

News of Record

The following criminal complaint has been filed in the Tucke County Magistrate office:

- **Christopher Guy Ross**, of Parsons, was charged with one count of Destruction of Property >\$2,500. The complaint states that on Wednesday, Sept. 2, Cpl. N.C. Gidley approached a male subject, who stated that he had received a call from the landlord of that property that a subject had broken a window at 244 Overlook Drive. He followed the subject to that address and met with the tenants. The tenants stated that a male subject, identified by them as the accused, had broken out their window while they were sleeping and was hanging halfway in the window when they found him. They stated they tended to the accused cuts at which point he proceeded to open the front door and urinate onto the front porch and the dog. Gidley spoke with the landlord of the property, hereby referred to as the victim. The victim stated that she wished to press charges against the accused and that the window he broke would cost approximately \$200 - \$300 to replace. Gidley and the other officers made contact with the accused on Second Street and after being mirandized he stated, in summary, that he had broken the victim’s window at the above-mentioned address.

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

- **City of Parsons, Parsons City Cemetery**; Lot No. E.H. 104 Section G; 10 feet x 10 feet to Kelly C. Mason.

- **Michael A. Barnes and Brenda J. Barnes**, Black Fork District, .85 acres Lot 4 (B) Camo Wilderness to John P. Henderson, II and Annette M. Henderson, \$50,000.
- **Christal G. Perry, Appointee, Honorable Mark A. Hunt, State Auditor, David James Traxinger and Charlotte Marie Traxinger**, Davis Corporation, Lot 78, Phase Tuscan Ridge, .50 acres Certificate #2024-000022 to Alexander Yax, \$10,000.
- **Cepropterties LLC**, Davis Corporation, Part Lot 228 Henry Avenue to Thomas Morgan & Sons Davis LLC, \$400,000.
- **Rella Cvetican**, Davis Corporation, Surface: Lot 134 Phase 1, 1.09 acres, Tuscan Ridge Phase 3 to Red Creek Construction LLC, \$10,000.
- **Allan Ievers**, Trustee, Cindy Ievers, Trustee; Allan Ievers and Cindy Ievers; 2003 Revocable Trust, Davis Corporation, Lot 70, Tuscan Ridge Subdivision to Margaret Haubach, \$45,000.
- **Jess W. Everett and Denise C. Everett/AKA/ Charlene Denise Everett**, Davis Corporation, Lot 63 to Susan E. Ramey, \$195,000.
- **Susan E. Ramey; Transferor**, Davis Corporation, Transfer on Death Deed: Lot 63 to Lydia A. Darrow, Beneficiary and Jeremy K. Darrow, Beneficiary.
- **Patricia V. Huffman**, Dry Fork District, 1.65 acres, Red Creek to Carley Alexis Somerville, \$220,000.
- **John W. Cooper and Thisbe M. Cooper**, Dry Fork District, Lot 11, Cabin Mountain, Section A, Timberline Subdivision, 8.30 acres to Daniel

- Marlin Lind and Alma Acosta, \$935,000.
- **Ivan E. O’Neil**, Dry Fork District, Quitclaim Deed: 39 acres and 8 acres to Kevin H. Roy.
- **Elmer Harkness III**, Dry Fork District, Unit 45 Tract II, Deerfield Village Condominiums to Catherine Norton and Thomas Norton, \$276,250.
- **Bran Hissong and Christine Theller**, Dry Fork District, Unit 5, Deerfield Village Condo to Heath F. Harber and Sabrina May Harber, \$241,000.
- **James Mills and Kelly Mills**, Dry Fork District, Unit B1 Week 28 Land f Canaan Vacation Resort to land of Cnaan Home Owners Association Inc., \$600.
- **Land of Canaan Home Owners Association Inc.**, Unit A6 Week 28 Land of Canaan Vacation Resort to Smanatha Hyre and Anna Stewart, \$850.
- **Michael L. Ulrich and Shannon Ulrich**, Dry Fork District, Lot 32 North Lake IV to James S. Dayton, Sr., \$80,000.
- **Timothy F. Smalley and Hilda F. Smalley**, St. George District, Revocable Transfer on Death Deed; Lot 10, containing 5.42 acres +/- to Stacy D. Hibner and Andrea N. Meadows.
- **Cepropterties LLC**, Thomas Corporation, Eastern ½ Lot 685; ½ Lot 685; Parcel, (5,000 square feet) 50x100 to Thomas Morgan & Sons LLC \$350,000.
- **Western Pocohontas Properties Limited**, Thomas Corporation, Quitclaim Deed; Approximately 0.30 acres to Corbin Valley LLC.

Butterfly Program in Canaan Valley

Canaan Valley Master Naturalists and Friends of the 500th National Wildlife Refuge celebrate the release of a beautiful new fully-illustrated book covering all the butterflies in our area. On Saturday September 12th, at 10:00 am, Tucker County author and naturalist Casey Rucker will lead a butterfly walk. At noon, he’ll present a short indoor program on butterfly ecology and photography. After the program, he will stay to sign copies of the brand new book he co-authored with Susan Olcott, Butterflies of West Virginia and the Central Appalachians. The book will be available in

the Refuge Bookstore. The program is scheduled in conjunction with a citizen science event called Butterfly Big Day, which will take place with the help of camera phones in the hands of nature lovers all over the world. To participate, add your photos of the butterflies you see on Saturday, September 12th. Learn how to take a photograph and upload it to a website called iNaturalist, which saves information about plants, animals, insects, and fungi that people all over the world photograph and send to the site. This very large and fast-growing database is

creating an evolving record of which species are present where, and whether they are abundant or scarce. This is an example of Citizen Science; like a scientific study except it is done by regular people who just like to learn about the natural world. If you want to check put the new book and learn about butterflies and the Butterfly Big Day, come to the Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge this Saturday at 10:00am. It is located at 6232 Appalachian Highway, just south of the BFS station in Canaan Valley. All ages are welcome, and the program is free.

Garrett Co. Citizens Academy accepting applications Academy to focus on local law enforcement, fire, and EMS roles

McHenry, MD – Garrett College, supported by a Maryland Two Fifty Commission grant, is accepting applications for the Garrett County Citizens Academy. The Citizens Academy is designed to provide participants with an in-depth understanding of the history, responsibilities, and essential roles of law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services (EMS) throughout Garrett County. The Maryland Two Fifty Commission’s goal is to support local 250 commissions and committees throughout the state in developing memorable and unique commemorative activities for the United States’ 250th anniversary. “I see this as a chance to create something that will have a lasting impact on our community,” said Chris Nichols, a former chair of the Garrett County EMS Board and one of the leaders of the Citizens Academy project. “When I alerted Garrett College to this opportunity, I was excited that they also recognized the value in making this happen. “I’m looking forward to seeing this inaugural Citizens Academy bring our county together and raise awareness of a vital but often taken-for-granted public service,” added Nichols. The Academy is limited to 20 participants, who must be at least 18 years old. Individuals must complete the application (www.garrettcollege.edu/citizens-academy) and have transportation to attend the sessions at various sites in Garrett County. Josh Hook, Garrett College’s Paramedic Program director and lead instructor, said participants “will gain a greater appreciation for the dedication, coordination, and expertise required to keep our communities safe, protect lives, and create a positive environment for residents and visitors.” The Academy, which will run for five consecutive



weeks starting September 14th, will focus on a different topic each week, facilitated by Garrett County officials and industry experts, with dates, times, locations, topics, listed below: **September 14** (6-8 p.m., GIEC 103, Garrett College): History of Public Safety, Fire, and EMS in Garrett County and Stop the Bleed. **September 21** (6-8 p.m., Garrett County Detention Center): Public Safety Tour of Garrett County Detention Center. **September 28** (6-8 p.m., Beitzel Career Technology Training Center in Accident): Training and Education. **October 5** (6-9 p.m., Deep Creek Volunteer Fire Department and Garrett County Emergency Operations Center): Fire and EMS Equipment and Resources and Garrett County Emergency Operations Center. **October 12** (6-8 p.m., GIEC 111, Garrett College): The Future of Public Safety, Fire, and EMS in Garrett County.

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PARSONS ADVOCATE LETTERS TO EDITOR POLICY

The Parsons Advocate encourages letters to the editor. Letters can be mailed to P.O. Box 345, Parsons, WV 26287 (envelopes must show a return address), faxed to 304-478-1086, e-mailed to mikie@parsonsadvocate.com or dropped off at our office at 219 Central Ave. Submissions must include a daytime telephone number, name and address. This is for verification purposes. Letters can be submitted only once each 30 days and can not exceed 500 words. Submitting a letter does not guarantee it will be published. All letters become prop-

erty of The Parsons Advocate. The Parsons Advocate reserves the right to edit and/or reject letters. Personal attacks, lies, and etc. will not be published. The views expressed in letters are not necessarily the views of the Parsons Advocate. Thank you notes and advertising are not considered as letters to the editor. When submitting letters do not use all caps, italics or bold. Use punctuation, upper and lower case letters and indent for paragraphs. If you have any questions, please call us at 304-478-3533.

SPORTS

TC Football Gets Quality Road Win 18-6 at Tygarts Valley

By: Adam Freeman
The Tucker County football team got in the “W” column last Friday in Mill Creek, WV, as they defeated the Tygarts Valley Bulldogs 18-6.

Tucker started on defense but got a huge play on the opening drive as Sawyer Fansler came off the edge for a strip sack that landed the ball right into Gunnar Carroll’s arms, setting the Mt. Lions up in great field position. Just a few short plays later, Cade Rapp scored from two yards out; the two-point try was unsuccessful to give Tucker the early 6-0 lead.

The rest of the first half was a back-and-forth defensive bout up until shortly before the half when sophomore QB Branson Hyre found freshman wideout Raylan Rumer on a flag route to the back corner of the end zone to extend the Mt. Lion lead 12-0 going into the half.

The Bulldogs, however, would battle back to make it a one-score game in the third quarter as they broke their longest play of the game, a 67-yard TD run, to cut the score to 12-6. The Mt. Lions would answer the call on a lengthy drive in the fourth quarter as Hyre would call his own number and score from six yards out. The touchdown would be the last score of the game for either squad as Tucker would leave Randolph County with the win



QB, Branson Hyre surveys the defense. (Photo by Brittany Channell)



Asher Kisamore drags down the Bulldog ball carrier. (Photo by Brittany Channell)

18-6.

Cade Rapp led the Mt. Lions in rushing with 77 yards on 20 attempts with 1 touchdown; Branson Hyre rushed for 62 yards on 21 carries along with going 4-16 passing for 36 yards and another score through the air. Raylan Rumer led Tucker in receiving with two catches for 18 yards and a score; Evan Hexom also notched two catches for 18 yards.

The Mt. Lions improve to 1-1 on the season and are set to return home for a week three matchup with the 2-0 East Hardy Cougars Friday, September 11th, at 7 p.m.

Wildcat Football Opens with Convincing 32-6 Win at Braxton County



By: Adam Freeman
Tucker Valley’s middle school football team opened their season last Thursday as they traveled to Flatwoods, WV, to take on Braxton County Middle School.

Tucker got the ball to start the game, but the drive was stalled when promising 6th grader Kace Nestor went down with a season-ending injury to his left arm. After the lengthy delay and wave of emotions, Tucker was unable to punch the ball into the end zone, and Braxton County took over.



Kace Nestor breaks free from the attempted tackle for a 10-yard gain.

The home team was forced to punt, but the ball was muffed, giving the Knights possession inside Wildcat territory. Two plays later, Braxton County scored on an eight-yard pass across the middle, giving them the early lead, 6-0. Tucker would answer the bell on the next drive as Braxton White would power in from two yards out. With a successful two-point try, Tucker would take the lead into the half, 8-6.

The Wildcats would come out in the second half on a mission as they stopped the Knights on the opening

drive of the half, and then Noah White would find a huge running lane behind the right side of his offensive line (Luke Lantz, Brantlee “Bull” Rosier, and Ashton Arnett), where he would take it in from 45 yards out. With the score, Tucker was up 14-6.

The following possession on defense saw what may have been the game’s most exciting play as 8th grader Braylon Simmons sunk to the flats in pass coverage and intercepted a pass, taking it 51 yards to pay dirt and extending the Wildcat lead to 20-6. The onslaught would continue as Tucker’s Easton Phillips completed a successful onside kick, and Noah White would go to work again, this time behind Tristan Pitzer and Gunner Lester, as the speedster scampered in from 39 yards out to make the score 26-6 at the end of the third period.

The Wildcats, however, were not finished as they punched in one more score in the fourth period, as again Noah White broke loose, this time from 34 yards out, to settle in the final score at 32-6. Tucker rattled off 32 straight unanswered points in the game and held their opponent to under 100 yards of total offense. Noah White steadied the ground game for Tucker on 14 carries for 224 yards and three touchdowns; twin brother Braxton followed with 8 carries, 47 yards, and a touchdown.

The Wildcats will hit the road again this week as they will travel to Pocahontas County on Wednesday, September 9th, for a 6:30 p.m. kickoff.



August Boreman in the hole 6 tee box at Holly Meadows Golf Course.

Mt. Lions Golf Claims First Place at The Pines Country Club

By: Adam Freeman
On Tuesday, September 1, TCHS golf traveled to The Pines Country Club in Morgantown for a nine-hole match against their host, Trinity Christian, and regional rival, Tygarts Valley High School. Six varsity members participated in the match, and out of these six, five finished in the top 10 individually. Braylon Ward secured 10th place, Cayden Arnold placed 7th, Drew Simmons achieved 4th, Ethan Cummings claimed 3rd, and Nate Davis clinched the 2nd spot. These impressive individual performances

Tucker County Cross Country Competes at Large Buckhannon-Upshur Invitational

By: Adam Freeman
The Tucker County cross country team traveled to compete in the Buckhannon-Upshur Invitational, a large and highly competitive meet featuring numerous teams and a crowded field of runners.

With so many athletes competing, every place was hard-earned as runners battled through the course and worked to post strong times for their team.

Juniper Judy led the way for Tucker County, finishing 12th overall and earning a spot in the Top 15 medal standings. Judy’s finish was a strong performance against a large field and highlighted a competitive day for the Tucker County runners.

On the boys’ side, William Gilligan finished 18th, followed closely



Juniper Judy

propelled the team to the top of the leaderboard, resulting in a team score of 181 and a first-place finish in the event.

On Wednesday, September 2, TC returned to their home turf at Holly Meadows for a head-to-head match against Union. All six of their golfers finished in the top 10, leading to a team victory for the JV. The individual placings were as follows: August Boarman secured 6th place, Briar Arbogast placed 4th, Joel Jones achieved 3rd, Collin Pitzer claimed 2nd, and Jarrett Dearborn emerged as the 1st-place finisher. The golf team will return to the course September 8 for a home match at Canaan Valley Resort.

SPORTS
CONTINUED
ON PAGE 4



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



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Lady Mt. Lions Roll with Two Sweeps, Continue Strong Start

By: Adam Freeman

The Tucker County Lady Mt. Lions had a strong week on the volleyball court, picking up solid wins over Tygarts Valley and Union.

Tucker County opened the week Monday on the road at Tygarts Valley. The JV team dropped a close first set, 23-25, but bounced back in a big way. The Lady Mt. Lions took the next two sets 25-10 and 25-13 to win the match. Ava Henderson, Lily Bland, Allie Wright, and Nettie Nelson helped spark the comeback with strong serving throughout the match.

The varsity squad also came away with a sweep, defeating Tygarts Valley 25-18, 25-8, and 25-15. Jacey Helmick and Cortney Shaffer helped set the tone with powerful serving.

Back at home Thursday, Tucker County kept things rolling with another three-set sweep, this time over Union. The Lady Mt. Lions cruised to wins of 25-4, 25-10, and 25-16. Izzy Kitzmiller led the offense with eight kills, followed by Everley Evans with five. Bella Carr and Morgan Simmons also stood out with consistent serving.

Tucker County has continued to get important contributions from throughout the roster. Kiley Snyder has provided valuable versatility off the bench, while Rachel Hile and Addy Johnson have made key plays defensively.

Tucker County will hit the road again Tuesday to take on Moorefield before traveling to Morgantown Thursday for a tri-match.



West Virginia Humanities Council Announces Grant Awards

Charleston – The West Virginia Humanities Council, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, serves West Virginia through grants and direct programs in the humanities. Grants are offered to nonprofit organizations that support educational programming. The Humanities Council recently awarded the following 27 minigrants, which are designed for projects requesting \$2,000 or less.

- Bottom Dog Press, Inc. (Ohio County), Keynote Speaker for the Writers Association of Northern Appalachia’s Annual Conference
- Brooke County Library Foundation, American Guerrillas of Mindanao Gone but Not Forgotten, digitization project
- City of Morgantown Department of Arts & Cultural Development (Monongalia County), Rooted in Place: African American History in Morgantown and Monongalia County Exhibition
- Civil War Roundtable of the Mid-Ohio Valley (Wood County), Michael Haynes Combines Research with the Power of Composition, Color and Light to Produce the Gettysburg Project, presentation and discussion
- Clarksburg History Museum (Harrison County), Four County Civil War Tour, bus tour
- Contemporary American Theater Festival, Inc. (Jefferson County), 2027 TalkTheater: Humanities at the Festival, humanities discussions
- The Cultural Foundation of Harrison County, Mtn Craft Film Festival Heritage Screening
- Fort Edwards Foundation (Hampshire County), Visitors Center Historic Signage Reboot, signage
- Glenville State University Foundation (Gilmer County), The Early West Virginia State Folk Festival Recordings Digitization Project
- Greenbrier Historical Society (Greenbrier County), Driving Tour of the Revolutionary War Era in the Greenbrier Valley
- Heart and Hand Outreach Ministries (Kanawha County), The People We Carry: Appalachian Memoir, Portraiture and Children’s Literature, workshops and public presentations
- Homestead Farm Center (Taylor County), Homestead Heritage Immersion Day, discussions and workshops Innovative Community Solutions (Jefferson County), Uncovering the Weaver-Gillison House: A Digital Companion to Weaver Gillison House History
- McCoy-MeMechen Museum, Inc. (Hardy County), Higher Ground Study Guide
- Potts Chapel Restoration (Mason County), Potts Chapel: Preserving the History and Heritage of a Rural Appalachian Community, oral history, research, and digitization project
- Preservation Alliance of West Virginia, Inc. (Marion, Mason, and Lewis counties), West Virginia Cemetery Documentation & Preservation Project
- RenewALL, Inc. (Cabell County), Glass Giant: Interpreting the Owens-Illinois Impact in West Huntington, exhibit
- Shepherd University (Jefferson County), Telling Our Story: An Interpretive History Installation



Jaxon Quattro, Hunter Lipscomb, Bryson Mihalko, Nolan Luzier, and Owen Wolford

Davis Thomas Golf Holds Home Match at Canaan Valley Resort

By: Adam Freeman

The Bears golf team of Davis Thomas Middle School hosted a home match last week at Canaan Valley Resort. The match consisted of five teams from throughout the region.

The Vikings of Petersburg Middle would take the win, followed by Pendleton County, Romney Middle, Davis Thomas, and then Keyser Middle.

Individually, Nolan Luzier posted a score of 46, which landed him in the top five overall. Hunter Lipscomb followed with a 55, Owen Wolford with a 61, Bryson Mihalko with a 65, and Jackson Quattro with a 71. The Bears will be back in the tee box on September 7 at Valley View Golf Club.



Malik Dillard, Noah Luzier and Talon Rhodes

— Davis Thomas Welcomes — Soccer to Fall Sports Regiment

By: Adam Freeman

For the fall of 2026, Davis Thomas Elementary School will suit up its first-ever co-ed soccer team. The team is coached by Tucker County native Kurt Snider and is made up of players from Davis Thomas, Tucker Valley, and several homeschool players as well.

The team played its first match this past week in Kingwood against Central Preston Middle School. The Bears would find themselves down 4-0 in the first half

but continued to battle through and eventually found the net on a mid-half goal by Maverick Drenning, cutting the lead to 4-1.

Bears goalkeeper Ellis Sherald would hold Central scoreless in the second half, and the Bears would fall 4-1.

Davis Thomas will play again next week on Friday, September 8th, at Braxton County Middle School and look to improve on its young season.

- at the Shepherdstown Opera House
 - Summers County Historical Society, WV 250th Revolutionary War Trails of the Kanawha Valley, research project and community presentations
 - Summers County Public Library, Digitization of Microfilm of Newspapers
 - West Virginia Foreign Language Teachers Association (Marion County), Fill Your Cup and Level UP! WVFLTA Conference 2026
 - West Virginia Mine Wars Museum (Mingo County), In These Hills: The West Virginia Mine Wars Museum Journal West Virginia Music Hall of Fame (Kanawha County), West Virginia Music Hall of Fame Induction 2027 Film Vignettes
 - West Virginia Public Broadcasting Foundation, Inc. (Cabell and Monongalia counties), Us & Them: Across the Table Before the 2026 Mid-term Election, podcasts
 - West Virginia University Research Corporation (Monongalia County), Teaching Democracy: Lessons from Early America, lecture and pedagogical materials
 - West Virginia University Research Corporation (Monongalia County), Viva Voce Voting in West Virginia, digitization project
- For more information about West Virginia Humanities Council grants, contact Grants Administrator Erin Riebe at (304) 346-8500 or via email at riebe@wvhumanities.org. Grant guidelines and applications are available on the Humanities Council website, wvhumanities.org.
- The West Virginia Humanities Council, an independent nonpartisan nonprofit corporation, is the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The Council is supported by the NEH, the State of West Virginia, and contributions from the private sector. The purposes of the West Virginia Humanities Council are educational, and its mission is to support a vigorous program in the humanities statewide in West Virginia.

Railey Realty secures archway naming rights

Orr: ‘We know the College is growing and we want to be a part of that’

McHenry, MD – Railey Realty and Garrett College are teaming up on another capital campaign initiative. Railey – which recently completed a multi-year naming gift for a recital hall in the Performing Arts Center at Garrett College – has secured a naming opportunity on the 700 Building donor archway. The archway is to be constructed on the sidewalk leading into the 700 Building, which is being completely renovated to provide expanded space for the College’s growing intercollegiate athletics program.

“We feel it’s very important to support local education,” said Rich Orr, past managing member and consultant at Railey Realty. “We always look first at how we can assist the youth, whether it’s grade school, high school, or the college level.

“We know the College is growing and we want to be part of that,” added Orr.

College officials said they identified Railey Realty as a potential archway donor early in the Garrett College Foundation (GCF) Athletics Capital Campaign.

“Railey has been such a great partner and participant in funding worthy college initiatives,” said Dr. Richard Midcap, Garrett College’s president. “We wanted them to have a significant naming and we’re just so pleased



that the Railey team felt the same way.”

Railey didn’t just secure the fourth and final naming on the high-visibility archway. Their gift also closed out the major naming opportunities of the capital campaign, which has raised over \$900,000 on a \$500,000 initial goal.

All 25 naming opportunities have been acquired by local businesses, families, and individuals, according to GCF Executive Director Cherie Krug.

“The outpouring of support for this campaign has been extraordinary,” said Krug.

The renovated 700 Building includes locker rooms for the four teams served by the adjacent turf field – base-

ball, women’s softball, women’s soccer, and men’s soccer – as well as new athletic training space, a wrestling room, a conference room, and coaches’ offices. While two minor phases of the renovation remain, the College has received its occupancy permit, and staff began moving into the facility during the last week of July.

The expansion of intercollegiate athletics has increased student athlete headcount from 70 in Fiscal Year 2022 to 175 in Fiscal Year 2026, sparking a 26.4 percent increase in credit students over the same time frame. The residence hall fill rate has grown from 45 percent to 98 percent during the same time period.

“We’ve been strategically growing student athlete headcount and the number of intercollegiate athletic teams to grow enrollment,” said Midcap. “That strategy has also helped improve student success metrics across the board.”

Garrett College had 37 student athletes earn NJCAA All-Academic team honors during the 2025-26 academic year. The Lakers averaged 5.3 All-Academic selections per team, which led the 23-college NJCAA Region 20.

“We supported this campaign in part because the College’s efforts to expand athletics is an important aspect of the College’s growth,” said Orr.

GC graduates 2025-26 Paramedic hybrid class

Student speakers emphasize lessons outside the formal curriculum



Garrett College’s 2025-26 Paramedic Program hybrid cohort graduated Monday night at the Performing Arts Center at Garrett College. Pictured, left to right, are Program Medical Director Dr. Janelle Martin, Program Director Josh Hook, graduates Charles Carter, Jacquelyn Patton, Jessica Liller, Cheyanne Cole, Allyse Baker, Program Coordinator Doug Beitzel, and Program Clinical Coordinator Steve Adams. Not pictured: graduate Patric McNeil. Photo by John Rudd

McHenry, MD – Valedictorian Jessica Liller and salutatorian Jacquelyn Patton both praised the academic preparation they received as members of Garrett College’s third Paramedic Program hybrid cohort. Each, however, told the audience at Monday night’s graduation ceremony that key lessons also took place outside of the formal curriculum.

“Knowledge makes us competent, but compassion makes us unforgettable,” said Liller, a Keyser, WV resident who noted paramedics “owe it to their patients to never become satisfied with being mediocre.”

“The medicine matters, the skills matter – but at the end of the day, we are caring for others,” said Patton, who resides in Grantsville. “We treat the patient, not just the problem.”

The human side of medicine was emphasized by all of the speakers, including Dr. Janelle Martin, the program’s medical director.

“Strive to always pursue evidence-based medicine with compassion and respect for human dignity,” Dr. Martin told the graduates. “Never lose sight of the human being in front of you.”

Allyse Baker (Westover, WV), Charles Carter (Frostburg), Cheyanne Cole (Keyser, WV), and Patric McNeil (Romney, WV) rounded out the cohort’s six-member class. Thanks to the hybrid model, the class completed the program in one year compared to the two years required to complete the traditional, face-to-face program.

Josh Hook, recently appointed the program’s first, full-time director/lead instructor, noted the hybrid format cuts no corners.

“It takes everything traditionally done in two years and condenses it into one,” said Hook, adding, “It is quite an accomplishment.”

Dean of Continuing Education & Workforce Development Julie Yoder, who oversees the Paramedic Program, noted paramedic training has evolved in many ways over time – but not in its basic philosophy.

“The equipment has changed, and the technology has changed,” said Yoder. “The curriculum has changed. But the mission has never changed: helping people on their worst day.”

Jim Koon – a member of GC’s first Paramedic Program class who retired this summer as program director after a 30-year career with the program – struck a similar theme in his keynote address while challenging graduates to improve upon their chosen profession.

“Now, it’s your turn to move this profession forward,” said Koon. “It’s your turn to protect it, your turn to improve it, your turn to challenge it when you think it needs to be changed, your turn to leave it better than you found it.”

Program Coordinator Doug Beitzel noted the inclusive nature of the program experience.

“No one goes through the Paramedic Program alone,” said Beitzel, calling Paramedics “one of the most demanding educational journeys in EMS [Emergency Medical Services].”

Notes: Maryland Senator Mike McKay presented Koon with a pair of resolutions from state legislators to honor Koon’s Garrett College career.

The hybrid program option was created in 2023, with the first hybrid class graduating in 2024. It was created



Jessica Liller is the valedictorian of Garrett College’s 2025-26 Paramedic Program hybrid cohort. Photo by John Rudd

to offer a one-year accelerated pathway alongside GC’s traditional, two-year, fully in-person program.

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Saturday: Elkins, intersection 33E - 250/219,
across from KFC - 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

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Golden Seal	Wet: \$11 ⁰⁰ Dry: \$45 ⁰⁰ lb.
Stone Root	Dry: \$45 ⁰⁰ lb.
Wild Yam	Dry: \$10 ⁰⁰ lb.

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REAL ESTATE AUCTION

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH AT NOON
REGISTRATION & INSPECTION BEGINS AT 11:00AM
OPEN PREVIEW: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH 10AM-1PM
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29.30 +/- TOTAL ACRES (AS ASSESSED)
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RE Terms: 10% down payment made day of auction w/balance due at closing w/in 60 days. 10% BP. Additional terms on Website.

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WV Registered Auction House | Joe Pyle, Broker WV212 | Jordan Kiger, Agent WV2246

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Auction Begins to Close – Wednesday, September 30th at 6:00PM
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306 Sunnyside Lane,
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GRAND CIRCA-1900 PARSONS HOME ON 0.78± ACRES
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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Super Crossword

Answers

A	C	T	U	A	T	O	R	A	S	H	R	A	M	M	E	S	A	S
B	O	A	T	R	A	C	E	L	O	O	K	M	A	E	L	I	T	E
A	C	C	E	S	S	H	O	L	L	I	W	O	O	D	S	E	T	O
S	O	I	R	E	E	S	T	A	D	C	A	T	S	C	A	N	S	
E	A	T	I	N	A	D	H	O	C	C	O	M	M	I	T	T	E	
A	M	I	E	B	U	N	D	T	O	Y	L	H	A	T	C	H		
T	E	N	N	E	S	S	E	E	W	I	L	L	I	A	M	S	H	
M	A	L	T	S	H	A	D	O	N	Y	M	C	A	P	A	L	M	
S	T	O	R	M	S	E	P	P	S	B	L	T	I	T	L			
S	W	E	E	T	S	M	E	L	L	O	F	S	U	C	C	E	S	
M	A	G	E	L	I	U	Y	A	L	E	S	H	O	T	A	I	R	
S	U	E	S	E	M	M	E	C	O	N	I	C	B	I	L	G	E	
R	C	A	P	O	P	P	Y	S	E	E	D	D	R	E	S	S	I	
P	E	R	I	L	S	E	A	D	I	R	E	R	M	E	S	S		
C	A	R	T	U	N	A	I	D	E	A								
A	L	L	E	Y	O	O	P	P	A	S	S	E	S	C	U	R	B	S
G	E	O	M	E	T	R	O	T	O	S	S	E	T	S	A	I	L	
A	M	P	E	D	Q	U	A	D	R	U	P	L	E	D	O	U	B	L
S	M	E	L	T	U	N	R	E	A	L	A	M	E	N	A	B	L	E
P	E	S	T	O	E	D	S	E	L	S	W	I	N	E	L	I	S	T

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What's ? Happening

Revival

St. John's Church will be holding a revival beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 10 thru Saturday, Sept. 12. Come and revive your spirit with God's Holy Spirit.

Knotts Reunion

The Family of the late Albert and Minnie Knotts will be having their annual family reunion on Sunday, Sept. 13 beginning at noon. It will be held at the Knotts Pavilion and everyone is welcome.

Candidate Meeting

Come to Tucker County Senior Center from 5-7 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept 16 to meet your candidates. Deborah Stiles and Jon Bush will be available to answer your questions. For more information, please call 304-478-3519. Light refreshments will be available.

Retired School Employees Meeting Wednesday Sept. 16

Tucker County Retired School Employees meeting is Wednesday, Sept. 16 at 12:00 noon at the Parsons Senior Center. Lunch is available at 11:30 if you wish. All retirees are welcome.

St. George Senior Outpost Thursday September 17

St. George Senior Outpost is at 6:00 pm on Thursday, September 17 at the St. George Community Church. Bring

a covered dish and join us for good food and fellowship.

West Virginia Trappers Association Convention

The West Virginia Trappers Association will hold their annual 2026 convention September 18-20, 2026 at the Gilmer County Recreation Center 1365 Sycamore Run Road Glenville, WV. The Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 17, 2026 at 7PM. Gates open at 9AM Friday, September 18th. Various demos at the barn near the camping area, and trap dying and waxing both days. Vendors will be present Friday and Saturday. Benefit auction will be Friday and also a spaghetti dinner on Friday evening. There will be a BB Gun Range and Archery Range, trap setting contests, along with other activities for the kids, and ladies. Saturday September 19th, the gates open at 8AM. The Trapper Education class registration begins at 8:30AM on Saturday and classes begin at 9AM. General Membership meeting will be Saturday after the education graduation in the main building. Hot dog roast and social gathering Saturday evening. Square dance Saturday evening. Primitive camping available on the grounds and also there is electric hookups for campers available. Call 304-916-3329 to reserve a spot. For more information, contact Jeremiah Whitlatch at 304-916-3329.



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.

Sept. 9, 1839: Anderson “Devil Anse” Hatfield was born in Mingo County. He was the patriarch of the Hatfield family and their leader during the Hatfield-McCoy feud.

Sept. 10, 1782: Frontier heroine Betty Zane is credited with saving Fort Henry in Wheeling during an attack by British and Indians during the Revolutionary War. According to one account, Zane sprinted across a field to retrieve gunpowder from the Zane family cabin.

Sept. 10, 1861: The Battle of Carnifex Ferry took place on the Gauley River in Nicholas County. Union Gen. William Rosecrans sent in brigades one at a time as they arrived at the battlefield, allowing the outnumbered Confederates to repulse the piecemeal attacks. During the night, the Confederates retreated before they could be defeated in the morning.

Sept. 10, 1887: Author and scholar John Frederick Matheus was born in Keyser. He became a prominent writer of plays, short stories and other works during the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s.

Sept. 10, 1996: Movie and TV actress Joanne Dru died in Los Angeles. Dru, the older sister of Hollywood Squares host Peter Marshall, was born Joan Letitia Lacock in Logan. Her movie career included more than 40 films.

Sept. 11, 1913: Ritter Park in Huntington opened. During the Great Depression, the Works Progress Administration contributed to constructing the roads and stonework around the park.

Sept. 12, 1861: The Battle of Cheat Mountain was fought near the Randolph-Pocahontas County line. Gen. Robert E. Lee came into western Virginia to give support to Gen. William W. Loring, commander of the Army of Northwestern Virginia, but the battle ended in a defeat for the Confederacy.

Sept. 12, 1872: The Great Bend Tunnel was completed at Talcott. The tunnel, also known as Big Bend Tunnel, is the place where John Henry defeated the steam drill, becoming one of the world's great folk heroes.

Sept. 12, 1952: A group of local youths were startled at a football game by a fireball streaking across the sky. The fireball fell to earth just beyond a hillside at Flatwoods. This sighting led to the legend of the Braxton County, or Flatwoods, Monster.

Sept. 12, 1974: Kanawha

Sept. 14, 1898: Okey L. Patteson was born in Mingo County. Patteson, called the “Great Persuader,” tackled difficult decisions as West Virginia’s 23rd governor from 1949 to 1953.

County schools closed for four days due to a controversy over the adoption of new textbooks. Throughout the fall, advocates for opposing sides of the issue held mass protests, which drew national media attention.

Sept. 13, 1844: Milton Humphreys was born

HISTORY CONT. PAGE 9

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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I have told you before that I like to ponder when I drive, so I will tell you my latest question to the world. The human body has a core temperature of 98.6 degrees, correct? So why is it that when we walk outside and the ambient temperature is 90 degrees, why do we feel hot? Oh, I know there is a scientific answer but for all practical reasons, my question is why?

These odd things just pop into my head sometimes and I don't know why, but it is something to question until I get an answer. I can understand feeling the cold when you are outside in the winter, but why do hot temperatures affect us the way they do? Momma Said, “You can't find the answer until you ask the question.”

Also, I like to watch a series on TV called “The Eye of the Storm”. It is about first-hand witness to horrific natural disasters like tornados, floods and hurricanes. I watched one the other night about storm

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

chasers witnessing the destruction of a family farm. Not a building left standing, 100-year-old trees twisted like tooth picks. But when the family finally emerged from the storm shelter, chickens and a tiny pig come walking up from the distance. My question is how? How were they not sucked up in the storm and killed?

I think my brain works on another level from normal people, I look at the world as if it is tilted and I have to find answers to questions no one else thinks to ask. Maybe I am the one that is tilted and everyone else is afraid to ask the question. Momma Said, “Seek and ye shall find.”

Blueberry Cobbler

INGREDIENTS:

- 4 cups fresh blueberries
- 1 1/2 cup granulated sugar, divided
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 1 teaspoon lemon zest
- 6 tablespoons butter, melted

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup whole milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

DIRECTIONS:

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit. Lightly grease a 9×13-inch baking dish.

In a large bowl, mix together the blueberries, 1/2 cup sugar, cornstarch, and lemon zest. Pour the blueberry mixture evenly into the prepared baking dish.

Pour the melted butter evenly over the blueberries in the baking dish.

In a medium bowl, whisk together the flour, 1 cup sugar, baking powder, and

salt. Stir in the milk and vanilla extract until just combined to form the batter.

Pour the batter evenly over the blueberries and melted butter. Do not stir.

Bake for 40 to 45 minutes. Or until the top is golden brown and a toothpick inserted into the cobbler topping comes out clean.

Allow to cool for 10 to 15 minutes before serving. Serve warm with a scoop of vanilla ice cream, if desired. Enjoy!

Super Crossword

TWO-BY-FOURS

ACROSS

1 Device causing a machine to operate

9 Hindu religious retreat

15 Mini-plateaus

20 Regatta event

21 Cry before “No hands!”

22 Best of the lot

23 Long-running showbiz news program

25 New Jersey's — Hall

26 Evening galas

27 Tiny bit

28 Some med. X-rays

30 Stay home for a meal

31 Single-session legislative group

34 The Old West's Wyatt

37 Slimy gunk

38 Injury vestige

39 French gal pal

43 — cake (ring-shaped dessert)

46 Olive in comics

48 Break out of an egg

52 A Streetcar Named Desire” dramatist

57 Hair hider

58 Milkshake alternatives

59 Was wearing

60 Certain fitness ctr.

61 Coconut tree, e.g.

62 Hurricanes, e.g.

64 “3022” co-star Omar

66 Diner fave

67 “— cost ya!”

68 Pleasant feeling after winning

73 Wizard, in fantasy fiction

74 “Presence” co-star Lucy

75 Where the Clintons met

76 Windbag's output

78 Litigates

79 Plus-size supermodel

81 Tepee-shaped

84 Ship wastewater

85 Color TV pioneer

86 Creamy vinaigrette with little crunchy bits

89 Great risk

91 Big blue body

92 More urgent

93 Chaotic state

94 Supermarket vehicle

97 A, in Spain

99 Brain product

101 Starts of some flashy combo shots in hoops

107 Reins in

112 1990s subcompact car model

113 See 11-Down

114 Embark on a voyage

116 Stoked

117 Super-rare basketball feat ... or what each of six long answers in this puzzle contains

121 Food fish

122 Beyond belief

123 Open (to)

124 Tortellini topper

125 Ford bombs

126 Menu section with reds and whites

DOWN

1 Humiliate

2 Fireside drink

3 Implied but not stated

4 Prenatal chambers

5 Gentleman thief Lupin of fiction

6 Subdue with a stun gun

7 Phil of folk

8 1910s-'20s auto

9 God of Islam

10 Certain vegan frank

11 With 113-Across, Dilyers' guides

12 “Gunga Din” studio

13 BP's merger partner

14 Sirs' counter-parts

15 Awaited saviors

16 “Mourning Becomes —”

17 Occupy, as a table

18 Make up (for)

19 Have a hunch

24 Kin of “Inc.”

29 Cable inits. for film buffs

31 Sleep clinic diagnosis

32 “Neat!”

33 In a demure way

35 Tummy muscles

36 Hurry along

39 After-hours \$\$\$ sources

40 Ragú product

41 Like many vehicles on steep hills

42 Main dishes

44 Pfeiffer of “Cybill”

45 Like some thickish paper towels

47 An arm and a leg

49 “Not true!”

50 Radio or TV station identifiers

51 Code for WWW pages

53 Squalor of Lemony Snicket books

54 Situated

55 Human rights org.

56 Tennis event

61 Old Lutheran movement

63 Fifth-cen. pope

65 Sang alone

69 Be overly doting, in slang

70 Childhood malady

71 Prada rival

72 Corn cores

73 Fig. on a new car sticker

77 Rules, in brief

80 Give a visual once-over to

82 “Beast” star Elba

83 Street rep

86 Performed for

87 Yemen's capital

88 Prior to

90 Salt for wintry roads

95 Decay

96 Twisting force

98 Star-related

100 Opening opera section

101 Audibly stunned

102 “I wanna try!”

103 Runs easily

104 Scale unit

105 Psyches

106 Seer's “gift”

108 Typical

109 Shul official

110 Products of 39-Down

111 Hard rain

114 Highway rig

115 Perfect spot

118 Skill, in Latin

119 Inferior grade

120 Statute

Puzzle answers page 4

Weather Totals

Aug 25 - Sept 1, 2026

Temperature	
Max	87° F
Min	50° F
Snowfall	
Winter Total	46.5"

Nursery Bottom Parsons

Precipitation	
Week	0.54"
August	6.78"
September	0.47"
2026	44.61"

U.S. Forest Service

THANK YOU FOR READING

LEGAL

Tucker County Health Department
206 Senior Lane
Parsons, WV 26287
FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
James Snyder, Administrator
Tucker County Health Department
Phone: 304-478-3572
Fax: 304-478-3864
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Fees for Permit
August 24, 2026 - Please take notice that the Tucker County Board of Health, during August 19, 2026, Board of Health Meeting, approved to increase the Water Well Sampling Fee. There will be a thirty (30) day comment period beginning September 1, 2026, and ending September 31, 2026. Copies of the fee change can be obtained at the Tucker County Health Department during normal business hours Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. THIS NOTICE IS REQUIRED BY LAW TO BE IN THE FORM OF LEGAL NOTICE.

LEGAL

I have before me the accounts of the Executor or Administrator of the estates of the following deceased persons:
Deceased Personal Representative(s)
Wanda Jean Helmick Knotts Cathy Jo Knotts
1st publication 09/09/26 290 Horseshoe Run Road
2nd publication 09/1/26 Parsons, WV 26287
Tina Louise Bohon Angela Yuchek
1st publication 09/09/26 11919 Cheat Valley Hwy
2nd publication 09/1/26 Parsons, WV 26287
Edward Alan Ash Karen Johnson
1st publication 09/09/26 1108 Patton Dr
2nd publication 09/1/26 Morgantown, WV 26292
Claims against any estate must be filed within sixty days of the date of first publication. Any person seeking to impeach or establish a will must make a complaint to the Tucker County Commission, Tucker County Clerk, 211 First St., Suite 205, Parsons, WV. Any person objecting to the qualifications of the personal representative or the venue or jurisdiction of the court must be filed with County Commission within sixty days after the date of first publication or thirty days of service of the notice, whichever is later.
ATTEST: Barbara Evans, TUCKER COUNTY CLERK

LEGAL

(2025-C-000016 - TUCKER COUNTY - RED SHOULDER LLC)
To: JAMES R ODOM, JEANNE L ODOM, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT DAVIS CORP MAP 6 PARCEL 0017 0000 0000
You will take notice that RED SHOULDER LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2025-C-000016**, located in DAVIS CORP District, LOT #96 PHASE 1 .88 AC TUSCAN RIDGE, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of ODOM JAMES R & JEANNE L, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of TUCKER County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on May 5, 2026. RED SHOULDER LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2027 will be as follows:
Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2024 - 3560. \$ 293.838
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number \$ 0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2025 - 3584. \$ 539.49
Additional taxes with interest. \$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest. \$ 210.50
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest. \$ 281.11
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest. \$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check. \$ **1,324.93**
You may redeem at any time before January 31, 2027, by paying the above total less any unearned interest. If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.
Given under my hand August 28, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of CLAY County, State of West Virginia
Please return this letter and payment to the West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East Building 1, Room W-114 Charleston, West Virginia 25305. Questions please call 1-888-509-6568

ADVERTISE WITH US

WVSOM medical students receive \$99K through five scholarships



LEWISBURG, W.Va. – Twenty-four West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM) students will receive financial assistance through the generosity of five organizations that have provided scholarships through the WVSOM Foundation, the school’s nonprofit office responsible for charitable and philanthropic efforts.
The WVSOM Foundation hosted a July 30 reception on its Lewisburg, W.Va., campus celebrating the Maier Foundation, Encova Foundation, Dr. William B. Mullen and Jennifer White Scholarship, Stephen C. Shy, D.O., MBA, Memorial Scholarship and James F.B. Peyton Scholarship recipients.
A total of \$99,000 was awarded for the 2026-27 academic year through the five organizations.
Donette Mizia, WVSOM’s executive director of founda-

tion relations, said she is proud to witness the growth of the reception each year, as more donors recognize the need to support future physicians.
“Each year, this reception reminds us of the incredible impact philanthropy has on our students and on the future of health care. Seeing donors and scholarship recipients connect underscores how lives are changed through generosity and shared purpose,” Mizia said. “We are proud to celebrate these students, and we’re grateful to the organizations and individuals who invest in their success. Their support helps ensure that future physicians can pursue their medical education and, in turn, improve the health of communities throughout our region and beyond.”
Since 2021, the Maier Foundation — a private, nonprofit charitable corporation based in Charleston, W.Va., that focuses on higher education — has challenged the WVSOM Foundation with an escalating scholarship match. The grant requires the foundation to raise funds for scholarship endowments or for current use. Maier Foundation scholarship recipients for the current academic year were Bridgette Altizer, Matthew Cheuvront, Hannah Hunter, Jayden Wilkerson and Palmer Sexton, all from the Class of 2030.
The Encova Foundation created scholarships funded by an endowment at WVSOM in 2016, when the organization was known as the BrickStreet Foundation. The Encova Foundation of West Virginia is a charitable arm of the Columbus-

based Encova Insurance, which also funds the Encova Foundation of Ohio.
The Encova Scholars Award recipients for the current academic year were Class of 2027 students Jacqueline Cole, Autumn Horner, Gianna Liguori and Leya Zarelli; Class of 2028 student Evan Ballard; Class of 2029 student Japneet Sarai; and Class of 2030 students Olivia Deem, Delyar Delavari, Tyann Dotson, Blake Flinchum, Hanah Gartland, Maria Irfan, Ana Jimenez-Tadlock and Chaysee Putnam.
The Dr. William B. Mullen and Jennifer White Scholarship was created in recognition of Dr. William B. Mullen of Logan, W.Va., a physician who cared for his patient, Jennifer White, who passed away in 2011. This year’s recipients were MaKenzie Harness and Amanda Hensley of WVSOM’s Class of 2030.
The Stephen C. Shy, D.O., MBA, Memorial Scholarship endowment was established in honor of WVSOM alumnus Stephen C. Shy, D.O., who passed away in 2020 but left behind a legacy of health care service that extended far beyond his Huntington, W.Va., home base. His son, Stephen Shy II, D.O., a WVSOM Class of 2001 graduate, business partner Robert Hess, M.D., and other OVP Health administrators, including his other son, Stacey, helped establish the scholarship. This year’s recipient was James Egnor of the Class of 2030.
This was the first year the James F.B. Peyton Scholarship was recognized during the reception. Peyton passed along his wealth by leaving a \$57 million bequest. The fund supports charitable endeavors that benefit Greenbrier County residents. Angus Peyton, the donor advisor, awarded the grant request to the WVSOM Foundation in 2021 to initiate the endowment. Class of 2030 students Josi Ervin and William Gabbert were this year’s recipients.

Ervin, a native of Lewisburg, W.Va., said it is an honor to attend medical school in the town in which she was raised and that it is heartening to know donors support the institution.
“I’ve wanted to attend WVSOM since I was about 6 years old. Growing up here, I was always around it, and it’s a full-circle moment being a first-year student,” she said. “We need more doctors, especially in West Virginia, so it’s awesome to know people are pouring back into our school and its mission.”
WVSOM President James W. Nemitz, Ph.D., thanked donors for their contributions.
“We greatly appreciate your generosity and support of future physicians — people who will go out and serve this state and beyond in a way that really makes a difference,” he said.
WVSOM is a national leader in educating osteopathic physicians for primary care medicine in rural areas. Visit WVSOM online at www.wvsom.edu.

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Obituary

Kenneth David “Kenny” Judy

Kenneth David “Kenny” Judy, age 78 years, a resident of Parsons, WV, departed this life Tuesday, October 28, 2025, at WVU Medicine Ruby Memorial Hospital at Morgantown, WV. Friends and family are welcome to attend a graveside service that will take place on Saturday, September 12, 2026, at 1:00 PM at Lanesville Bethel Church Cemetery on Lanesville Road at Lanesville, WV. The Reverend Anthony Judy will officiate and inurnment will follow. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements for Kenneth David “Kenny” Judy. Condolences may be expressed to the family at; www.lohrbarbfuneral-home.com.

Local, national history intertwine in lecture

Nichols details ‘how our story overlaps with the American story’



McHenry, MD –Local historian Chris Nichols set out a challenging goal for himself during last Wednesday’s presentation, 250 Years of Garrett County: Local History in the American Story, in the Performing Arts Center at Garrett College.

One of Nichols’ goals was to illustrate “how our story overlaps with the American story, with 250 years in American and Garrett County history in 50-year increments.” He accomplished this by outlining each half-century with parallel local and national timelines, followed by summary and analysis of each period.

Nichols, however, didn’t stop there. The half-century segments also included “hidden histories of people who have been marginalized in history,” accomplished through historical fiction written by Nichols himself. The historical fiction gave voices to:

- an 18th-century Native American living in what became Garrett County;
- an account of 19th-century life by Mary Browning (Meshach’s wife);
- a Drane Family slave talking about agricultural life in the mid-1800s;
- a Black porter discussing living in Garrett County and working at the Deer Park hotel;
- a Garrett County road worker during a 1960s strike; and
- a 21st-century Garrett County woman attempting to put her life back together after opioid addiction and prison time.

Nichols acknowledged that combining factual history with fictionalized history brought him a little bit out of his comfort zone.

“My background includes a physics degree and a science/engineering/process-driven mind,” said Nichols. “I’m still a believer in facts and dates – you have to

know when things happen, why they happen, and how they happen in connection with other events.”

Many of the intersections between American and Garrett County history centered on transportation, industrial and scientific advances, economic evolutions, and war. Ironically, one of the region’s most significant military incidents came even before this region was officially a county.

“General Braddock’s 1755 expedition, during the French and Indian War, went through the northern part of what became Garrett County,” said Nichols. “Braddock died of his wounds, and a young British officer, George Washington, led the British troops back in retreat along what became Route 40. He learned a lot of value in leading retreats, which he did quite frequently in the Revolutionary War.”

Nichols covered a lot of the area’s “firsts” during his presentation. These “firsts” included John Friend’s role as the first white settler in the region, when he settled near what is now Friendsville in 1765, as well as the first local citizen to gain national attention: James McHenry.

McHenry was a signer of the United States Constitution, delegate to the Maryland State Convention of 1788, and U.S. Secretary of War under both Washington and John Adams.

“His name lives on at Fort McHenry – the defense of Fort McHenry inspired The Star-Spangled Banner,” noted Nichols.

Nichols also discussed transportation enhancements that helped shape the county, starting with the National Road – the country’s first federally financed highway and a proving ground for national-scale internal improvements. Garrett County’s role in this project included the Casselman Bridge – an 80-foot span erected in 1813 – that was the longest single-span stone arch bridge in the U.S. It served as an important link on the National Road from 1813 to 1933.

Meanwhile, the B&O Railroad reached Oakland in 1851 and “really changed the whole aspect of the county, especially the southern end where communities grew up around the railroad,” said Nichols. Bringing transportation closer to the present, Nichols noted that the 1991 opening of Interstate-68 after a quarter-century of construction made that highway “the new gateway to the West.”

Nichols also covered the area’s economic evolution from subsistence farming to natural resources extraction (coal, timber, etc.) to tourism. Tourism initially bloomed in the mid-to-late 19th century, when city dwellers would come west to the mountains each summer to escape the heat. While that iteration of tourism eventually ended, another started after the creation of Deep Creek Lake.

Nichols did touch on the county’s most



West Virginia is one of dozens of states suing Meta over the harm its platforms can cause children. Our governor signed West Virginia onto that lawsuit when he was attorney general, and he was right to do so. But lawsuits can only go so far. We need meaningful protections that change what happens when our children actually use these platforms. Two bills in the U.S. Senate claim to address this problem, but only one puts the responsibility where it belongs: on the platforms themselves.

The App Store Accountability Act focuses primarily on the app store. It verifies a child’s age and requires parental consent, but once that child enters an app, the platform largely operates as it did before. The same features that were designed to capture attention, collect information, target users and keep children scrolling remain. It should come as no surprise that Meta has promoted this type of approach in statehouses across the country.

The Parents Over Platforms Act, or POPA, takes a better approach. A parent would enter a child’s age when setting up the phone, and that age information would follow the child into the apps they use. Apps then would be responsible for responding appropriately. Platforms

intended for adults would have to disable harmful features for minors, including certain data collection and targeted advertising.

It is an important distinction. Instead of asking parents to navigate a maze of individual apps and settings, the technology would finally work with parents rather than against them. Parents should not be expected to carry the entire burden while billion-dollar technology companies walk away with little responsibility for what happens inside their own platforms. POPA currently has bipartisan support in the Senate, but it deserves much more.

Our Senator, Shelley Moore Capito, is one of the highest-ranking Republicans in the United States Senate, and her support carries weight. When she gets behind good legislation, she can help move it forward. I hope Senator Capito will stand with parents, put responsibility back on the platforms profiting from our children’s attention, and cosponsor the Parents Over Platforms Act. Our children deserve more than another checkbox. They deserve real protection.

Kathie Hess Crouse
Delegate, District 19
Putnam County

HISTORY

Cont. From Page 7

in Greenbrier County. During the Civil War, he enlisted in the Confederate service as a sergeant. At the Battle of Fayetteville, Humphreys fired his cannon at Union artillery from behind an intervening forest, setting a precedent for modern warfare using indirect fire.

Sept. 13, 1848: Attorney J. R. Clifford was born in present Grant County. In 1887, Clifford became the first African American admitted to practice law before the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals. He was one of the first lawyers in the nation to challenge segregated schools.

Sept. 13, 1948: Rock guitarist Fred “Sonic” Smith was born in the Harts Creek area of Lincoln County. He cofounded the band MC5, whose rebellious music became a soundtrack for Detroit’s counterculture in the 1960s. He is a member of the West Virginia Music Hall of Fame.

Sept. 13, 1862: Confederate and Union forces clashed in Charleston. Southern artillery gained the high ground on Fort Hill and smashed the federals who were lining the west bank of the Elk River.

Sept. 13, 1910: Musician Leon “Chu” Berry was born in Wheeling. He was one of the most highly regarded saxophonists of the Swing Era.

Sept. 14, 1956: Filmmaker, educator and author Danny Boyd was born

in Martinsburg. A longtime professor at West Virginia State University, he is best known for three independent features: Chillers, Strangest Dreams: Invasion of the Space Preachers, and Paradise Park. He died in February 2026.

Sept. 15, 1862: Confederate Gen. Thomas J. “Stonewall” Jackson forced the surrender of a Union garrison at Harpers Ferry prior to the Battle of Antietam. The 12,500 prisoners taken by Jackson was the largest surrender of U.S. Army troops in the Civil War.

Sept. 15, 1875: Henry Hatfield was born near Matewan, Mingo County. As a doctor in the coal camps, he helped secure funding to establish three miners hospitals for the southern part of the state. In 1913, as the state’s 14th governor, he played a pivotal but controversial role in ending the violent Paint Creek-Cabin Creek Strike.

Sept. 15, 1906: Songwriter Jack Rollins was born in Keyser. Rollins wrote the lyrics to “Here Comes Peter Cottontail” and “Frosty the Snowman,” two of America’s most popular songs.

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.

recent history, including the 1989 ICF Canoe Slalom World Championships on the Savage River, the purchase of Deep Creek Lake by the State of Maryland in 2000, the first utility-scale wind project in 2010, and Maryland’s banning of hydraulic fracking in 2017. He noted, however, that it “becomes more difficult to speak historically the closer we get to present time.”

Nichols, a senior energy analyst with Australia-based Energy Exemplar, adapted the presentation from his five-part newspaper series entitled 250 Years of Garrett County: Local History in the American Story.

Nichols is a regular presenter in Garrett College’s Joan Crawford Lecture Series,

which is also hosted in the performing arts center. Previous Nichols presentations include Energy Resources of Garrett County: A History of (Almost) All-of-the-Above, and Before the Dam: Life Around Deep Creek Pre-1925.

Garrett College sponsored Nichols’ presentation in support of the Garrett 250 celebration, which was organized by the Garrett 250 Commission and supported by the Garrett County Commissioners. The celebration around the nation’s 250th birthday included the July 18th event Celebrating America Together and the July 19th patriotic drone show, which both took place at the Garrett County Fairgrounds.

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WV Virginia Caring Hospice Caring Volunteers



Pictured are Lori, Nancy, Pat, Buck, Julie, Chris, Brian, Ella, Priscilla and Sandy. Many others assisted that are not pictured.

WV Virginia Caring Hospice Caring Volunteers provided fundraising support at the Annual Pickin’ in Parsons Bluegrass Festival in Parsons. For more than 20 years volunteers have come together to prepare and sell concession food and full meals at the festival in support of WV Caring Hospice patients and families.

Volunteers led by Volunteer Coordinator, Nancy Dotson

provided more than 600 volunteer hours before, during and after the 5 day event.

If you’d like to assist a WV Caring Hospice Patient or family with a volunteer activity, give Nancy a call. Respite to families is so very important to the caregivers and the patients. Nancy K Dotson, 304-614-6223 cell or ndotson@wvcaring.org.

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Tucker Kids Drive the Train at Theater Camp

Tucker County kids recently got a chance to show off their talents while having fun at two one-week summer camps sponsored by Cottrill’s Opera House. The camps' theme was "All Aboard the Vaudeville Train," a tribute to Cottrill's history as a vaudeville house. The kids were introduced to all aspects of performing arts: music, dance,

scene design, costume and acting. They learned about the history of vaudeville and Cottrill’s Opera House, and its importance to the workers who lived surrounding Thomas. They showed what they learned in showcase performances at the end of the week. These were not standard performances where kids recited lines from a play.

Working in teams, the young actors created their own characters, designed their costumes and wrote their own short skits. Acts included a dancing Granny, a joke telling dog who played “Ode to Joy” on piano and a clueless phone addict. There were mimes, a bad cat who performed amazing stunts, a band of old time miners, a klutzy dancing troupe and a Laurel and Hardy style musical duo that wasn’t exactly in sync. The kids created their costumes from a trove of props and accessories such as fake beards and mustaches and various styles of hats.

The camp was directed by Diana Vera with help from theater artists Juli Kimbrell and Al Schneider. The three-some performs in Thomas as Common Productions and have many years of professional experience in writing, directing, acting and teaching. From the first day Vera was impressed by the young performers’ creativity and enthusiasm. “I learned so much working with these kids, especially how hungry they are for theater as a way to express themselves. We need a space where they can learn and perform and when Cottrill’s Opera House is finished we’ll have it.”

Children’s theater is an important stepping stone for professional performers. Actress Jennifer Garner got her start in children’s theater. The West Virginian has often credited her career to the exposure she received acting as a child in Charleston, WV, and continues to have strong ties with the state.

Cottrill’s Board President David Esch echoed how a rebuilt Cottrill's Opera House will benefit children in the area. “This camp is something we’ve wanted to do for some time now, to show the community how valuable the performing arts can be to young people. It was free and open to all Tucker County students in grades 3-8 and was funded in part by a grant. One of our core interests is to support K-12 education. We have a very skillful group of theater professionals living here and this project supports them while exposing children to performance. We hope to do it next year, too, having learned some lessons that will make it even better.”

Esch noted the project was supported with financial assistance from the West Virginia Department of Tourism and the National Endowment for the Arts, with approval from the West Virginia Commission on the Arts. The matching grant helped to buy props, costumes and supplies and to pay for salaries. “It was a key to our success,” he said. “This donation, and the community support we have received for the camp, show we’re on the right track,” he said. The camp was originally slated to be held at the Davis Community Center, but plumbing issues required a last-minute switch to the Thomas Community Center. Despite the move the show went on as scheduled. “We are so grateful for the support we receive from both towns. These communities have been wonderful to work with.”



Celebrating a Smashing Performance!



Cottrill’s Opera House would like to thank all the kids, parents and friends who made our first Theater Camp “**All Aboard the Vaudeville Train**” such a success

Special thanks to teachers **Diana, Juli and Al** for their hard work and the **City of Thomas** for offering a venue for the show

The project was supported with financial assistance from the West Virginia Department of Tourism and the National Endowment for the Arts, with approval from the West Virginia Commission on the Arts.

Maryland Man Admits to Role in Kidnapping and Multiple Murders

MARTINSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA — A Carroll County, Maryland man has admitted to his role in a multi-state violent crime spree involving kidnapping, murder, and witness tampering causing death following a lengthy investigation, announced U.S. Attorney Matthew L. Harvey.

Monroe Merrell, 29, of Westminster, Maryland, pled guilty today to three charges, admitting he worked with others to kidnap and murder J.R. in an apartment in Westminster, Maryland in March 2020. J.R. was severely beaten and stabbed multiple times before Merrell and others transported him across state lines into West Virginia. During J.R.’s transport Merrell stabbed him multiple times, killing him. Merrell and others attempted to dispose of his body in the woods of a rural, isolated section of Rippon in Jefferson County by dousing him with gasoline and burning his body. The following morning, a nearby resident driving by called in a report for emergency services after seeing a body burning in the woods near the roadway, prompting a multi-state investigation involving collaboration between state and federal agencies.

In April 2020, Merrell became concerned that two witnesses to J.R.’s beating and kidnapping, D.T. and H.G., would communicate what they knew to law enforcement. Merrell and others brought the pair from Maryland to the Falling Waters area of Berkeley County, West Virginia, where they drugged and partially incapacitated them. D.T., 18, of Taneytown, Maryland, and H.G., 33, of Westminster, Maryland, were then both killed, their bodies burned, and their remains disposed of in the Potomac River.

By entering his plea of guilty, Merrell is the last defendant in the multi-defendant case to accept responsibility for the kidnapping and murders. Merrell’s acceptance of responsibility encompasses a fourth victim, E.D. (previously identified in Counts Eight and Nine of the Indictment as “Jane Doe”), who Merrell targeted in a solicitation of murder plot in his continued effort to conceal the crimes. Merrell is facing a life sentence on each of the counts to which he has pled guilty after a United States motion to re-seek the death penalty was denied in October 2025.

Three other co-defendants named in the Indictment, all Maryland residents, David Sanford, Jr.; John Black, III; and Jeffrey Smith, Jr.; previously pled guilty for their roles in the kidnapping and murders. Additionally, April Braner, 43, of Falling Waters, West Virginia, and Norman Bradford, 55, of Martinsburg, West Virginia, also entered guilty pleas by Information for their roles in the crimes. All sentencing hearings are scheduled for January 25, 2027.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Kimberley D. Crockett and Kyle R. Kane are prosecuting the case on behalf of the government. The Federal Bureau of Investigation, Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office, Maryland State Police, Carroll County State’s Attorney’s Office, and the Berkeley and Jefferson County Prosecuting Attorneys’ Offices investigated.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Robert W. Trumble presided.

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✓ APPEARANCE

✓ TEXTURE/TENDERNESS

✓ CREATIVITY/ORIGINALITY

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KINGSFORD

Annual Adopt-A-Highway Fall Cleanup set for September 26

CHARLESTON, W.Va. - The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) is now accepting registrations for the Adopt-A-Highway Fall Statewide Cleanup set for Saturday, September 26, 2026.

Individuals, groups, and organizations can register to pick up trash on most state-maintained roads. The program provides garbage bags, work gloves and safety vests to volunteers and disposes of the collected trash. Volunteers must be at least 12 years old to participate. One-time cleanups are encouraged but must be registered.

To register, call 1-800-322-5530 or send an email to dep.aah@wv.gov. If you reach the REAP voicemail, please leave your name, phone number, group name, date of cleanup, number of participants, and the county where your adopted road is located. Groups must register in advance

by September 17, 2026, and inform their county DOH garage if they need supplies. Supplies may be picked up during normal business hours at your local DOH garage.

Last year, Adopt-A-Highway volunteers performed more than 52,000 hours of labor and removed over 251,000 pounds of litter.

Co-sponsored by the state Division of Highways, the Adopt-A-Highway program is administered by WVDEP's Rehabilitation Environmental Action Plan (REAP) and improves the quality of the state's environment by encouraging public involvement in eliminating highway litter.

For more WVDEP news and information, go to <https://dep.wv.gov>. Also, connect with the agency on all social media platforms. Follow @DEPWV on Twitter, Like us on Facebook at <https://facebook.com/depwv/>, and find us on YouTube at Environment Matters.

SUBSIDENCE

Cont. From Page 1

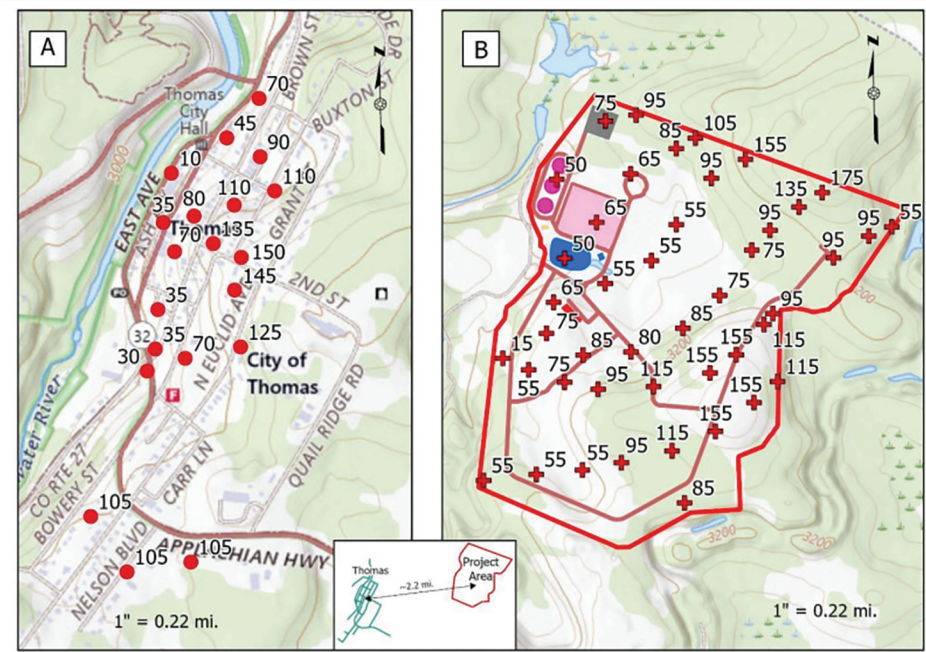


Figure 6. **A.** Historical subsidence events (red dots) in Thomas' labeled with the estimated depth of overburden. **B.** Selected surface locations (red crosses) labeled with estimated depth of overburden. See the legend on Figure 5 for the Project Area proposed infrastructure shown here. Depth of overburden was calculated as follows. At each location, the elevation of the base of the Bakerstown coal' was subtracted from the surface elevation (see below). Coal thicknesses in this mine varies from 5.5 to 7.5 feet'. For a conservative estimate, we subtracted 5 feet from the elevation difference to arrive at depth of overburden. Given the variation in coal thickness, we then rounded each number to the nearest 5. ESRI. "Topographic". Scale Not Given. "USGS Topo Maps". No Date Given. <https://basemap.nationalmap.gov/arcgis/rest/services/USGSTopo/MapServer>. Date viewed June 15, 2026.

a representative of Fundamental Data said, "The gas plant site is one of the few places in this area that is actually not undermined. The notion that these tanks might be on undermined property is in fact the exact reason why it is there."

Reynolds later stated in the meeting, "We need stable ground for this type of facility."

The Parsons Advocate reached out to Fundamental Data through their Public Relations Representative for comment, but as of press time, have not received comment on this latest report.

In the study, Fedorko and Thomas describe that while the Upper Freeport coal was not mined beneath the project area, Bakerstown coal was mined from the Davis Coal and Coke Mine No. 23, which was closed in 1949. However, the report does detail that publicly available information does not give final areal extent of mining and the amount of coal is uncertain.

"Thomas, which is about 2.2 miles from the Project Area, has at least 20 subsidence sites that are documented in the inventory maintained by the Office of Abandoned Mine Lands and Reclamation. In June 2026, a portion of Brown Street previously damaged by mine subsidence collapsed again," the report states.

The report does state that no subsidence events have been documented in the Project Area for the Ridgeline Project. Estimates given in the report for overburden depth calculations for the selected sites within the Project Area by Fedorko and Thomas in the report vary from 15 to 175 feet, which are similar in value to the subsidence sites in the Town of Thomas.

"Subsidence features can include open sinkholes or cracks, sinking or shifting ground, and in some cases bulging ground. All of these features can damage homes, buildings, roads and other infrastructure, creating general hazards...No subsidence events or features are known within the Project Area, which does not imply they have not occurred or will not occur in the future." - Nick Fedorko and Mark Thomas

While the project site itself has no history of subsidence issues, many in the area believe that the history of neighboring Thomas could be a warning for the site, with sites in the Town still falling prey to subsidence after mitigating factors such as grouting applied. The Brown Street subsidence site has seen its share of issues

over the decades with multiple attempts to stabilize the ground under the street.

The geologists stated that they found the proposal for constructing three, large diesel fuel storage tanks above what they termed, "abandoned mine on potentially unstable surfaces" of particular concern. The report further states concern over the possibility of fuel leaks or spills of either accidental or subsidence-induced nature entering mine works and traveling through interconnected tunnels away from the Project Area and into surface and groundwater.

It is a sentiment that Tucker United and many in the Tucker County community have shared since details of the project first came to light.

"Storing up to three million gallons of diesel on top of this undermined site threatens us and our neighboring communities downstream," says Amy Margolies, Executive Director of Tucker United. "These are unacceptable risks."

Another chief concern Fedorko and Thomas raised in the report was that of methane accumulation in the abandoned mines. The report states that the Project Area could create pathways for the escape of methane to the surface and in confined spaces could create an explosive environment.

"Methane may be accumulating in the Bakerstown and Upper Freeport mines, sourced from collapse of coal pillars and overburden and seepage from unmined coal," the report states.

The study suggests the most effective course of prevention would be to uncover and remove the remaining coal from the underground mine before constructing on the surface above. Barring that, a second approach would be to conduct a geotechnical investigation that would include drilling and investigation with cameras and other techniques to detect voids in the area. Any voids could them be filled with grout to stabilize the surface. It is a technique commonly done in advancement of commercial or industrial development to abate further subsidence after an initial event.

"Responsible companies care about understanding and mitigating the risks posed by their development proposals," says Margolies. "Once again, Fundamental Data has shown it is not a responsible partner that cares about reducing the risks to our community's safety and wellbeing."



Dear Recycle Lady,

What are tree-corridors? I think they are found in forests, but I am not sure. *Love Trees*

Dear Love Trees,

Tree-corridors are ecological pathways that connect forests fragments, thus allowing wild animals to move freely between areas to migrate, breed, and find food. They are found particularly in the Rainforests that have been cleared and left in large, fragmented areas. Some 500 years ago Brazil's Atlantic Forest was the size of South Africa, but today over 90 percent of this global biodiversity hotspot has been deforested to make way for booming industries such as soy, sugar cane and cattle ranching. The Rainforest Alliance is helping to connect these fragmented forests with green tree-corridors to "provide a lifeline" for animals, threatened species, and pollinators. Research has shown that when patches of forest are isolated from each other, pollinators are less abundant, and plants frequently fail to reproduce. Connecting forests that have been broken up by clearcutting with a pathway of trees, shrubs, and native plants creates a richer biodiversity of plant species. Pollination by bees, bats and hummingbirds is increased when they can travel from one part of the forest to another. Healthy forests are an important part of the solution for global climate change.

Dear Recycle Lady,

I went to the Recycling Center last week to deposit my recyclables and, much to my surprise, the bin for aluminum foil and pans was covered over with cardboard. I thought aluminum foil was one of the recyclables that could be recycled over and over again without losing quality. Why isn't the Recycling Center accepting foil and pans anymore? *Distressed Recycler*

Dear Distressed Recycler,

The main reason the Recycling Center is not accepting aluminum foil and pans is that there are no buyers for small amounts of used aluminum. In order to have enough foil and pans for a buyer to consider purchasing them, the Recycling Center would need to collect an extremely large amount of clean, dry aluminum foil and pans. Donated foil and pans would need to be kept in storage until that amount was collected and unfortunately, that amount of storage space is not available. A secondary problem is that not all foil and pans placed in the bin are clean and dry. It only takes a few bits of food or grease to contaminate clean foil and pans and make them unre-

cyclable. Have you considered reusing your foil? Just wash it in hot soapy water, rinse, dry, and smooth it out. Your piece of foil will be almost as good as new. Foil is also a good scissor sharpener. Fold up a piece of aluminum foil four or five times, depending on the strength of the foil, then cut though the folds several times. Your dull scissors will be as sharp as you want them to be. Another use of foil is to hang a few strips of aluminum foil in the branches of your fruit trees to help keep birds away from the fruit on the trees. Balled up aluminum foil is a good way to remove the gunk left after grilling those delicious steaks!

Dear Recycle Lady,

Is there a recycling program for crayons? I have a whole bag of used or broken crayons that I hate to throw out. *Hopeful*

Dear Hopeful,

Yes, there is an excellent recycling program that recycles used, broken, stubby, old or unwanted crayons: the national-crayonrecycleprogram.org. According to National Crayon Recycle Program (NCRP), more than 60 million crayons are discarded in the U.S. every year and most of them end up in a landfill. Since crayons are made of a petroleum by-product, paraffin wax, they are not biodegradable and take decades to decompose. The NCRP has partnered with the Crazy Crayons Company to create new fun-shaped crayons from recycled crayons. They also upcycle crayons to children in need of crayons and offer playful activities that can be therapeutic for traumatized children. The goal of both organizations is to "bring a smile to a child's face." Ship crayons in a sturdy box to: National Crayon Recycle Program, 8110 S. Houghton Rd. #158, Tucson, AZ 85747. Leave the color wrapper on the crayon even if it is torn as it makes the color of the crayon easily identifiable, and the wrapper is later recycled. Recycled crayons can also be purchased on this site.

Interesting Information; Hydrophones that detect and record underwater sounds are used for the analysis of various underwater phenomena, including marine life communication and environmental monitoring. Thus, the ocean can eavesdrop on whales' songs and other deep ocean sounds!

Have questions about recycling, or interesting information about recycling? Send questions or requests recycleladywv@gmail.com. Dear Recycle Lady is sponsored jointly by the Greenbrier Recycling Center and Greenworks Recycling.

Tucker County Giving Circle announces grant application deadline

PARSONS – The Tucker County Giving Circle in conjunction with the Tucker Community Foundation has announced their grant cycle deadline for 2026. This year's deadline is Friday, September 18th, 2026 at 3pm. Grant applications can be submitted electronically by email to grants@tuckerfoundationwv.org, hand delivered to the Tucker Community Foundation office, located on the second floor of the Tucker County Board of Education Annex, 104 Education Lane, Parsons by 3pm, or mailed with a postmark of September 18th, 2026, to PO Box 491, Parsons, WV 26287.

The Tucker County Giving Circle is a relatively new organization, formed in 2020, with the goal of creating a network of support to address the needs of women and children in Tucker County. Working in partnership with the Tucker Community Foundation, they annually award grants to Tucker County nonprofit organizations that align with their mission of increasing the life skills of women and children. All grants are funded by annual dues paid by the Tucker County Giving Circle members. Grant amounts will vary from year to year, depending on the number of members and the number of grant applications received. This year's maximum amount is \$3,500.

All organizations should review the Eligibility Criteria for the application, prior to applying. Each application must meet all three criteria to receive funding from the Giving Circle. The three eligibility criteria for the application is listed below:

- Grant funds must be used to increase the life skills of women and/or children of Tucker County.
- Organizations must be a nonprofit, 501(c)3, church or a government entity.
- Organizations must be based in Tucker County.

Michael Moore, Chief Financial Officer, said "to download a grant application, go online to www.tuckerfoundationwv.org then click on Grants." Paper copies are available at the Foundation's office at 104 Education Lane, Room 211, Parsons, WV. If you have any questions or need a paper copy mailed to you, please feel free to call our office between 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 304-478-2930.

If your grant application is approved, as a grantee you can expect a TCGC representative to conduct a site visit prior to the end of the grant year to verify all the funds were spent in the manner outlined in the grant application. All unexpended funds must be returned by August 31st of the grant year.

LET US KNOW "WHAT'S HAPPENING"

304-478-3533

Obituary

submissions

due Friday

by 3pm

Marsha Waybright Named 2026 West Virginia Hunter Education Instructor of the Year for District One

JENNINGSTON, W.Va. — Marsha Waybright has been named the 2026 West Virginia Hunter Education Instructor of the Year for District One by the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources.

Waybright has been teaching Hunter Education for the past two years and has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to making the program accessible to the public. Since becoming an instructor, she has held a Hunter Education class nearly every month, providing students with the opportunity to learn the knowledge and skills necessary to become safe and responsible hunters.

Waybright teaches the classes through Mama Bear Protection and the West Virginia School of Traditional Skills, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving traditional skills and providing hands-on educational opportunities. Hunter Education classes are completely free to the public and are made possible through the dedication of volunteers who give their time to help educate the next generation of outdoor enthusiasts.

In addition to serving as a West Virginia Hunter Education instructor, Waybright is a USCCA and NRA certified instructor and teaches firearms safety, concealed carry, and other educational classes focused on responsible firearm ownership and safety.

“Education and safety are extremely important to me,” Waybright said. “I am honored to receive this recognition, but these classes are truly a team effort. I

am grateful for the volunteers who give their time to help make these opportunities available to our community.”

The next educational classes will be held on September 12 at Laurel River Club Bed & Breakfast located at Laurel Fork Farm. The day will begin with a free West Virginia Hunter Education class. In the afternoon, participants will have the opportunity to attend a Firearms Safety and Concealed Carry class. A representative from Right to Bear will also participate to help explain West Virginia firearm laws and answer questions about the legal responsibilities of firearm owners and those who carry concealed.

West Virginia Hunter Education provides instruction in important areas including hunter safety, responsible firearm handling, wildlife conservation, hunting ethics, and outdoor responsibility. By offering classes nearly every month, Waybright and her team have helped make it easier for area residents and families to access this important training.

The West Virginia Department of Natural Resources recognizes outstanding instructors for their dedication, service, and commitment to educating hunters and promoting safe and responsible outdoor recreation. The 2026 District One Hunter Education Instructor of the Year Award recognizes Waybright's commitment and continued service to the Hunter Education program and the people of West Virginia.

Waybright plans to continue expanding educational



Officer Crawley and Marsha Waybright

opportunities through Mama Bear Protection, the West Virginia School of Traditional Skills, and the many hands-on experiences offered at Laurel Fork Farm.

For more information about upcoming classes, educational programs, and experiences at Laurel Fork Farm, visit MountainLifeWV.com.

Outdoor Heritage Conservation Fund accepting grant applications

Interested parties have until Oct. 31 to submit applications for land-protection projects

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — The West Virginia Outdoor Heritage Conservation Fund today announced that it is accepting grant applications for land-protection projects, with a deadline of Oct. 31.

Land-protection projects may include important wildlife habitats, working forests and farmlands, and hunting, fishing and outdoor recreational areas. Applications for both large and small grants will be accepted. Large grants are those totaling more than \$25,000. Up to \$700,000 may be awarded in total.

Applicants should complete their application and determine project eligibility using the fund's assessment tool and technical assistance manual, available at commerce.wv.gov/outdoor-heritage-conservation-fund.

tion-fund.

About the Outdoor Heritage Conservation Fund

The Outdoor Heritage Conservation Fund, created by the West Virginia Legislature, invests in conserving wildlife habitats, natural areas, forests, farmlands and recreational spaces. It acquires property interests and awards grants for conservation projects aligned with plans like the Wildlife Conservation Action Plan.

An 11-member Board of Trustees, comprising stakeholders from land trusts, state divisions, recreation groups and experts, guides the fund's efforts. To learn more about the Outdoor Heritage Conservation Fund, visit commerce.wv.gov/outdoor-heritage-conservation-fund.

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PARSONS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL HOMECOMING FAIR

CITY OF PARSONS PRESENTS

LIVE MUSIC

6PM – 8PM

SEPTEMBER 24

FLEETWOODS HEART

We reimagine Fleetwood Mac, Heart & Tom Petty with fresh arrangements & mashups.

6PM – 8PM

SEPTEMBER 25

RICK K. ROCK & ROLL REVUE

A high energy rock n' roll review from the 1960's through today's top hits!

6PM – 8PM

SEPTEMBER 26

HAIR SUPPLY

Paying homage to the rock hits and anthems of the most decadent decade in popular music history.

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TOP SHELF

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