The Parsons Advocate

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF TUCKER COUNTY SINCE 1896

Volume 131 No. 29 | Wednesday, July 22, 2026 | $1.50 (tax incl.)



The Greenbank Observatory has come under fire by 10 county commissions, including Tucker, for strict, and what they are called outdated, radio frequency policies that are causing deadzones in the county for emergency and law enforcement presonnel.

Signal Deadzones Addressed at Commission Meeting

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Tucker County Commission President Mike Rosenau asked 911 Center Director Slater Liller and Director of the Tucker County Office of Emergency Management Kevin White about solutions to the various signal "deadzones" throughout the County during the July 8th Commission meeting.

"We can get a new siren tower," Liller said. "We can get another siren tower."

Liller went on the explain that while the State of West Virginia oversees and controls the siren towers, it is up to the County to fund the tower itself. Rosenau asked if grant funding would be available for a tower and what the cost would be for the project.

"The siren tower itself, the last time we looked at it, for the old paperwork was probably $800,000," Liller said.

See DEADZONES page 6

New Section of Corridor H Causes Traffic Havoc on Smokey Hollow Road

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Traffic on Smokey Hollow Road has increased since the new section of Corridor H opened up and it has caught the attention of officials. Tucker County Commission President Mike Rosenau asked Director of the Tucker County Office of Emergency Management Kevin White and Tucker County Sheriff Jake Kopec about the increase at the July 8th Commission meeting.

"At the top of Parsons Mountain, on Smokey Hollow Road, we have a lot more traffic right now because the GPS system is the shortest route now is to take that exit now at the top of the mountain and come down Smokey Hollow Road," Rosenau said.

While Rosenau blamed GPS for the increase in traffic on the single lane road, it could also come down to locals taking a short cut to the new highway, as well. The situation led to a 20 foot camper trying to turn around after realizing it could not navigate it, Rosenau said. He said the County works with the GPS companies in an attempt to get tractor trailers off roads such as Sugarland, Limestone, etc.

"Did we ever come to a conclusion or a person we could talk to to alleviate that?" Rosenau said.

Rosenau said that, as locals, people are aware on a one

See CORRIDOR H page 7



DAR Presents Courthouse With New Flag

The Blackwater Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution Presented the Tucker County Commission with a new 5'X8' flag just in time for America's 250th Birthday. On July 8th, the flag was given in appreciation for the Commissioners allowing the placement of the DAR Revolutionary War Patriot Plaque on the front of the Tucker County Courthouse in 2024. The Flag came with a certificate of authenticity that it was flown over the United States Capital Building on May 25, 2026 and was purchased through Senator Jim Justice's office. The flag has been dedicated by the Blackwater Chatpter to "all Tucker County Veterans past, present and future." Members of the Blackwater DAR sang "God Bless America" for the ceremony and the Tucker County Veterans retired the old flag and raised the new. More photos inside on page 10.

County Sees Uptick in Dog Bite Cases

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Tucker County has seen a rise in dog bite cases since summer arrived. Tucker County Animal Shelter Director Stacey Canfield said the County's Animal Control Officer, along with Tucker County Sheriff Jake Kopec have exceptionally busy during the month of June responding to aggressive dog and biting dog reports.

"He's been responding to a lot of bite cases," Canfield said. "The weather warms up and dogs go outside and people come to hike and kayak and do all those things and with them come their dogs. So we've definitely seen a big increase."

The Shelter, as of July 8th, was currently housing a dog that had been brought in for quarantine for biting. By West Virginia Law, any dog that bites a person must be quarantined for 10 days for rabies observation.

Canfield said that rabies vaccinations are available at the Shelter for Tucker County residents for a $10 fee and field calls are available. By law, all dogs, cats and ferrets over the age of 6 months are required to be vaccinated. First shots are good for one year and subsequent vaccinations cover the animal for three years. Other resources available at the Shelter include spay/neuter vouchers.

For more information contact the Tucker County Animal Shelter at (304) 478-6232. The Tucker County Animal Shelter is located at 586 Brooklyn Heights Road in Parsons and can also be found on Facebook and Instagram or at their website tuckercountyanimalshelter.com.

Road Work Information

Elkins, W.Va. — The Forest Service will begin road construction on Forest Road 86 Monday, 20 July 2026 to repair flood damage, improve public safety, and restore reliable access to recreation areas and nearby communities. The Forest Service will be closing FR 86-Williams River Road from the intersection of FR 216 to the intersection with WV Route 150 starting Monday, 20 July 2026.

Monongahela National Forest officials and project partners finalized plans recently during a pre-construction meeting for upcoming Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP) projects under the Upper Greenbrier River (UGN) initiative. Construction is scheduled to break ground the week of July 20, 2026, at two key locations: the Forest Road (FR) 17 / Little River low-water crossing site and the FR 44 / Unnamed Tributary to West Fork Greenbrier River site (upstream from Elklick Run).

See ROAD WORK page 2

Williams Avenue Road Construction in Davis

The Town of Davis has announced the following:

Attention Residents & Visitors: Road Work on William Avenue

Beginning next week, the Department of Highways will begin road work on William Avenue, starting at the Town Garage and continuing toward the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

During construction:

• Traffic will be reduced to one lane and controlled by temporary stop lights.

• Parking along William Avenue will be extremely limited or unavailable.

• Alternative parking will be available in the parking lot near Riverfront Park and through parallel parking on nearby side streets.

The project is expected to last approximately 3–4 weeks, weather permitting.

Please note that this project is being completed by the Department of Highways. The Town is not managing the project and is not responsible for the construction or any related delays. We are simply sharing the information that has been provided to us.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation while this important work is completed.

2025 Tucker County Miss Pre-Teen Named Royal Court Jester for Forest Festival



Reagan Kerns

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

Our own 2025 Miss Pre-Teen will be the Court Jester for the 2026 Mountain State Forest Festival. Reagan Catherine Kerns will join a Tucker County homegrown Maid Silvia, Hambleton resident Miss Emma Grace Snyder, in the 88th Festival with the theme "Autumn in Color."

Kerns is a resident of Beverly and is the daughter of Danny "Cruz" and Jessica Kerns – Galloway. Her grandparents are Karen Kerns and Ray George of Beverly and Donald Kerns of Elkins. She also has a sister, Rorie Kerns.

Kerns will be seventh grader at Elkins Middle School in the fall, where she is an honor roll student, EMS Hornet Cheerleader and plays the clarinet in the band. She is also a member of the Center Stage Performing Arts Competition team and tumbling program. Other interests include: pageantry, spending time with her friends, swimming, horseback riding and making memories outdoors with her family. She is a member of Home of the Soul family worship.

News of Record

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

- **James K. Norton and Jennifer A. Kerr,** Lot 57 Yoakum Run, Timberline; Lot 56 Yoakum Run, Timberline; Lot 16, Spruce Glades Section and Lot 26, Mountainside to James K. Norton, Trustee, Jennifer A. Kerr, Trustee; James K. Norton Trust, U/A.
- **Benjamin L. Smith and Bronlyn Smith,** Dry Fork District, Lot 59 North Lake, 1.08 acres to Seneca Holdings LLC, $75,000.
- **Jonathan H. Becker,** Dry Fork District, Deed of Conveyance – Lot 136 Mountainside to Jonathan H. Becker, Trustee, Jonathan H. Becker Revocable Trust.
- **Shavers Fork Properties LLC,** Parsons Corporation, Lots 40 and 45, Davis Addition to TMAC LLC, $45,000.
- **River Escape LLC,** St. George District, 1.12 acres, Lot 2, Riverscape to Shavers Fork Properties LLC, $150,000.

ROAD WORK

Cont. From Page 1

The upcoming work will affect motorized access for the public. A portion of FR44 and FR17 will be closed to through traffic from July 20th -August 21st, 2026. To minimize inconvenience to the public FR179 (Elklick) will be open starting the same day as the closure. Normally, FR179 does not open for motorized access until September 1.

The upcoming work includes the following project components and environmental coordination efforts:

- FR 17 Little River Site & Maintenance: In addition to new construction, partners identified necessary maintenance work at the previously installed AOP structure at the FR 17 lower crossing. Trout Unlimited (TU) intends to perform this maintenance concurrently while specialized equipment and personnel are already deployed nearby.
- Habitat Coordination: Project managers are actively coordinating associated instream work timelines and methodologies to ensure full protection of the endangered Candy Darter and its designated critical habitat.
- FR 44 Site Improvements: Excavation at the FR 44 unnamed tributary site is expected to generate a considerable amount of waste soil material. To maximize efficiency, project managers tentatively identified a beneficial-use opportunity to deposit the excess soil at the dispersed campsite immediately adjacent to the project.

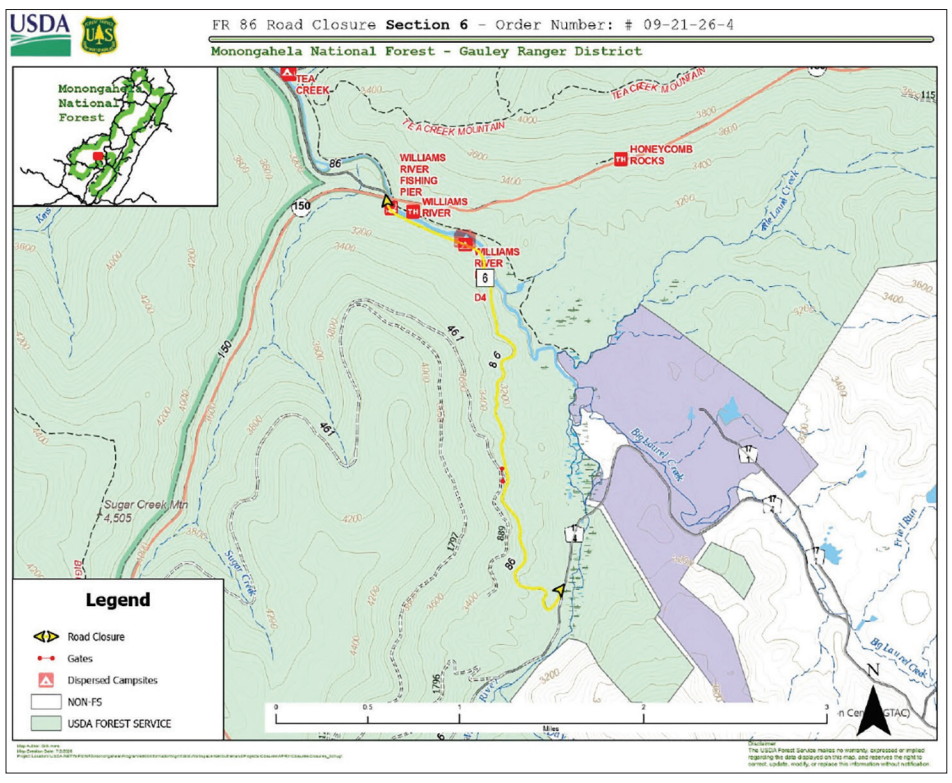
This waste-material strategy will allow crews to level the existing campsite ground. Once vegetation is fully re-established, the effort will result in significantly improved site conditions for forest visitors while reducing the environmental impact of hauling material offsite

During construction, some road sections will be closed in phases while crews are working. Through-travel may not be available in certain areas, and visitors may need to use alternate routes that are longer or less direct. Access to private property will be maintained at all times, and access to key recreation destinations will be maintained whenever possible.

Recreation sites are expected to remain accessible through alternative routes from Dyer, WV from the west. Access routes will shift as project progresses. Access will include access to Tea Creek Campground and Three Forks Trailhead. Visitors should plan ahead, allow extra travel time, watch for signs and flaggers, and avoid entering active construction zones. For safety reasons, vehicles, pedestrians, and bicycles will not be permitted through active work areas.

The Forest Service will provide additional updates as schedules are finalized, including closure dates, detour information, and access guidance. Updates will be shared through official Forest Service communications, forest alerts, social media, district offices, and future news releases.

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



About the Forest Service: The Forest Service has, for more than 100 years, brought people and communities together to answer the call of conservation. Grounded in world-class science and technology — and rooted in communities — the Forest Service connects people to nature and to each other. The Forest Service cares for shared natural resources in ways that promote lasting economic, ecological, and social vitality. The agency manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to state and private landowners, and maintains the largest wildland fire and forestry research organizations in the world. The Forest Service also has either a direct or indirect role in stewardship of about 900 million forested acres within the U.S., of which over 130 million acres are urban forests where most Americans live.

Animal Shelter Puts Out the Call for Help During Full House Crisis

By: Lydia Crawley
The Parsons Advocate

The Tucker County Animal Shelter has announced that it will not be able to take in surrenders for the time being due to being at capacity, even with fosters. Animal Shelter Director Stacey Canfield made the announcement during the July 8th Tucker County Commission meeting.

"We are closed for owner surrender," Canfield said. "At this point, we are just intaking medical emergencies only for canines."

Canfield said that shelters across the country are dealing with an overabundance of canines. Inflation appears to be a driving factor, according to Canfield, with the price of everything raising, especially dog food.

"The issue we see with dogs is a National crisis," Canfield said.

Currently, the Shelter is at capacity. The shelter has nine kennels, but is currently housing 17 dogs. Canfield said that even the facility's fosters are full, with some over full.

"We are relying on our offices," Canfield said. "I have a dog in my office. Craig has a dog in his office. We have dogs set up in a kennel in the lobby. We have fosters that are full. I have five personal dogs and I foster five now. So we are packed full."

Canfield said there is a great need for foster and adoptive pet parents. The shelter is also in need of volunteers and supplies. The shelter keeps a wishlist on Amazon and there is a collection bin at the Shop 'n Save in Davis.



The Tucker County Animal Shelter is currently closed to owner surrenders. It currently has a surplus of hounds, such as Nora, pictured. Many hunting hounds come in as strays and are never reclaimed. One such hound has been at the facility for two years.

"We keep begging and begging for fosters and adopters," Canfield said. "We're just trying to figure out how to get the community to step up in that aspect."

According to Canfield one dog at the facility has been there for two years, only because she is a hound. The dogs at the facility are mostly hunting hounds strays. Canfield said many hounds come in as strays during hunting season. She recently contacted a hound rescue organization and is waiting for more information from them.

"They are coming to hunt them and when they are done hunting them, they become Tucker County taxpayer problems when they are not reclaimed and not picked up," Canfield said. "And that is the majority of our housing right now."

The Shelter has access to assist pet owners with a variety of services including: medical bills, spay/neuter vouchers and $10 vaccinations are available to Tucker County residents at the Shelter. Canfield said she and her staff want to do everything they can to keep pets in their homes for as long as they can.

"We are more of a resource than just drop your dog off," Canfield said.

For more information contact the Tucker County Animal Shelter at (304) 478-6232. The Tucker County Animal Shelter is located at 586 Brooklyn Heights Road in Parsons and can also be found on Facebook and Instagram or at their website tuckercountyanimalshelter.com.

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

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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.

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

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

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SPORTS

Lady Mt. Lions Putting in the Work Under Helmick



By: Adam Freeman

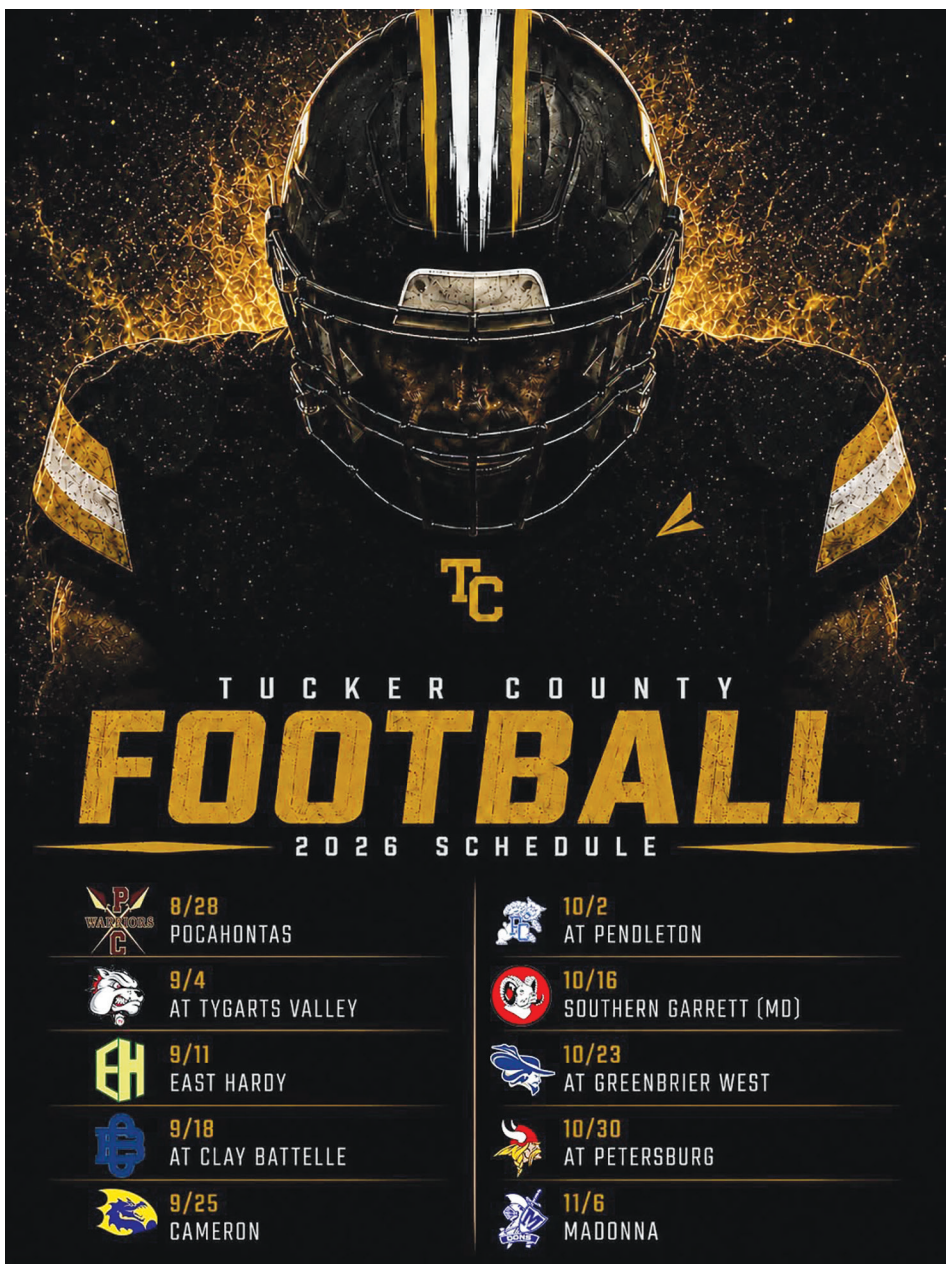
The Tucker County Lady Mt. Lions volleyball team has spent the summer laying the foundation for the upcoming season under the direction of new head coach Megan Helmick.

Throughout the offseason, the Lady Mt. Lions have dedicated extra time to improving their skills, teamwork, and conditioning by participating in a series of 30-minute scrimmages at the Bridge Sports Complex. The summer competition has given the team valuable experience against a variety of opponents, including Elkins, Robert C. Byrd (RCB), Lewis County, Preston, Gilmer County, Fairmont, and Bridgeport.

While no official records or statistics have been kept during the summer scrimmages, Tucker County has enjoyed its share of success, winning several sets against quality competition. More importantly, the matches have provided the Lady Mt. Lions with opportunities to gain confidence, develop chemistry, and adjust to Coach Helmick's system before the regular season begins.

The team's commitment to putting in extra hours on the court has been evident throughout the summer, with players embracing the challenge of competing against strong programs. Each scrimmage has served as another step in preparing the Lady Mt. Lions for the demands of the upcoming schedule.

As the regular season approaches, Tucker County hopes the hard work, dedication, and experience gained over the summer will translate into success when the matches begin to count. With a new coach leading the program and a team committed to continuous improvement, the Lady Mt. Lions are looking forward to building on their offseason efforts and making an impact this fall.



2026 Mt. Lions Football Schedule Preview

Week 1 Home vs Pocahontas County
2025 Tucker won in Marlinton 40-7
Pocahontas finished season 3-7 overall.

Week 2 at Tygarts Valley
2025 Tucker won 50-0 at home
Tygarts Valley finished season 3-7 overall.

Week 3 Home vs East Hardy
2025 Tucker won 38-27 in Baker
East Hardy finished season 6-6 overall, reaching second round of the state playoffs.

Week 4 at Clay Batelle
Did not play Tucker in 2025
Clay Batelle finished season 12-2 overall as the Single A state runners up.

Week 5 Home vs Cameron
Did not play Tucker in 2025
Cameron finished season 8-4 overall, reaching the second round of the state playoffs.

Week 6 at Pendleton
2025 Tucker won 42-20 at home
Pendleton County finished season 7-5 overall, reaching second round of the state playoffs.

Week 7 Home vs Southern Garrett (MD)
2025 Tucker fell 20-14 in Oakland
Southern finished the season 4-6 overall.

Week 8 at Greenbrier West
Did not play Tucker in 2025
Greenbrier West finished the 2025 season with an overall record of 4-6.

Week 9 at Petersburg
2025 Tucker fell 23-0 in Petersburg
Petersburg finished season 7-4 overall, reaching first round of the AA state playoffs.

Week 10 Home vs Madonna
Did not play Tucker in 2025
Madonna did not field a varsity football team during the 2025 season.

Morin Family Gymnasium officially named

Gift kick-started Garrett College's Athletics Capital Campaign



The Morin Family Gymnasium was officially named last Wednesday at Garrett College. Pictured, left to right, are Garrett College Foundation Executive Director Cherie Krug, Liz Morin, Clark Morin, Don Morin, and Garrett College President Dr. Richard Midcap. Photo by John Rudd.

McHenry, MD – The Morin Family – Don and Liz, along with son Clark – were recognized last Wednesday for the gift that kick-started Garrett College's nearly complete Athletics Capital Campaign.

Don and Liz Morin announced their naming gift for the Morin Family Gymnasium at last June's President's Circle, the Garrett College Foundation's semi-annual event for the Foundation's largest donors. Since then, the College has raised over $800,000 on an initial $500,000 goal to help offset College costs in the $5.3 million renovation of the 700 Building, which is being converted to support GC's expanding intercollegiate athletics program.

Last week's recognition was scheduled to coincide with a planned visit by Clark Morin, a Denver-based finance consultant. While appreciative of being included in the naming, Clark lauded his parents' local philanthropy.

"It's all their hard work," Clark said. "I think it's cool how much they give back to the community."

Both Liz and Don Morin said they immediately knew they wanted to provide a major named gift to get the capital campaign started last summer.

"Garrett College is such a tremendous asset to the entire community," said Liz. "It offers so much to everyone who lives here – credit programs, workforce training, and community classes and events."

Don Morin – who spent six years as chair of the Garrett College Board of Trustees – said the strategic manner in which the College planned its athletics expansion was a key factor in the family gift.

"The athletics expansion was designed to increase enrollment and improve student success – and that's exactly what's taken place," said Don. "The College's enrollment is growing, the residence halls are filled, and the increase in the number of student-athletes has led to improved student academic performance along with higher retention and graduation rates."

The renovated 700 will include locker rooms for the four teams serviced by the adjoining turf field – baseball, softball, women's soccer, and men's soccer – as well as new athletic training space, a wrestling room, a conference room, and coaches' offices. The facility will open in time for the upcoming academic year.

Dr. Richard Midcap, Garrett College's president, said the Morin Family's naming gift was "exactly what we needed to jumpstart the capital campaign."

"Their gift generated a lot of interest in the community and led directly to many other naming gifts," said Midcap. "That gift really set us up for success in this campaign."

Cherie Krug, executive director of the Garrett College Foundation, said 23 of 25 major naming gifts have already been closed. Krug said she is working with potential donors for the remaining major gifts – the final two spots on the Donor Archway.

The Foundation is also working on two other campaign components – a donor wall that includes three giving levels and a naming campaign for lockers in the four new team locker rooms. Krug said the entire campaign is set to close at the end of 2026.

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

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Super Crossword

Answers

U	N	A	W	A	R	E	S	■	C	A	R	B	S	■	A	L	A	S	K	A
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M	O	M	M	A	S	■	M	E	R	C	E	D	E	S	L	A	C	K	E	Y
A	L	P	I	N	E	■	A	N	I	T	A	■	A	S	A	W	H	O	L	E
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West Virginia Statewide Classified Network

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WEST VIRGINIA Press
ASSOCIATION • SERVICES • FOUNDATION

What's Happening

Free Friday

Free Friday will be held on July 24, 2026 at the First United Methodist Church at 6 pm. Note that this is a week earlier than the usual last Friday of the month. We will be serving soups, sandwiches, chips, desserts and drinks. Everyone is welcome!

Strawderman Family Reunion

Strawderman Family Reunion will be held on Saturday, July 25, 2026, at Mill Race Park in Parsons, WV. Picnic lunch at 1 pm. Everyone welcome.

The Tucker County Historical Museum

The Tucker County Historical Museum will be opened on July18 and July 25, 2026 (Saturdays) from 1:00 to 3:00. Everyone is welcome to visit.

Free Clothing Giveaway

There will be a free Clothes Closet from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. on Saturday, July 25 at the Southern Baptist Church in Rowlesburg.

Are you an Elvis fan?

The Gospel Music of Elvis Presley starring Kevin Booth, Saturday, July 25 at 6:00 p.m. at Union Chapel Church, 162 Brushy Fork Rd. (off of Clover Run Rd.) Parsons WV. All are Welcome. *Sing to the Lord, all the earth; Proclaim the good news of His salvation from day to day.1 Chronicles 16:23 (NKJV)*

Cake Walk

The Rebekahs will be sponsoring a free cake walk on Saturday, July 25 beginning at 6 p.m. at the Davis Fire Hall. The Tucker County Veteran's will have free hotdogs and drinks and also furnish the cakes. Donations will be accepted.

Blare Family Reunion

The Howard and Virginia Blare family reunion will be held at the VA Memorial Park in Clarksburg, on July 25, 2026 from 9 a.m.-until close. All family members are welcome to attend. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy the day. Follow signs to location.

Lipscomb – Pifer Reunion

The annual Lipscomb – PIFER Reunion will begin at noon on Sunday, July 26 at Arnold Park in Leadmine. Please bring a covered dish and have fun.

BMA Food Pantry Open House and Dedication

The Blackwater Ministerial Association Board of Directors and Food Pantry Volunteers invite you to join us Thursday, July 30 from 2-4 PM at our new site located at 374 Quail Ridge Road in Thomas. Light refreshments will be provided.

ZOOM Meeting

The Tucker County Democratic Executive will hold the 2nd qtr meeting via ZOOM on July 30 @ 6 PM.
Use this link to join the meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86841525368?pwd=KZcBypEIvCnbx7gIthp8PpCJd8Wmmp. Meeting ID: 868 4152 5368 Passcode: 443757.

Yard Sale / Bake Sale / Hot Dogs

The First United Methodist Church, located on 101 First St. in Parsons will be having a yard sale/bake sale and hot dogs on Saturday, Aug. 1 from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Evans Family Reunion

The descendants of Daniel L. and Edna Shaffer Evans will hold their 45th annual reunion Saturday, August 1, 2026 at Arnold Park, Leadmine, WV hosted by the Bus Evans Family. A covered dish lunch will be served at 1:00 p.m.. Please bring a raffle gift. Horseshoe and cornhole tournaments will commence following the meal.

Helmick Reunion

The 100th annual Helmick Reunion will be held Sunday, Aug. 2 at the Sugarlands Church of the Brethren. Sunday school will begin at 10:30 a.m. followed by a basket lunch at 12:30 p.m. All family and friends are welcome to attend.

Peter T. Poling Family Reunion

The Peter T. Poling family reunion will be taking a break this year. We'll see you next year on Saturday August 14th 2027.

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



I have had one of those weeks where nothing seems to go right. I just feel like hiding away and waiting for my black cloud to dissipate. I think everyone takes good times for granted and don't remember what the bad times feel like. Momma Said, "Be grateful for what you have because you never know when it will be gone."

I shouldn't be complaining because there are people out there having harder times than myself, but I guess sometimes I just have to vent. I just hope the old adage of bad things coming in three, that I am done. Over the 4th of July weekend, I had a water line burst under my house and I had to crawl under and fix it.

I had just had a minor surgery done on my arm and while I was under the house my bandage came off and I got dirt in the incision, now I think I have an infection in my arm. And the third thing, while I was going home from work my truck starting running strangely, I called the shop, they got me right in and found that a turbo had went bad.

Now the really bad news is it is going to cost anywhere from $2,200 to $3,000 to fix. Seems I can't win for losing lately. Momma Said, "Sometimes it just doesn't pay to get out of bed." Not that it matters because I can't sleep lately anyway. Thanks for being out there, I'm done venting now.

Chocolate Cobbler

INGREDIENTS

For the Cake Layer

- 2 cups all-purpose flour (see notes)
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1⁄2 teaspoon salt
- 3⁄4 cup granulated sugar
- 1⁄4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 cup whole milk
- 1⁄2 cup unsalted butter, melted
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

For the Topping

- 1⁄2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1⁄4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 1⁄4 cups very hot water

INSTRUCTIONS

- Preheat the oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit (175°C) and grease an 8×8 baking dish with cooking spray or butter. Set aside.
- In a medium bowl, whisk the flour, baking powder, salt, granulated sugar, and 1/4 cup cocoa powder until evenly combined.
- Stir the milk, melted butter, and vanilla extract into the dry ingredients until a thick batter forms. Spread the batter evenly into the prepared baking dish.
- In a separate bowl, mix the brown sugar and remaining 1/4 cup cocoa powder. Sprinkle this mixture evenly over the batter. Do not stir.
- Very carefully pour the hot water over the batter and cocoa/sugar mixture. Do not stir.
- Bake for 40-45 minutes until the center is just barely set. It should still be quite gooey and very sauce-like on the bottom.
- Allow to cool for 10-15 minutes before serving warm, topped with a scoop of vanilla ice cream if desired. Enjoy!

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 22, 1859: Athlete "Jack" Glasscock was born in Wheeling. Glasscock, who played bare-handed, was one of baseball's premier shortstops of the 19th century.

July 22, 1930: The rollicking Dunglen Hotel, located across the New River from Thurmond, was destroyed by arsonists. A hubbub of illegal activity during the Prohibition era, it supposedly hosted a poker game that lasted 14 years.

July 22, 1937: Musician Tommy Thompson was born in St. Albans, Kanawha County. Through his group, the Red Clay Ramblers, and a career that spanned four decades, Thompson played a major role in spreading the popularity of old-time music.

July 23, 1863: Financier and industrialist Isaac Thomas Mann was born in Greenbrier County. As president of the Bank of Bramwell and the Pocahontas Fuel Company for three decades, "Ike" Mann held vast holdings in coal, timber and especially financial institutions.

July 23, 1900: Author Julia Davis was born in Clarksburg, the daughter of future presidential candidate John W. Davis. She achieved acclaim writing for youth and adults, fiction and nonfiction. She died in Ranson, near her Jefferson County home in 1993.

July 23, 1919: Novelist Davis Grubb was born in Moundsville. His renown came with his first novel, The Night of the Hunter (1953), a gripping suspense story adapted into a classic film in 1955 and for TV in 1991.

July 24, 1823: Arthur Boreman, West Virginia's first governor, was born in Waynesburg, Pennsylva-

HISTORY CONT. PAGE 9

Weekly SUDOKU

3				9				8
1	9	6						
			3			6	1	
					8			3
	6	8	9	5	3	1		
				6	2		9	
			8	7	6	4		
6	3	4		1		5	8	7
8	1	7		3	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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Weather Totals July 7 - July 14, 2026

Nursery Bottom Parsons

Temperature		Precipitation	
Max	87° F	Week	2.68"
Min	58° F	July	3.58"
		2026	32.75"

Snowfall

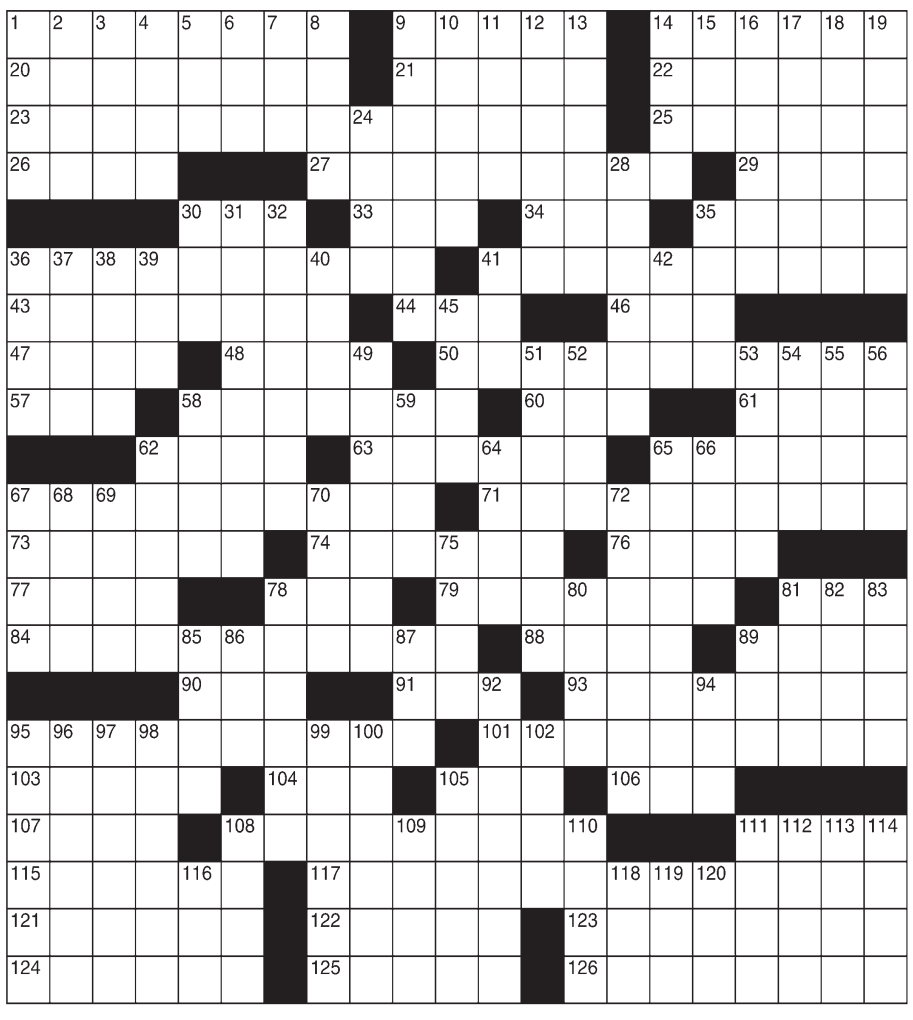
Winter Total	46.5"

U.S. Forest Service

Super Crossword — OPENING SEQUENCE

ACROSS
1 Off-guard way to be caught
9 Bread has a lot of them
14 Anchorage locale
20 Aspire to something specific
21 Love, in Lido
22 Hoped for
23 Founder of the Miracles
25 Lodged
26 Pulley part
27 With long suffering
29 Rajah's wife
30 Alternatives to Cokes or Pepsis
33 — -mo
34 Twice LI
35 Raptor's claw
36 Record player
41 Ape in an arcade game
43 1307-27 king of England
44 Prefix with natal or con
46 Comic book shriek
47 Thick deli cut
48 This, in Baja
50 Olduvai Gorge pale-ontologist
57 Beer cask
58 Removes (oneself)
60 Veteran
61 Europe's "Eternal City"
62 French battle site of '44
63 Doesn't skip, as an event
65 Reagan appointee Antonin
67 Speak frankly
71 Jungle gym
73 Film director May
74 1954-76 Dodgers manager Walter
76 T-man Eliot
77 Outing ruiner
78 "How was — know?"
79 Self-server
81 Some IRA contents
84 Master of the dog Pluto
88 Sundown's direction
89 Accepted
90 China's Long March leader
91 2012 Best Director Lee
93 Alternative to Match or OkCupid
95 It's pushed in an ice rink
101 Tart gin cocktail
103 Once-popular anesthetic
104 Certain pipe shape
105 Maple fluid
106 Tax return ID
107 Tiger's sound
108 Restricting freedom of thought
111 Work site welfare org.
115 Poppas' partners
117 "Arrow's Fall" novelist
121 Of high peaks
122 "Rapture" singer Baker
123 All aspects considered
124 Fitting one inside another
125 A-bomb trial
126 Index entries ... or what 10 answers in this puzzle have?

DOWN
1 KGB's land
2 Lost clown fish of film
3 Sitting on
4 Stir to life
5 Go gray, say
6 Singer Acuff
7 It may get plugged up
8 Pig food
9 Jenner of reality TV
10 Prenatal exam
11 Suitor's flower
12 Rodeo horse
13 Submitted, as an entry
14 Out of whack
15 Taoism's — -tzu
16 Inuit parka
17 Fr. resort port
18 Really into
19 Appending
24 Bottom
28 In this way
30 — Nabisco (old corp.)
31 World Champion Bull of 2009
32 Clip, as a coupon
35 Young kid
36 Study fixture
37 Not in use
38 Gala bagful
39 Hailed car
40 Thing flown in the wind
41 Scooby- —
42 Wiggling fish
45 Otherwise
49 "Still I Rise" poet Maya
51 Until this time
52 Element #26
53 Saudis, say
54 Nut with caffeine
55 Kuwaiti royal
56 Positive votes
58 Env. alert
59 Santa's bagful
62 Short-limbed lizard
64 Urban haze
65 Reel from a wallop
66 Certain skin bulge
67 Time in office
68 Jai —
69 Secular
70 Green Hornet's valet
72 Fried stuffed dumplings
75 Many a new driver
78 "Pass the ball to me!"
80 Crawl (with)
81 Diner worker
82 Concluded
83 Vodka brand
85 Part of ER: Abbr.
86 "Huzzah!"
87 Cinch — (trash bag brand)
89 Sister station of Flix, in brief
92 Give the evil eye to
94 — Tin Tin
95 Politico Cain
96 "Troy" actor Peter
97 Bites, as a horse at the bit
98 Muppet frog
99 Tracey of "Mrs. America"
100 Patron
102 Apple debut of 2010
105 Splinter groups
108 Opposite of new
109 Spreadable cheese
110 It may get plugged up
111 Eight, in Baja
112 Alternative to Heath, candy-wise
113 Clutched
114 Positive votes
116 Netflix's "Anne With —"
118 Opposite of NNW
119 Install, as tile
120 "How cute!"



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Puzzle answers page 4

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT

Notice is hereby given that ROSE HOLDINGS LLC, 70 COLUMBIA BLVD, CLARKSBURG, WV 26301, has submitted an application for Permit Number Q201489 to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), 47 School Street, Suite 301, Philippi, WV 26416-1600.

The purpose of this modification is to add an access road and lay down yard (4.45 acres) towards the backside of the property that was omitted from previous permit actions.

The operation is discharging into Brushy Fork of Teter Creek and is located near Moatsville in Clover District of Tucker County, Longitude 79 49 27.4 and Latitude 39 11 38.9 (Coordinates from USGS Topographic Map).

*Surface of the area within 500 feet of the permit area is owned by:

NAME	ADDRESS
Rose Holdings LLC	70 Columbia Blvd, Clarksburg, WV 26301

Comments on the application shall be in writing and shall identify the applicant and application number and be sent to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) at the address above. Comments received by 8/21/26 or thirty (30) days from the date of initial date of publication, will be considered.

A copy of the application will be available until 8/21/26 or thirty (30) days from initial date of publication in the DEP Regional Office located at the address above and is available at:

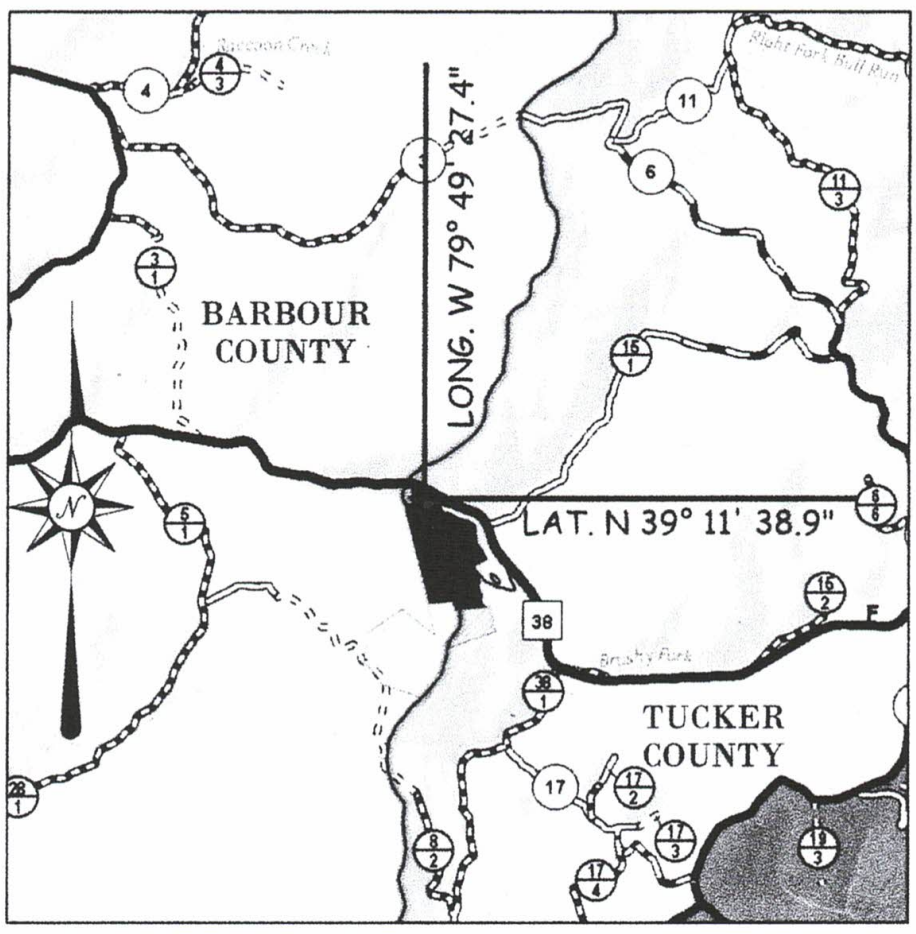
http://apps.dep.wv.gov/WebApp/_dep/Search/ePermitting/ePermittingApplicationSearchPage.cfm.

The above link can be accessed from a computer at all West Virginia public libraries.

*These items are to be completed only for modifications that change the boundaries of the current permit.

DEP Telephone Number: 304-457-3219

Include location map including north arrow and longitude/latitude which crosses the permit area.



Quarry Permit Minor Mod #16
Permit No. Q201489
WVNPDES Permit No. WV1023632
Clover District, Tucker County WV
Cove District, Barbour County WV
1" = 1 Mile

Rose Holdings LLC
70 Columbia Blvd
Clarksburg, West Virginia
26301

LEGAL

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

Under authority of that certain Deed of Trust dated November 25, 2014, from William Michael Winans and Alisha Renee Winans to Marc B. Lazenby, Trustee, of record in the office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Tucker County, West Virginia in Trust Deed Book No. 271, at page 592, securing a promissory note in the principal amount of $144,313.00, payable to Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance, Inc., and default having been made under the promissory note secured by the aforesaid Deed of Trust and sale requested by Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance, Inc., the undersigned Trustee will offer for sale at the front door of the Tucker County Courthouse in Parsons, West Virginia on August 26, 2026 at 12:00 p.m., subject to all reservations, exceptions, easements and other matters which appear of record, and subject to all unpaid taxes, if any, a tract of land, together with the improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging, located in Clover District, Tucker County, West Virginia, lying on the waters of the Right Fork of Clover Run, more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a set 5/8" rebar at a corner fence post on the right-of-way of WV Secondary Route 19/1, from which a found roof bolt bears N 06-31' W 326.86 feet; S 56-28' W 388.46 feet to a set 5/8" rebar at a found gate post, a corner to Turner; thence N. 22-37' W 208.65 feet to a point on the west side of an existing farm road, a corner to Turner, thence N 44-41' W. 136.00 feet to a found roof bolt, a corner to Turner and Robert Nestor; thence N 19-49' W. 279.99 feet to a point on the west side of an existing farm road, a corner to Robert Nestor; thence N 13-44' E 48.50 feet to a set rail road spike on the right-of-way of WV Secondary Route 19/1 ; thence with the right-of-way of Route 19/1 S 55-40' E.32.02 feet to a point on the right-of-way of Route 19/1; thence S 77-00' E 25.85 feet to a point on the right-of-way of Route 19/1; thence S 84-10' E 113.67 feet to a point on the right-ofway of Route 19/1; thence S 79-35' E 175.09 feet to a point on the right-of-way of Route 19/1; thence S 72-55' E. 39.88 feet to a point on the right-of-way of Route 19/1; thence S. 66-06' E. 25.69 feet to a point on the right-of-way of Route 19/1; thence S 55-33' E. 36.09 feet to a point on the right-ofway of Route 19/1; thence S. 46-16' E 50.78 feet to a point on the right-of-way of Route 19/1; thence S 38-01' E. 65.22 feet to a point on the right-of-way of Route 19/1; thence S 33-31' E. 54.99 feet to a point on the right-of-way of Route 19/1; thence S 17-11' E 61.41 feet to a point on the right-of-way of Route 19/1; thence S 09-07' E 39.30 feet to the beginning, containing 4.54 acres as surveyed by A-Tech Land Surveying LLC and shown on a plat of survey. Being a part of Parcel #3 conveyed to Billy Wayne Nestor and Charlene Renee Nestor by deed dated 12 August 1998 and recorded in the office of the Clerk of Tucker County in deed book 159 at page 195.

There is reserved from this conveyance an existing 12' farm road more clearly depicted on the plat of survey. This description written by William R. Malcomb P.S. #2044.

Together with a certain 2015 Giles Manufactured Home, Serial Number SG1014258TNABM.

Being the same property conveyed from Billy Wayne Nestor and Charlene Renee Nestor, husband and wife, to Willlliam Michael Winans and Alisha Renee Winans, husband and wife, by Deed dated November 25, 2014, of record in the aforesaid Clerk's office in Deed Book No. 217, at page 168.

Terms of the sale: Cash or certified funds due on date of sale.

Given under my hand this 15th day of July, 2026.

/s/ Marc B. Lazenby
Trustee

LEGAL

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Division of Highways
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service (www.bidx.com) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia until August 11, 2026 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the constructions of the following project(s):

Call	Contract	State Project	Federal Project	Description
011	2026880004	R388-REMGR 27 00		GUARDRAIL D8 2027 REM Guardrail D8 2027 REM Guardrail **COUNTY:** PENDLETON, POCAHONTAS, RANDOLPH, TUCKER

BRIDGE: Bridge BridgeClass
SPAN(S): **STRUCTURE STEEL:**

Proposals will be received from prequalified and West Virginia licensed contractors only except that on Federal-Aid Projects a contractors' license is not required at time of bid, but will be required before work can begin. Registration is required with the Department of Administration, Division of Purchasing, in accordance with Chapter 5A, Article 3, Section 12 of the West Virginia Code. All contractors submitting bids on project(s) must include one of the following forms properly executed with each proposal: Proposal Guaranty Bond, Cashier's Check, or Certified Check for $500.00 or 5% of the total bid, whichever is greater.

The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways reserves the right to defer, delay or postpone the date for receiving and publicly opening proposals for any project designated in this advertisement, without the necessity of renewing such advertisement. The deferment, delay, postponement, and the date that proposals will be received and publicly opened will be available on www.bidx.com.

The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex or national origin in consideration for an award.

LEGAL

NOTICE OF ANCILLARY FILING WITHOUT ANY ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATE

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

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

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

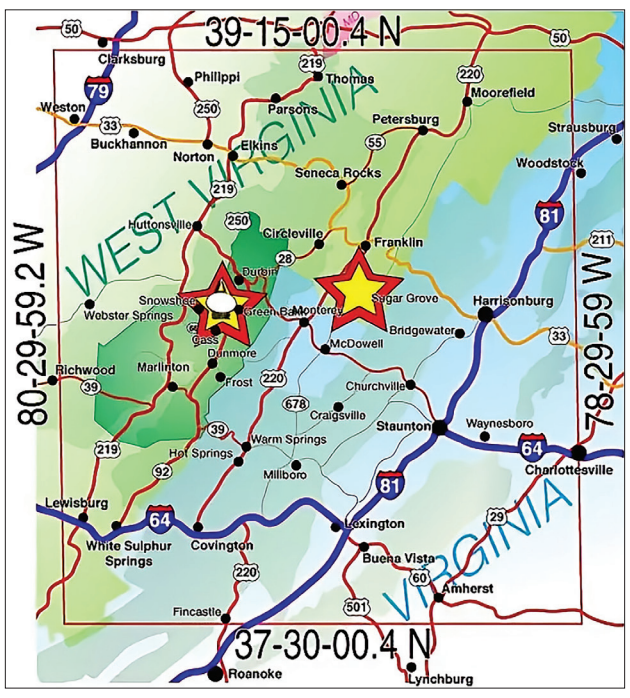
1st Publication Date: July 15, 2026
2nd Publication Date: July 22, 2026
Decedent: Todd Alan Isaacson, Sr.
Filed By: Chelsea Kelley
302 North Crestview Drive
Moses Lake, WA 98837
Relationship: daughter

1st Publication Date: July 15, 2026
2nd Publication Date: July 22, 2026
Decedent: Mary Lee Slavin Isaaacson
Filed By: Jesse Slavin
3022 Pimlico Lane
Corpus Cristi, TX 78418
Relationship: son

Subscribed and sworn to before me on July 6, 2026
Barbara Evans
Tucker County Clerk

DEADZONES

Cont. From Page 1



The National Radio Quiet Zone is 13,000 square miles of West Virginia and Virginia land regulated under federal airwave guidelines. These guidelines have led to many deadzones throughout the area for both civilian cellphones and emergency and law enforcement personnel.

White confirmed the amount, stating that a new siren tower today can cost between $800,000 and $1 million. Liller said he was sure there were grants available to assist with the cost of construction, but he was not aware of any at the moment. However, he had an upcoming meeting where he could enquire about grant opportunities.

"If you would, start checking on grants to make sure that we're not missing anything," Rosenau said.

The County currently runs as high on wattage as allowed under law as to not interfere with Greenbank Observatory's National Radio Quiet Zone (NRQZ). The NRQZ was established by the federal government in 1958 to minimize possible harmful interference to the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO) in Green Bank and the radio receiving facilities for the U.S. Navy at Sugar Grove. The NRQZ encompasses approximately 13,000 square miles near the state border between West Virginia and Virginia. In 2024, 10 West Virginia Counties, including Tucker County, passed resolutions petitioning for changes to the NRQZ over concerns with the restrictions on communications

"Greenbank was built so many years ago that the technology used then versus what is used now, there has to be a way that we could have more radio signal and not interfere."

Greenbank initially couldn't have a microwave or cellphone or other signal creating device for those living within a 50 mile limit, White said. "But that's old technology," White said.

Rosenau requested that White reach out for an update on where the petition stood and if there were any updates. White said that he would and would give an update at the next Commission meeting.

Rhett Dusenbury, Senior Field Representative for Representative Riley Moore, said that the subject of deadzones was recently discussed in Randolph County, as well. He informed the Commission that Randolph County solved their problem by installing Starlink in all of their vehicles. In the case of an accident, the device could be disabled on that vehicle and switched to another for a minimal charge, according to Dusenbury.

Rosenau said he wanted a more permanent solution for Tucker County. He asked Dusenbury to check to see if funding was available at the federal level to assist with a tower project. Dusenbury said that he would.

"I want something more permanent than that," Rosenau said. "If you would check on that, we have all the fire companies, we have EMS, we have everybody that has the dead spots. I would like full communication."

White said that the process can be costly and long. Besides the money involved, it requires land lease agreements and in some cases loans.

"There is areas that are in trouble because they went so far in debt with these tower projects," White said. "So you have to be very careful how you handle these things. You can get in to trouble real quick."

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CORRIDOR H

Cont. From Page 1

lane road, if a wide spot is available and a car is coming, the driver is to pull over. Many of the vehicles that are now coming down Smokey Hollow Road, are not yielding and driving much too fast for conditions, often driving cars into ditches or potentially off the side.

"These people from out of state, they don't know the area, they don't know our customs for driving, pulling over and stopping, they're often times rude, they're rude drivers to the point that they will come here and just bald tires and fly and just wreck right over the guard rails," Kopec said.

White said there are many legalities involved. A road cannot be removed from a GPS because addresses must be able to be found. However, roads can be designated as truck routes and non truck routes, he said.

"The problem is, you know how much time we have spent putting up signs in all different places, even getting signs up that they would not put up, the trucks with the X that they said we will not do that," White said. "They finally did it. We got flashing lights on that. We spent many years working on that project to get it where its at now."

According to White, much of the problem lies with trucking companies and dispatchers. Drivers are pressured to take the shortest routes and quickest times, even if it is dangerous or banned. Drivers are given specific routes and are not allowed to deviate from those routes, even if they are not designated truck routes. Deviation from the route comes with penalties for the drivers. The routes are determined by someone behind a computer who has no idea what the road looks like, has never driven it and is only looking at a screen.

"The problem is that if you talk to a lot of truck drivers that end up on those roads is their dispatcher told them that this is the route they had to go," White said. "If they don't go that exact route, they get penalized on their pay for not following the route. Because, they base it off of the mileage, fuel usage and all that. There's a person that sits behind the computer and that's what they do, they send Barbie here and Barbie has to take this route because it is the cheapest, best route for their truck system to go."

Kopec was asked if there was any way that the companies could be cited, instead of or along with the drivers. He said that they cited every driver for two years and the problem, actually got worse.

"Yes, we have cited them," Kopec said. "We actually just spent two years, just writing every single one of them a ticket and it actually got worse. These people are from Atlanta, from Jamaica believe it or not, and they don't tell their buddies. It don't change anything."

Kopec said that drivers have even been asked if they saw the three signs with a truck with a big X through it and the drivers reply that they were just staring at the GPS.

"The formalities of the new age trucker, they are locked into that GPS," Kopec said. "It isn't Uncle Frank in the 1970's where he had a gear shift and a Randall McNally sitting on the seat, watching the signs and use common sense."

The truckers are not locals, Kopec said. Many are also frightened. Most of the truckers are used to straight, multi-lane interstates, not one and two lane, winding West Virginia country roads with sheer mountain drop offs and hair pin turns.

"The truckers themselves are not from here," Kopec said. "Usually when we encounter them, they are scared to death. They have never even drove on roads like this. Its their first or second time being in this area."

Kopec said many of the truckers are headed to the Kingsford plant.

Rosenau said the Commission had an upcoming meeting with the Department of Highways. He said he was going to bring up the subject of speed limits on Smokey Hollow Road. As well as, the subject of well established signage on the road, as well.

"I'm telling you, someone is going to get hurt," Rosenau said.

White agreed and said he felt the road saw the same amount of traffic in a day, that it generally saw in a year. Kopec said that the County might be able to put up narrow road and local traffic only designation.

Rhett Dusenbury, Senior Field Representative for Representative Riley Moore, weighed in on the issue, as well. He proposed a category system that the GPS companies could use to classify roadways.

"Until we get the GPS folks to do like a Category One to a Category Five Road. Category One is four lanes with emergency lane with grass median, all the way down to Category Five, which is a pig path and a two lane road is Category Three and a four lane road is Category Four," Dusenbury said.

Dusenbury said if roads were classified, roads could be blocked on GPS from heavy truck use, based on classification.

"Big trucks go One trough Three and small trucks go all five," Dusenbury said.

Rosenau said that would have to be a federal law. It was not something the County, nor the WVDOH could pass. It would need to be implemented nationwide to have any real effect.

"I don't feel that we have as much of a problem on the roads with trucks as we used to," White said. "We still have it. It still happens weekly, but it doesn't happen daily, as it used to. I think it is making a difference. We haven't fixed the problem; we will continue to work on it, but I think what we've done, petitioning the state to put up the signage and all of that, I think has made a big difference."

GC's Paramedic Program director retires

Koon, member of 1st class, dedicated 30 years to the program

McHenry, MD – Garrett College's Paramedic Program has experienced dramatic changes over its long history – and Jim Koon has been a part of all the progress.

Koon, who graduated from the first Paramedic Program class in 1993, retired as program director June 30th after 30 years of service. He worked as lead instructor and program coordinator before becoming program director.

"I think there were nine of us in that first class," recalled Koon. "All of us were CRTs [Cardiac Rescue Technicians] and involved in ALS [Advanced Life Support]. That initial program was more or less a bridge class for us.

"Our goal throughout the years was always to keep the program current and improving with the times," added Koon.

"Jim played a pivotal role in developing highly skilled paramedics who now serve communities across the region," said Julie Yoder, GC's dean of continuing education and workforce development, who provides administrative oversight for the program. "Under his leadership, the Garrett College Paramedic Program maintained its national accreditation, strengthened partnerships with regional Emergency Medical Services [EMS] agencies and hospitals, expanded clinical and field education opportunities, and continually improved program outcomes."

Program Coordinator Doug Beitzel said Koon's influence "extended far beyond the classroom."

"He served as a mentor to students, instructors, and EMS leaders alike, always willing to share his knowledge, experience, and encouragement," said Beitzel. "His calm leadership, professionalism, and genuine care for others earned him the respect and admiration of colleagues throughout Maryland's EMS community."

The program initially grew out of a collaboration between Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) Region I Coordinator Dave Ramsey and GC Dean of Continuing Education Lowell Bender. For many years, it was offered in an upstairs training room of the Frostburg Ambulance Service.

"It was a lot different than it is now," Koon remarked.

The program achieved Maryland state accreditation in 2004, the same year evolving curriculum standards resulted in transitioning it from a one-year to a two-year format. It relocated to the Career Technology Training Center (CTTC) in Accident in 2013 as GC used grant funding from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) to construct a dedicated classroom and simulation labs, enhancing hands-on training and simulation capabilities.

"Now we have the [patient] mannequins and the ambulance simulator, and advanced educational tools for our students," Koon observed. "Offering an AAS [Associate of Applied Science] degree just didn't seem possible years ago – and now we have it. I'm extremely proud and honored to have been a part of that."

Dr. Richard Midcap, Garrett College's president, said Koon's "dedication to quality education helped establish the program as one of the region's premier paramedic training programs."

"His legacy will continue through the hundreds of paramedics he helped educate, the faculty he mentored, and the strong, nationally accredited program he leaves behind," Midcap added.

Koon will remain with Garrett College in an advisory role to assist with the program's leadership transition. Joshua Hook, previously program coordinator, has been appointed program director/lead instructor. Hook will serve as the program's first full-time leader dedicated exclusively to the Paramedic Program.

"Jim's decades of experience and institutional knowledge will help ensure a seamless transition," said Yoder.

Koon said helping students achieve their goals in the ALS field has been rewarding.

"I've had the privilege and honor to work with many dedicated professionals," noted Koon, "helping to build the program and assist a lot of the area's paramedics in advancing their careers."



Jim Koon retired June 30th as director of Garrett College's Paramedic Program.

West Virginia Unveils New Dates for Dove, Woodcock and Rail Hunting Seasons

CHARLESTON, W.Va. - West Virginia's 2026-27 hunting season dates and bag limits for mourning dove, woodcock, snipe, sora and Virginia rails have been set. These seasons are set within the annual guidelines established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Species	Dates	Daily Limit	Possession Limit
Mourning Dove (3-way split)	Sept. 1 – Oct. 11 Nov. 2 – Nov. 15 Dec. 7 – Jan. 10	15	45
Woodcock (2-way split)	Oct. 17 – Nov. 21 Nov. 30 – Dec. 8	3	9
Wilson's Snipe	Sept. 1 – Dec. 16	8	24
Sora & Virginia Rails	Sept. 1 – Nov. 9	10	30

The dove season is split into three segments with this first segment running from Sept. 1 to Oct. 11. Shooting hours on Sept 1 are from noon to sunset. For the remainder of the season, the hours are half an hour before sunrise to sunset.

The daily bag limit is 15 birds. Hunters interested in hunting at the Stonewall Jackson Wildlife Management Area are advised that a portion of the area is under special permit on Sept. 1-2. Those interested in a special permit should apply at WVhunt.com. Applications are due on Aug. 1.

The woodcock season is split into two segments. Both the snipe and rail seasons are a single segment. Shooting hours for woodcock, snipe and rails are half an hour before sunrise to sunset.

To hunt migratory game birds, all licensed hunters, including lifetime license holders and senior citizens, must have a valid Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) registration card. HIP cards are available online at WVhunt.com and license agents.

West Virginia's 2026-27 Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations are available online at WVdnr.gov and WVDNR district offices.

City Residents,

If you would like to file a formal complaint for the City to investigate, a Complaint Form is available on the City's website at https://cityofparsonswv.com/.

Forms are also available at the City Business Office during regular business hours.

Once completed, please return the form to the Business Office so it can be reviewed and forwarded for investigation.

Thank you,
City of Parsons

Parsons Police Department
341 Second Street, Parsons, West Virginia 26287
Phone: (304) 478-3060 - Fax: (304) 478-3321

Property Complaint Form

Please use this form to report a nuisance property; including high grass, graffiti, excessive noise, or other quality of life disturbances associated with a property.

Property complaints are typically investigated within five (5) business days. Names of the reporting party are considered confidential and not shared with others. If you have any questions or issues regarding city code or a property complaint, please contact the Parsons Police Department at the telephone number listed above.

PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____

Phone:_____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Have you filed a complaint on this property in the past?
YES NO

If so, when? _____

Yards of the Month











The Mountaineer Garden Club's July picks for Yard Of The Month include the homes of David and Misty Guy at 400 Jameson Ave., Sheila and Terry Blosser at 409 Hillcrest Dr., and the commercial pick is Black Fork Pizza on Pennsylvania Ave. The Guy's yard boasts several small inground garden areas in the front of the home consisting of annuals including marigolds,million bells, coleus, spiraea, petunias, vincas, daylilies, and a rose bush. One of the gardens is edged with unique large glass "rocks" from an old Anchor Hocking glass factory in Clarksburg, WV. The gardens are embellished with USA flags for the 4th, metal and glass birds, butterflies and mushrooms. The porch has windchimes including a handmade one-of-a kind wrench chime. They also have small vegetable garden in the back yard.

The Blosser home is very patriotic showing American flags, bows and ornaments. Hanging baskets decorate the porch with a mix of million bells and spikes. Stone lined garden spots host hostas, blackeyed susans, geraniums and begonias. A very colorful yard, indeed.

Black Fork Pizza welcomes patrons with flowers consisting of coleus, marigolds, million bells, begonias and zinias. Surrounding the establishment are ornamental grasses, a hydrangea bush and hostas. Nature provides an inviting atmosphere in the back where picnic tables abound for outdoor eating surrounded by large trees providing welcomed shade while the Black Fork River rolls by adding scenic ambiance. Be sure to check out these beautiful gardens this month.



WVDNR Opens Applications for Antlerless Deer and State Park Lottery Hunts

Hunters must apply online for controlled deer hunts in limited permit areas and select state parks

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) announced today that applications are now open for the 2026 antlerless deer and state park controlled lottery hunts.

Hunters who want to participate in these limited-permit opportunities must submit their applications online at WVhunt.com.

“These lottery hunts are critical for managing West Virginia’s deer population and protecting natural habitats across the state,” said WVDNR Director Brett McMillion. “By participating in these managed hunts, our hunters can play a role in conservation while gaining exclusive access to some of the most scenic public lands and state parks the Mountain State has to offer.”

Antlerless Deer Lottery Hunts

The WVDNR issues a limited number of Class N stamps for residents and Class NN stamps for nonresidents to hunt in designated counties and public lands where additional harvest is needed. This year's lottery includes the following 13 limited permit areas:

- Boone County
- Camp Creek State Forest
- Daniels Ridge WMA
- Fayette County (West Portion)
- Greenbrier County (North Portion)
- Greenbrier State Forest
- Kanawha County (North Portion)
- Kanawha County (South Portion)
- National Forest Land in Nicholas County
- National Forest Land in Pocahontas County
- National Forest and State Land in Randolph County
- Raleigh (West Portion)
- Webster County

Applications for these antlerless deer lottery hunts must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on Sept. 4. Applicants may check their status starting Sept. 15 at WVhunt.com. Successful applicants will be notified by email by the first week of October.

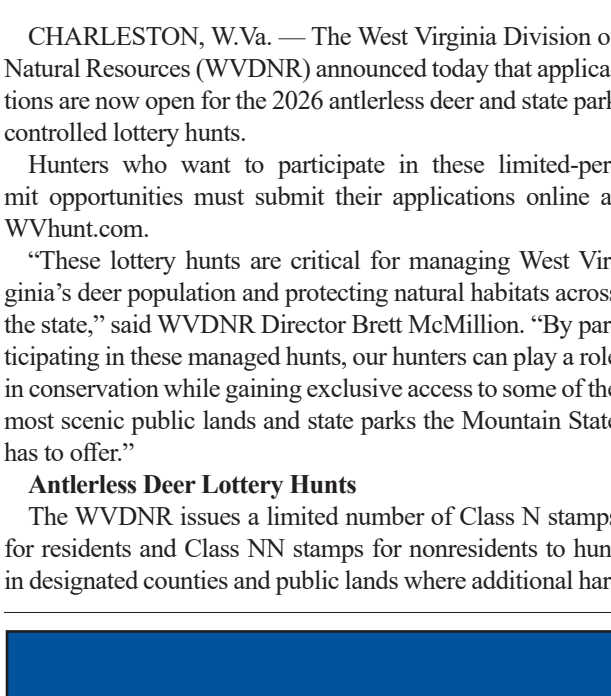
State Park Lottery Hunts

The WVDNR is also accepting applications for controlled deer hunts at Beech Fork, Pipestem Resort, Stonewall Resort and Twin Falls Resort state parks. Applications must be submitted online at WVhunt.com by midnight on Aug. 31.

There is a $15 application fee and applications may include up to two hunters. Drawings will take place on Sept. 3, and successful applicants will be notified between Sept. 8-25. Deer harvested during these controlled hunts do not count toward a hunter’s annual bag limit.

All controlled hunts are subject to West Virginia’s hunting regulations, which can be reviewed at WVdnr.gov/hunting-regulations. For more information about application requirements and specific hunt dates, hunters are encouraged to visit WVdnr.gov/wv-lottery-hunts. To purchase a hunting license and stamps, visit WVhunt.com.

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Sponsored by Mountain Valley Bank



Barn Quilting Class at 4-H Camp

Highlands Bank were proud to sponsor the materials for the Barn Quilt Painting Class at Tucker County 4-H Camp. Each year, the bank’s AVP & Davis Branch Manager, Brenda Wolford, and her sister volunteer their time to teach campers how to create these beautiful barn quilts. The bank said in a Facebook post on July 17th they are honored to help support this special tradition and the talented campers who participated. They extended a special thank you to Brenda and all of the volunteers for making this class such a success.

THANK YOU FOR READING THE PARSONS ADVOCATE

Obituary

Delvin James "Jim" Wratchford



Delvin James "Jim" Wratchford, age 80 years, a resident of Parsons, WV departed this life early Tuesday morning, July 14, 2026, at Nella's at Autumn Lake Healthcare at Crystal Springs, Elkins, WV. He had been in declining health.

He was born Wednesday, May 1, 1946, at Parsons, WV a son of the late Delvin Delmer Wratchford and Gertrude Frances Watring. Surviving are one daughter, Carrie Wratchford Allender of Kerens; one sister-in-law, Lois Wratchford of Parsons; two grandchildren, Haley Jordan Allender and Wesley Jackson Allender, both of Kerens; and nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death are his brother, Thomas Ray "Tom" Wratchford; son-in-law, Jacky W. Allender and niece, Tammy Wratchford.

He attended the schools of Tucker County, and had worked for Wratchford's Garage at Parsons, WV, which was owned by his father and as a laborer for various companies and worked in construction. Jim was dedicated to helping his neighbors at the farm and loved feeding the deer, chickens, guineas, cats and dogs.

A Graveside Service was conducted at the Mountain State Memorial Gardens at Gilman, WV on Monday, July 20, 2026, at 11 AM. The Reverend James Snyder officiated and interment followed. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is honored to be in charge of the arrangements for Delvin James "Jim" Wratchford. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.com.

Harvey Nelson



Kevin Lynn Nelson

Harvey Nelson, 63, a resident of the Lanesville community passed from this life Wednesday, July 15, 2026, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

Harvey was born Monday, July 22, 1963, in Harman, a son of the late Burley Nelson and Bonnie Lou Cooper Nelson, who survives. He had never married.

Left to cherish Harvey's memory besides his mother, are two sisters, Barbara Mayor and Carolyn Sue Whitman, two brothers, Gary Dale Nelson and Anthony "Wayne" Nelson, all of the Lanesville community, a niece, Ashley Edinfield, four nephews Timothy Pratt, Gary Dale Nelson, Jr., Lance Wayne Nelson and Kevin Lynn Nelson

Preceding Harvey in death besides his father was a half-brother, Timothy Nelson and a half-sister, Christina Gorman.

Harvey graduated from Tucker County High School with the Class of 1982. He was a truck driver having worked for Nelson Excavating, and later he became the owner and operator of Shoestring Trucking. Harvey had been fascinated with big trucks since he was a child and that fascination followed him throughout his career. He also enjoyed riding his 4-wheeler in the mountains and along the road of his community stopping often to visit with neighbors and friends.

A gathering of family and friends was held at Hostetler Funeral Home on Tuesday, July 21, 2026, from 2pm until 3pm, the funeral hour. Harvey's request for cremation will be honored. The Hostetler Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements for Harvey Nelson. Send condolences to the family online at www.hostetler-funeralhome.com.

PHS class of 1964 wish to send their condolences to the families of our deceased classmates.
Sincerely,
Your friends

HISTORY

Cont. From Page 5



July 25, 1864: A colony of eight Catholic nuns set out from Washington, D.C., and Frederick, Maryland, for Parkersburg. The sisters, who created a monastery there and named it DeSales Heights, ran a boarding school for young women for 75 years.

nia. His family moved to Middlebourne, Tyler County, when he was still an infant.

July 24, 1919: Sam Taylor of Mercer County became the first West Virginia State Police trooper. During his tenure, Taylor tracked moonshiners and bootleggers, and helped set up new state police detachments.

July 24, 1929: Cornelius Charlton was born in East Gulf, Raleigh County. Charlton was killed in battle during the Korean War, and he was honored posthumously with the Medal of Honor.

July 24, 1942: Actor Chris Sarandon was born in Beckley. A film, stage and television performer, some of his credits include The Nightmare Before Christmas, The Princess Bride and an Oscar nomination for Dog Day Afternoon.

July 24, 1983: Kansas City Royals hall of fame player and Glen Dale native George Brett was involved in the "Pine-Tar Bat Incident." After hitting a game-winning home run against the New York Yankees, the umpires ruled that Brett's bat contained too much pine tar and called him out. The ensuing melee at home plate is classic baseball lore.

July 26, 1922: Country music producer and recording label executive Jim Foglesong was born in Lundale, Logan County. In Nashville, he found success working with Roy Clark, Donna Fargo, Hank Thompson, Barbara Mandrell, The Oak Ridge Boys, Don Williams and many other artists.

July 26, 1942: Camp Washington-Carver was dedicated and opened to the public. The camp, located at Clifftop, Fayette County, was the first statewide 4-H camp for African Americans in the country. The camp's Great Chestnut Lodge is West Virginia's largest log structure.

July 27, 1895: Singer, instrumentalist and educator Revella Hughes was born in Huntington. After becoming a star of the Harlem Renaissance, she returned home to care for her ailing mother and lead the music department of Cabell County's segregated Black school system.

July 27, 1896: Clark Kessinger was born near Charleston. He was among the most prolific and influential fiddlers of the 20th century, and one of West Virginia's most important traditional musicians.

July 27, 1909: Coach "Dyke" Raese was born in Davis, Tucker County. He directed West Virginia University to its first major sports national championship, winning the 1942 National Invitation Tournament in basketball.

July 28, 1836: Nathan Cook Brackett was born in Maine. In 1867, he founded and became the first president of Storer College in Harpers Ferry. For 25 years, it was the only Black college in West Virginia.

July 28, 1915: Frankie Yankovic was born in Davis, Tucker County. Yankovic did more to popularize polka music than any other performer.

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.



Marsha Waybright Sworn In as Tucker County Supervisor for the Tygarts Valley Conservation District

JENNINGSTON, W.Va. — Tucker County resident, farmer, educator, and small business owner Marsha Waybright has officially been sworn in as the newest Tucker County Supervisor for the Tygarts Valley Conservation District.

Waybright, who has spent years working to strengthen agriculture and educate others through Laurel Fork Farm, the West Virginia School of Traditional Skills, Mama Bear Protection, Laurel River Club BnB and numerous community partnerships, says she is honored to have the opportunity to serve Tucker County in this new capacity.

"It is truly an honor to serve the people of Tucker County," Waybright said. "I have a lot to learn, but I'm excited to roll up my sleeves and get to work alongside the other supervisors and staff. I look forward to helping connect our farmers, landowners, and community members with the many resources available through the Conservation District."

Conservation districts play a vital role in supporting agriculture and protecting West Virginia's natural resources. Through technical assistance, conservation planning, educational programs, and cost-share opportunities, the Tygarts Valley Conservation District helps farmers and landowners improve soil health, protect waterways, manage forests, enhance wildlife habitat, and implement sustainable farming practices.

As both a farmer and educator, Waybright understands many of the opportunities and challenges facing local agriculture. She hopes her experience will help bridge the gap between available conservation programs and the people who can benefit from them.

"I know there are many farmers and landowners who aren't aware of all the assistance that is available," she said. "Whether you have a small homestead, a family farm, woodland, or larger agricultural operation, I encourage you to ask questions. If I don't know the answer, I'll help you find someone who does."

Waybright and her husband, Kendall, operate Laurel Fork Farm in Jenningston, where they practice regenerative agriculture and offer educational experiences that highlight Appalachian farming traditions, conservation, and sustainable land management. She is also the Executive Director of the West Virginia School of Traditional Skills, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and teaching traditional Appalachian skills for future generations.

Waybright says serving as a Conservation District Supervisor is another opportunity to give back to the community she loves.

Waybright encourages anyone interested in learning more about conservation programs or opportunities available through the Tygarts Valley Conservation District to reach out.

"Ask me what the Tygarts Valley Conservation District can do for your farm," she said. "I'd be happy to help connect you with the resources that can make a difference."

For more information about the Tygarts Valley Conservation District and its programs, residents are encouraged to contact their local Conservation District office or speak with Waybright at upcoming community and agricultural events. You can visit www.mountainlifewv.com to learn more about the Waybright Family and all they do in Tucker and Randolph Counties.

Simmons Reunion

The descendants of Calvin and Sarah Simmons held their 52nd annual reunion at the Flanagan Hill Community Center on July 12, 2026.

Donna Eye welcomed everyone and Suzanne Simmons gave the blessing.

Those attending were: Jeff Simmons of Florida; Nicole Whitford, Jean Pennington, Autumn Love, Melissa, Paxton and Beau Richards of Pennsylvania; Kevin, Tina, Jacob and Brenna Simmons of Virginia. Camryn, Calla, Laya and Theo Brown of Maryland. Those attending from West Virginia include Jim, Shirley and Jenna Wolfe, Michael, Elijah and Logan Wolfe, Don and Tammy Wolford, Larry and Cathy Rummel, Travis, Sarah, Olivia, Margaret and Grant Rummel, Frank Simmons, Brenda Arnold, Bill and Sharon Moats, Cindy and Kenny Martin, Donna Eye, Travis and Michelle Eye, Lynda Simmons, Suzanne Simmons, Jennifer and Travis Martin, Delores Shirk, Armeda Ryder, and Joyce Shockey.

Prizes were awarded to youngest attendee Theo Brown, age 3 and door prizes were distributed to Cindy Martin, Michelle Eye, Autumn Love, Nicole Whitford and Kevin Simmons.

DAR PHOTOS

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Appalachian Forest National Heritage Area Designates the Woodchopping and Timber Heritage Museum as an AFNHA Discovery Site

Elkins, West Virginia — The Appalachian Forest National Heritage Area has officially designated a Discovery Site at the Woodchopping and Timber Heritage Museum in Webster County.

The AFNHA Discovery Site Program highlights key places that bring the Appalachian Forest's history, culture, and natural beauty to life. Each site reflects one or more topics of Forests and Forestry, the Logging Boom, and Mountain Culture, helping visitors explore the people, landscapes, and traditions that shaped this region. Together, these sites form a connected journey across the Appalachian Forest, offering education, authentic experiences, and opportunities to enjoy and protect our heritage.

The Woodchopping and Timber Heritage Museum is recognized as a significant tourist destination for its interpretation of crucial regional history, exemplifying AFNHA's focus on Appalachian Forest heritage and culture.

As a Discovery Site, the Woodchopping and Timber Heritage Museum is eligible to provide to visitors a National Park Service Passport stamp. Visitors can stamp their official National Park Passport here as well as at other AFNHA Discovery Sites and AFNHA's own Darden Mill. Woodchopping and Timber Heritage Museum is open Monday-Friday, 8 AM - 4 PM.

The Appalachian Forest National Heritage Area conserves, interprets, and promotes forest heritage to enhance landscapes and communities in the highlands of West Virginia and Maryland. AFNHA works with partners to accomplish this through community development, conservation, celebrating cultural heritage, and creating opportunities for transformational experiences. AFNHA is a member of the National Heritage Area System. To learn more, see www.appalachianforestnha.org.



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DR. CICERO M. FAIN
MARSHALL UNIVERSITY

Speaker
DR. TAMARA DENMARK- BAILEY
WV WESLEYAN COLLEGE



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or email: courtney@aurora-llc.com

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