bank is a wholly owned subsidiary of Citizens Financial Corp. (OTC: CIWV). Citizens Bank is 5-Star rated and ranked among the strongest banks in the nation by Bauer Financial—the nation's leading independent banking rating firm. The bank is also recognized as one of West Virginia's Top 10 Performing Banks by the prestigious Bank Performance Report. Citizens is ranked 22nd on American Banker's list of the Best Banks to Work For and has received numerous regional honors, including WV Living's Best Corporate Citizen; The Inter-Mountain's People's Choice awards for Best Bank, Mortgage Lender, Customer Service, and Employer; and The Record Delta's Best Place to Work and Mortgage Provider. Additionally, Citizens Bank has been named among American Banker's Top Performing Publicly Traded Community Banks under $2 billion in assets and recognized by Newsweek's America's Best Banks list as the Best Small Bank in West Virginia. The bank has also been named SBA West Virginia Community Lender of the Year and ranked No. 9 nationally by the Independent Community Bankers of America in the consumer/mortgage category for banks with $300M–$1B in assets. More information is available online at www.citizenswv.com.

Mt. MD Music Institute set for July 6-10 at GC

Choral, instrumental band, and piano options available by age group

MCHENRY, MD – The Mountain Maryland Music Institute, in its 10th year of operation, will be offering three courses as part of a summer enrichment program July 6-10 in the Performing Arts Center at Garrett College.

Elementary choral (ages 9-12, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.), instrumental band (13-17, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.), and piano (8-17, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.) courses are all scheduled.

The primary focus of the choral course will be singing with movement in preparation to perform a mini-musical. The piano course will focus on technique, repertoire, and music theory in a group setting. The primary focus of the instrumental band course will be technique, ensemble repertoire, and music theory.

Students in all three courses will have the opportunity to enjoy swimming at the Edwards Community Aquatic and Recreation Complex. They will also participate in a public performance, which will be the culminating event in which students can display their progress.

The cost for each course is $249, and space is limited.

Scholarships are available for participants demonstrating financial need through the Community Trust Foundation and the Naylor Family Trust Fund. This summer enrichment program is also funded in part by the Robinson Family Endowment through the Garrett College Foundation.

The primary purpose of the MMMI is to provide additional support and opportunities for local public music education programs, as well as homeschool networks in and around Garrett County.

For more information, please go to https://www.garrettcollege.edu/mmmi.php or contact Dr. Sean Beachy (sean.beachy@garrettcollege.edu, 301.387.3106).

LET US KNOW "WHAT'S HAPPENING"
304-478-3533
DEADLINE 3PM FRIDAY

Mon power energy project to public comment July 15

CHARLESTON - The Public Service Commission of West Virginia has scheduled a virtual and in-person public comment hearing for July into construction of a $2.48 billion gas-electric generation plant in Monongalia County and three solar energy projects.

The hearing is set for 5:30 p.m. July 15 at the PSC hearing room at 201 Brooks St., Charleston.

On February 13, Monongahela Power Co. and The Potomac Edison Co. filed an application to construct a 1,200-megawatt (MW) combined cycle gas plant at the Fort Martín Power Station in Monongalia County, and to construct 70 MW of solar generation at three sites: Valley Point near Albright, Preston County; adjacent to the town of Davis, Tucker County; and near Weirton. The combined cost of the solar projects is estimated at $182 million.

The application is for an expected shortfall in electrical-generation capacity beginning in 2029.

The companies are seeking an initial surcharge to pay for the projects, which would result in an average increase in customer bills of 0.9 percent, or $1.18 a month.

Those who wish to participate in the public comment hearing should register with the Commission by 4 p.m. on July 10. Registration may be made through the Microsoft Teams meeting link at: https://bit.ly/wvpsc20260715. You may also register by calling Alexis Weimer at (304) 340-0822 or Andrew Gallagher at (304) 340-0820; or by emailing aweimer@psc.state.wv.us or agallagher@psc.state.wv.us.

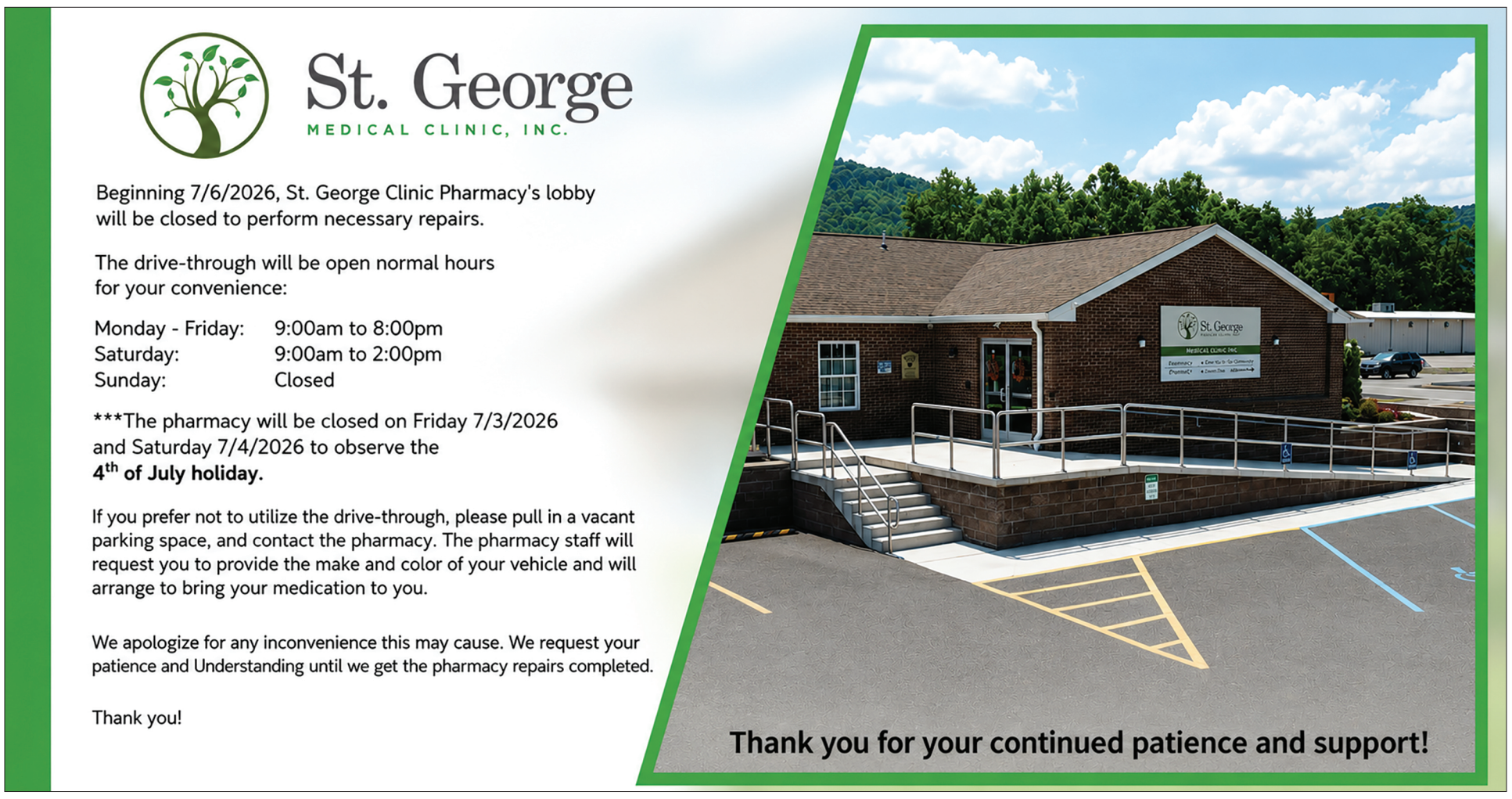
Those who wish to attend in person should sign up to speak prior to 5:30 p.m. As an alternative to speaking, written comments regarding this case may be submitted by mail or hand delivery to the Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, WV 25323, or online at www.psc.state.wv.us by clicking on "Submit a Comment" in the left column and following the directions provided. All written comments should be marked as pertaining to Case No. 26-0108-E-CN.

More information on this case can be found on the PSC website: www.psc.state.wv.us. Click on "Case Information" and access Case No. 26-0108-E-CN.











The Grant County Bank Completes Transition to Highlands Bank Name and Brand

PETERSBURG, W.Va. - The Grant County Bank today announced the official transition of its name and brand identity to Highlands Bank. The change marks a significant milestone in the institution's long history of service and now better reflects its continued growth across communities throughout the region.

The new Highlands Bank brand includes a new logo and tagline, refreshed signage and informational materials in the branches, updated social media channels, and a redesigned website at www.highlands.bank.

"The response since we announced the Highlands Bank name has been overwhelmingly positive," said George Ford, President and CEO. "Revealing the full brand identity today builds on that momentum and reflects the pride we feel in serving this region."

The transition is a brand update only. There will be no changes to ownership, customer accounts, services, or day-to-day banking operations. Customers will continue to work with the same local teams they know and trust, and all existing accounts, digital banking tools, and branch services will remain fully intact.

"As our bank continues to grow, it's important that our brand reflects who we are today," said Donald J. Baker, Jr., Chairman of the Board. "The Highlands Bank identity brings a modern, unified look to an organization that has always been rooted in local relationships and dependable service."

Rebranding Celebrations will be hosted at all branch locations with the main celebration taking place at the Petersburg Branch from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with refreshments, giveaways, and information about the transition.

About Highlands Bank

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

Subsequently, the bank has expanded its marketplace throughout the Potomac Highlands and now operates a total of seven offices in six counties which encouraged the name change from its original name in July 2026. After more than a century of continued service, Highlands Bank truly embodies "Strong Roots, High Values" and is a subsidiary of Highlands Bankshares, Inc., also headquartered in Petersburg, WV.

You can learn more by visiting www.highlands.bank.

Obituary

Candace Beltz Sommerville



Born on September 2, 1953, in Wadsworth, Ohio, Candy was the beloved daughter of the late John Richard Beltz and Roberta Jean Adams Beltz. On February 15, 1986, she married the love of her life, Harry Sommerville, in Rittman, Ohio. Together they built a life filled with love, faith, and countless cherished memories.

In addition to her loving husband of 40 years, Candy is survived by her brother, James R. Beltz, and her great niece, Tara Stewart.

Candy graduated from North High School in Akron, Ohio, before pursuing her college education at the University of Akron. In 1993, she graduated summa cum laude, a testament to her determination and love of learning. She dedicated 36 years of service to Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, where she was admired for her hard work, loyalty, and commitment. She was an excellent CPA and kept the advertising budget in line down to the penny.

Candy was an avid race fan and enjoyed many years of attending the Indianapolis 500 with her Dad.

Candy also loved spending time in the kitchen, where her cooking and baking brought family and friends together. Her homemade banana cake became legendary among those who knew her—a recipe requested for gatherings and remembered long after the last slice was gone. She enjoyed creating a feast for her loved ones, and everyone knew the kitchen was HER domain. Candy cared so much about other people and she demonstrated that love by baking countless birthday cakes, cookies, brownies, stromboli and muffins during her lifetime for church events, co-workers, and her doctor's offices. Candy's baked goods put a smile on everyone's face!

Mrs. Sommerville was a faithful member of the First Church of the Nazarene in Parsons, West Virginia, where she deeply loved her church family and felt a great sense of belonging. Candy found joy in both her faith and the simple pleasures of everyday life. Candy was a lifelong reader who could always be found with a good book close by. Some of her greatest happiness came from the quiet beauty of her home on Clover Run in Tucker County, where she delighted in watching and feeding the deer that wandered onto the property. She appreciated the peace of the mountains and found contentment in nature's simple gifts.

Though she will be deeply missed, her love, kindness, quiet strength, and the memories she created around the table and in the beauty of the mountains will remain in the hearts of all who knew and loved her.

The family will receive friends at the Lohr & Barb Funeral Home of Parsons, WV on Thursday, July 2nd from 11-1. Final rites will be conducted at the funeral home at 1pm. The Reverend Steve Morrow will officiate and interment will follow at the Pifer Mountain Cemetery at St. George, WV. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is honored to be in charge of the arrangements for Candace Beltz Sommerville. Condolences may be expressed to the family at; www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com.



Anna Marie (Teranto) McVicker

A celebration of life for Anna Marie (Teranto) McVicker (August 11, 1936 - December 18, 2025) will be held on Friday, July 3, 2026, 10 a.m. at Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, 316 Brown Street, Thomas, WV. Interment to be held immediately following at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Thomas, WV.

Join family and friends as we remember a life so beautifully lived. A heart so deeply loved.

Obituary submissions due Friday by 3pm

WVSOM technology authority, 2012 graduate receive '40 Under 40' recognition





LEWISBURG, W.Va. – Two West Virginians with connections to the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM) were selected as "Generation Next: 40 Under 40" honorees by The State Journal, a publication that covers news about business, government, education, health care and related topics throughout the state.

Katie Williams, Ph.D., WVSOM's senior director of academic technology and faculty development, and Matthew Davis, D.O., an alumnus who is president and CEO of the West Virginia chapter of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOPF), were recognized during a June 16 awards ceremony in Clarksburg, W.Va.

The Generation Next program pays tribute to young professionals whose work drives progress and shapes the future of West Virginia and its communities.

Williams joined WVSOM in 2023. In addition to ensuring faculty are trained on topics that enhance teaching practices, she takes a lead role in helping employees incorporate artificial intelligence into workflows, familiarizing students with the technology, and supporting WVSOM's learning management systems.

She said her position balances advocacy for AI with acknowledgement of the importance of the human element in using it ethically.

"I try to help people feel that they have agency in using AI. I want them to recognize it as a tool that empowers them rather than something that will take away their jobs," she said. "I'm passionate about making sure people have what they need to succeed, whether it's a faculty member teaching for the first time or a student coming into medical school."

Williams said she is thankful that WVSOM provides the support she needs to flourish in her career.

"I'm grateful for the mentorship I've gotten from campus leaders and faculty members who have given me the autonomy to do things that allow me to advance. WVSOM has an open environment that allows people to try new things and push boundaries in the pursuit of things that are new and novel. That's part of the reason I've been able to succeed," she said.

Williams has published numerous journal articles on equalizing educational access, and is a frequent presenter at the national level, including at the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine's conference. She is an advisor to WVSOM's chapters of the Medical Student Pride Alliance and the Student National Medical Association.

Davis graduated in WVSOM's Class of 2012. After completing a family medicine residency at CAMC Greenbrier Valley Medical Center, he practiced with Greenbrier Physicians in Ronceverte, W.Va., then worked in emergency medicine, serving patients in southern West Virginia and the surrounding region. He also has practiced in the Beckley Appalachian Regional Healthcare Hospital emergency department, White Sulphur Springs Center and Primary Care Plus, and is currently an emergency medicine physician with WVU Medicine.

He has developed a second career in physician leadership and health care administration. In addition to leading the West Virginia chapter of ACOFP, Davis serves as board chair and CEO of the West Virginia Academy of Family Physicians; secretary and legislative chair of the West Virginia Osteopathic Medical Association; and treasurer of the West Virginia State Medical Association.

Davis, who is also a WVSOM clinical professor of family medicine, said his transition into physician leadership was a natural extension of his commitment to serving patients and communities.

"As I became more involved in organized medicine, I recognized that many of the decisions affecting patient care, physician practice and medical education were being made beyond the exam room, inspiring me to advocate for the profession. By developing and supporting physician leaders, we can ensure that the profession continues to advance patient care, influence health care policy and strengthen access to quality care for future generations of West Virginians," he said.

He said he is humbled to be a "Generation Next: 40 Under 40" honoree.

"As a WVSOM graduate, I strive to carry forward the ideals and mission of the institution and the osteopathic profession through service, leadership and advocacy," Davis said. "This recognition reflects not only my personal journey, but the mentors, colleagues, patients and communities who have shaped my commitment to servant leadership and improving health care across the state."

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM

FISHING

Cont. From Front Page 1





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

DEADLINE 3PM FRIDAY



Meet the Bank You Already Know

New Name. Same Great Community Bank.

Highlands Bank

A new brand marks an exciting new chapter, but the things that matter most haven't changed. The Grant County Bank is now Highlands Bank.

You'll continue to find the same trusted team, the same local decision making, the same personalized service, and the same commitment to the communities we've proudly served for more than 120 years.

Our new name reflects the broader region we call home and the future we're building together.

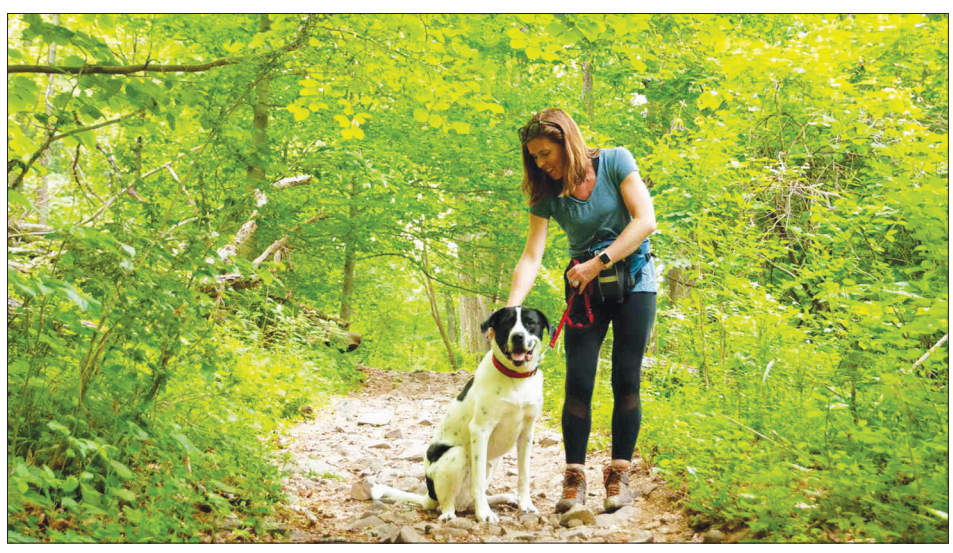
Welcome to Highlands Bank.

Visit Highlands.Bank or stop by your local branch to learn more.

Member FDIC

West Virginia Land Trust Partners with Local Animal Shelter for a "Tails on Trails" Hiking Event





West Virginia Land Trust is partnering with the Tucker County Animal Shelter to hold a "Tails on Trails" hiking activity at the Yellow Creek Natural Area in Davis, WV.

Looking to improve the health of shelter dogs with the community, this event will help to improve both the physical and emotional well-being of each dog walked. The shelter will provide all the necessary items for your outing.

Event Kick-off: July 11, 2026, 10:00 a.m.

Where: Meet in the National Youth Science Academy parking lot

Activities: Dog walking, refreshments, pup cups.

Admission Price: Free!

This event is open to all pet lovers looking to make a dog's day special. These walks will help to improve their physical health, reduce stress and anxiety, provide mental enrichment, and build confidence.

While there is no fee to participate, registration is required for planning purposes. Visit www.WVLandTrust.org/Events to sign up on or before Friday, July 10.

The West Virginia Land Trust is a statewide nonprofit dedicated to protecting West Virginia's natural lands, scenic areas, water quality, and recreational access forever. Since 1994, the nationally accredited organization has permanently protected more than 62,000 acres of land statewide.

The Tucker County Animal Shelter is dedicated to providing a safe haven for homeless and neglected animals, offering adoption services, spay/neuter programs, and community outreach to ensure the well-being of pets and their families. Their goal is to create a community where every pet has a loving home.