

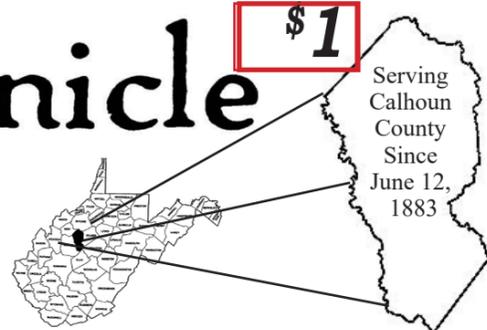


The Calhoun Chronicle

\$1

and The Grantsville News

“Good Government, Pure Homes and Godly Hearts”



Whole Number 7209 Grantsville, West Virginia 26147 Thursday, January 8, 2026

Major changes hit elected county hierarchy, leadership

By Gaylen Duskey
 Changes are being made in the political hierarchy of Calhoun County with the resignation of two countywide clerk positions and the changing of the guard within the Calhoun County Commission. First, Sheila Garretson stepped down as Calhoun Circuit Clerk, then Jean Simers announced her retirement as the Calhoun County Clerk.



Jean Simers

Hot on the heels of those two resignations came a change in the Calhoun County Commission when Eric Lupardus was named to replace Craig Arthur as commission president. This change is basically symbolic since Arthur and Lupardus remain commission members along with Clarence Lee Rush. Often, commissions alternate presidents. The president of the commission has no greater authority, as all members are equal.



Sheila Garretson

Simers, a veteran Democrat, wrote to the county commission stating: “Please accept this letter of retirement/resignation from the position of Clerk of the County Commission effective December 31, 2025. This has been a difficult decision, but through prayer and deliberation, I feel this is the best thing not only for me and my family, but for the county.”

is postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service before midnight E.S.T. on January 31, 2026.

“Retiring/resigning effective December 31, 2025, will allow individuals to file for the unexpired term of Clerk of the County Commission for the next election.”

Where to File:
Statewide Races, Legislature, Multi-County Offices, and Judicial Offices (excluding magistrate): File with the Secretary of State.

“I have had the privilege of working alongside some of the best people you would ever want to meet and will cherish their friendships forever.”

Single-County Offices (including magistrate): File with the County Clerk.

Garretson resigned a few days earlier and has allegedly already been replaced on an interim basis by Samantha Hicks.

Municipal Offices: File with the Town Recorder or City Clerk.

The commission held a special meeting to accept the resignation and potentially name a temporary replacement for Simers. However, the commission has 30 days to name the replacement for Simers. The election for a permanent replacement will be held in 2026.

When to File:
 Filing begins Monday, January 12, 2026.

Filing for Candidacy in the 2026 Primary Election

Filing ends Saturday, January 31, 2026.

The filing period for the 2026 Primary Election begins Monday, January 12, 2026, and ends Saturday, January 31, 2026. Below are the details on how, where, and when to file your candidacy:

In-Person Filing Hours on January 31, 2026:

How to File:

Secretary of State: 9:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m.

Certificate of Announcement: Submit a completed Certificate of Announcement of Candidacy form.

County Clerk’s Office: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Filing Fee: Pay the required filing fee. If you are unable to pay due to financial hardship, you must provide an oath stating your inability to pay and obtain in-lieu-of-filing-fee petition forms and instructions for gathering signatures. Submit the completed petition with the required number of signatures by the close of filing on January 31, 2026.

Important Notes:

Mailed Submissions: If filing by mail, ensure your Certificate of Announcement

Ensure all forms are completed accurately and submitted within the specified timeframe.

Late submissions will not be accepted.

For candidates filing in lieu of the filing fee, petitions must be submitted by January 31, 2026.

For further information, please refer to W. Va. Code §§ 3-5-7, 3-5-8, 3-5-8a. Prepare early and ensure your candidacy is filed on time.

Exciting Updates at Calhoun County Park for 2026

By Gaylen Duskey
 The 2026 season at Calhoun County Park could be the most exciting season in park history.

- Wolf Moon:** January 25
- Snow Moon:** February 1
- Worm Moon:** March 3
- Pink Moon:** April 1
- Flower Moon:** May 1
- Blue Moon:** May 31
- Strawberry Moon:** June 29
- Buck Moon:** July 29
- Sturgeon Moon:** August 28
- Harvest Moon:** September 26
- Hunter’s Moon:** October 26
- Beaver Moon:** November 25
- Cold Moon:** December 23

For instance the Grand Opening Ceremony of Waypoint Zero Overland Outpost, a unique primitive overland campground is scheduled for June 6th and also an old favorite the Appalachian Classic bike race will return to the park after a several year hiatus.

The Appalachian Classic
 The Appalachian Classic trail system has been successfully reconstructed, by the Friends of the Appalachian Classic and they’re excited to announce new improvements! This winter, they’ll be adding:

While waiting for all these things to happen the park continues to be one of the great skygazing spots in the country and arguably the greatest east of the Mississippi River.

Signage to guide visitors
Rest areas with benches and native flowers

Sharing the latest developments and upcoming events at Calhoun County Park, a premier destination for stargazing and outdoor adventures. Here’s what’s happening:

Artwork along the trails
Features for riders
Bike wash stations

Calhoun County Park: A Dark Skies Park

Calhoun County Park is proud to announce its dual role as a Dark Skies Park, offering breathtaking views of the Milky Way and the universe. As one of the few places east of the Mississippi with minimal light pollution, the park is a haven for stargazers of all levels. Our board of directors is working diligently to secure official recognition as an International Dark Skies Park, ensuring the preservation of this natural treasure.

There’re also looking for volunteers to adopt a trail and help maintain the course. Volunteers will be enrolled in their **Trail Work Rewards Program**, offering prizes and discounts for members. Join the Friends of the Appalachian Classic in keeping the trails in top shape while enjoying the beauty of the park.

Annual Dark Skies Parties Join us for our annual Dark Skies Parties, where amateur stargazers gather to set up telescopes and share their passion for astronomy. These events are perfect for connecting with fellow enthusiasts and experiencing the magic of the night sky.

Calhoun County Park is your destination for stargazing, outdoor exploration, and community engagement. Whether you’re marveling at the Milky Way, enjoying a meteor shower, or biking through the Appalachian Classic trails, there’s something for everyone. Stay tuned for more updates and events, and we look forward to seeing you at the park!

Clear Sky Chart Plan your stargazing adventures with the Clear Sky Chart, which provides detailed predictions for cloud cover, transparency, seeing, darkness, wind, humidity, and temperature. Visit the Clear Dark Sky website for additional resources, including star charts, light pollution maps, and satellite predictions tailored to Calhoun County Park.

Grand Opening Announcement Waypoint Zero Overland Outpost - “Gateway to the Galaxy”

Meteor Showers of 2026

Mark your calendars for these spectacular meteor showers, as listed in *The Old Farmer’s Almanac*:

Join us for the Grand Opening Ceremony of Waypoint Zero Overland Outpost, a unique primitive overland campground nestled in the serene ridge country of West Virginia. Celebrate adventure tourism, Appalachia’s natural beauty, and the spirit of exploration with fellow travelers, off-road enthusiasts, and the local community.

Quadrantids: January 4 (25 meteors/hour)

Event Details: Date: June 6, Time: 10:00 AM (Arrival & Check-In: 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM) Location: Calhoun Park Stage, Calhoun County, WV

Lyrids: April 22 (10 meteors/hour)

Highlights:
 Opening Remarks by Senator Mark R. Maynard

Eta Aquarids: May 4 (10 meteors/hour)

Vision and Responsible Travel Talks by Jerry Bain, Eric Lupardus, and James Boyd

Delta Aquarids: July 30 (10 meteors/hour)

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Perseids: August 11–13 (50 meteors/hour)

Founders Recognition

Draconids: October 9 (6 meteors/hour)

Evening Events: Carnival at the Annual Wood Festival, Guided Stargazing, and the “First Campfire Gathering”
 Experience the magic of dark night skies, peaceful mountain meadows, and the thrill of discovery. Waypoint Zero is more than a campground—it’s a launch point for adventure across Appalachia’s hidden gems.

Orionids: October 21–22 (15 meteors/hour)

Leonids: November 17–18 (10 meteors/hour)

Geminids: December 13–14 (75 meteors/hour)

Full Moons in 2026

Experience the beauty of the full moon at Calhoun County Park. Here are the dates to look forward to:

CORRECTION

In our year end roundup we reported in our April 24, 2025:
April 24, 2025: A mechanic’s lien was filed by The Viking Group, Inc., against the 1982 Foundation for \$858,591.44, along with accrued and continuing interest. The 1982 Foundation filed a countersuit for \$1,846,566.53 against the Viking Group.
 We got the actions backwards as The 1982 Foundation filed the original lawsuit against The Viking Group, not a countersuit.
 It should have read:
April 24, 2025: A mechanic’s lien was filed by The Viking Group, Inc., against the 1982 Foundation for \$858,591.44, along with accrued and continuing interest. The 1982 Foundation had originally filed a suit for \$1,846,566.53 against the Viking Group. The 1982 Foundation filed the first suit and then The Viking Group filed a suit subsequent to that.
 The Calhoun Chronicle regrets the error.

What will happen in 2026? Some educated guesses

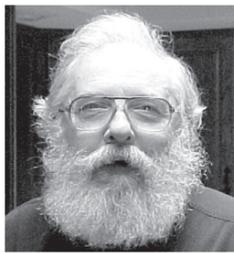
By Gaylen Duskey
 Now that 2025 is consigned to history the question becomes what will happen in 2026?
 While no one can tell the future there are things that ought to happen in the coming year and we would like to venture our top 10 things we feel will happen

in Calhoun County and Grantsville in the coming year.
 Work will be completed on the renovations at Minnie Hamilton Health Systems Grantsville campus. This will greatly enlarge the facility allowing better and more comprehensive health care in this area without going to larger facilities in

2026 cont. on page 4

CRESTON NEWS

BY ALVIN ENGELKE
PHONE 275-3578



LATE NEWS: This is the Creston News from Christmas Day when the Calhoun Chronicle did not publish.

The cold weather went away [at least for a while] and on Sunday one could observe flowers on chickweed.

The Parkersburg Area Community Foundation folks were in Creston on December 23 to announce that \$17,000 had been awarded to the Creston Community Building to replace the original roof on the old school house.

Christmas was celebrated by several local families with family gatherings.

The diminished number of birds this winter continues to be a matter of concern, considering all the talk of "bird flu". Have Dr. Fauci's buddies been busy spending taxpayer dollars? Finally a cardinal showed up at one local bird feeder.

Local residents motored to the Calhoun County Park, the Parkersburg City Park and Point Pleasant & Gallipolis Ohio to observe the Christmas lights. All are worth the trip!!!

For two years deer hunters have observed game camera pictures of the local buck with "drop tines". Then, this year he wasn't seen. Some thought he was the victim of a poacher but then his carcass was found near a stream. His antlers were still in the velvet which means he died from the "new" virus that decimated the local deer herd.

Esther Ruth Smith, age 89, died in the nursing home in Elizabeth. She was a daughter of Lawson Bain a former prominent Burning Springs resident.

One of the fly by night Ohio land buyers wrote Nellie Engelke saying that they wanted to buy her Calhoun property. She passed away in 1981.

Some new holes have appeared in the LKR bridge at Creston. Some folks in Grantsville have asked, "Is it ever going to be replaced?" It would seem that the main concern for the highway folks is cutting down trees and limbs that might "shade the roadway." Seems Dimbulb, the maintenance boss, has a buddy Slick who has equipment to rent to the "deep pockets" W. Va. Taxpayers "to keep the blacktop from decay because of shade". Dimbulb noted that Junior Gore and Dr. Fauci both became filthy rich "claiming science" for their scams so why can't we do the same and "get a piece of the pie?" If folks say anything we'll call them "science deniers". That will shut them up and if necessary we can have some little injuneer speak about the "Core Maintenance Manual". Moses didn't get it on a holy mountain but someone "important" must have dreamed it up.

Chester Dillon Marks, age 64, of Rose-dale passed away. He was a son of Mr. & Mrs. Finley Marks who formerly lived at Annamoriah.

There were folks demonstrating the

other day down at the Mouth of the Elk over the proposed "excess" use of water for AI Data Centers while the state has, in some places, less than prime public water systems. A study was made about all these hypes and it was determined that if all plans for all facilities that are proposed happened by 2030 the actual increased water use would be 8% of present golf course usage or 1% of the usage for irrigated corn farming. Bernie Sanders the communist who represents Vermont said there should be a halt in building data centers which would give the communist Chinese a big push in their plan for world domination.

W. Va. Coal baronet U. S. Senator Justice continues to make news. A Tennessee federal court found that Justice owes \$29 million to Lexon Insurance a firm that had posed bond for the politician. Then the IRS slapped him with a lien for \$5 million for back income tax and the State of W. Va. Said his hotel owed \$1.3 million in sales taxes that had been collected from customers. It is said that some of the "powers that be" want to run him for governor in 2028. It should be noted that Broadway Joe Manchin and Jim Justice share advisors and lobbyists. Mrs. Capito, the other US Senator, said she was running for re-election although she had seemed to have sided with the "deep state".

Thirumali Chemicals, a company based in India, has announced a factory near the Blue Racer natural gas fractionation plant in Marshall County to use n-butane, one of the natural gas liquids to make maleic anhydride and food chemicals malic & fumaric acids. It is said the factory will employ 50 people and that presently these chemicals are imported into the nation. Maleic hydrazide (MH 30), a/k/a Sucker Stuff, was used to keep tobacco from sprouting after it had been topped to make for larger leaves. It was one of those chemicals that 'wasn't on the shelf' but could easily be purchased.

EOG (Enron) announced that one of their Utica wells in Mahoning County Ohio made 40,489 bbl. Of oil in 3 months. Locally the Utica is 1100 feet thick and goes all the way down into Virginia.

Mary Ann van Clief fell and broke a rib along with other injuries.

The price of local Pennsylvania grade crude crept up to \$57.01/bbl. With condensate bringing \$39.01/bbl and Marcellus & Utica light fetching \$46.01/bbl. Natural gas elsewhere was \$3.965/MMBTU and it was learned that HG had their 2026 natural gas hedged at \$4.00. Warren Buffett paid \$2.63 for November gas & \$1.62 for October natural gas. Pillar Energy paid \$4.13 for September gas while Jay Bee paid \$3.01 in some cases and 99 cents otherwise.

Creston News 1/8/2026

The New Year was celebrated by several local folks by staying home because of the possibility of slick icy roads. Folks ate cooked cabbage as such is considered a good sign starting out the new year.

Curtis Marks was calling on Rev. Carl Marks. «Cooter» noted that Mr. & Mrs. R. P Marks and daughters from Ohio were visiting and that the elder granddaughter Ryllyann crocheted a beautiful sweater. Also, «Sis» is to consult with her eye doctor.

The folks who make their living in the drug business are upset. Vaporizing drug boats causes shortages and increases in price & now the head of one of the cartels is vacationing in a Brooklyn jail. It's been clear for years that certain politicians permit drug traffic for "obvious reasons". Of course Venezuela has oil. Long ago men from Creston & Brooksville went there to work in the oil fields. When Bill White came back he brought Polly who spent her last years with Sam & Deemie Cooper. His daughter Mary married Warren Campbell. Bill McFee noted that on the school bus all the boys commented on her beauty. She was a teacher and rode the bus from Creston [back then].

The new mayor of New York City said that it was an end to rugged individualism and the start of the "warm collective" - sorta like the gulags in Siberia no doubt.

The winter meeting of the W. Va. State Republican Party will be held Saturday, January 10 down at the Mouth of the Elk. One of the items on the agenda is the proposed reopening of the Republican primary so independents can, once again, participate.

The comely Kim was visiting Wilma

Mowrey.

Shenandoah, a Colorado based outfit, has been leasing land in Ritchie & Gilmer counties for Antero. A recent offer was labeled as 18% gross, but it was noted that the price for the royalty was a fictional BTU price "at the well head" instead of the arm's length price when the NGL's were actually sold. The lease also had binding arbitration & warranty of title, both no nos when leasing/committing mineral rights in a document that will last for the next century. In W. Va. There are countless leases that were signed prior to 1900 when \$300 was "a lot of money". World class oil & gas formations in the middle of the largest oil & gas field on the planet should mean world class royalties and Cabot has received 25% since the 1970s. The State of W. Va. Gets 20% gross.

J. P. Marks was calling at the Creston Space Dock.

A woman with a clip board was knocking on the door at the Charles Russell residence. No one seems to know who she was.

The price of local Pennsylvania grade crude slipped to \$56.32bb. With condensate (super mountain high test) bringing only \$38.32/bbl. And Marcellus & Utica light fetching \$45.32/bbl. The Henry Hub price of natural gas as \$4.85 with Dominion/Warren Buffett [DTI] \$4.225 and Columbia Gas/TransCanada [TCO] \$4.373/MMBTU. Diversified paid \$1.60 for Calhoun County gas while they paid \$3.73 for gas in southern W. Va. That has a lower BTU value. Gas sold on Owl Hill remains less than \$1.00. Y grade condensate from the fractionation plants is \$24.677/bbl. As compared to \$29.132 from last year.

Free Landfill Days at Northwestern Landfill in 2026

The Northwestern Landfill is pleased to announce the schedule for "Free Disposal Days" for West Virginia residents in 2026, in compliance with Senate Bill 18 passed by the West Virginia Legislature in October 1991. These designated days allow residents to dispose of eligible waste free of charge, subject to certain restrictions.

Free Disposal Dates for 2026:

January: Saturday, January 3, 2026
February: Saturday, February 7, 2026
March: Saturday, March 7, 2026
April: Saturday, April 4, 2026
May: Saturday, May 2, 2026
June: Saturday, June 6, 2026
July: Saturday, July 11, 2026 (Note: Landfill closed on July 4th)
August: Saturday, August 1, 2026
September: Saturday, September 5, 2026
October: Saturday, October 3, 2026
November: Saturday, November 7, 2026
December: Saturday, December 5, 2026
January 2027: Saturday, January 2, 2027

Hours of Operation:

6:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Location: Northwestern Landfill 510 E. Dry Run Road Parkersburg, WV (Just off Rt. 50, east of the I-77 Rt. 50 interchange in Wood County)

Restrictions and Guidelines:

Eligibility: Free disposal is available

only to West Virginia residential waste customers. Commercial, construction, and industrial waste are not eligible.

Proof of Residence: Residents must provide proof of West Virginia residency.

Weight Limit: Each resident is allowed up to 516 pounds of waste free of charge per scheduled day. Additional weight will be charged at the regular gate rate. For example, if a load weighs 620 pounds, the first 516 pounds are free, and the remaining 104 pounds will be charged.

Appliances: Residents are encouraged to bring appliances for disposal. Appliances containing Freon will incur a \$50 fee for Freon removal and recycling preparation. Other appliances can be disposed of for free.

Safety Requirements: All customers must wear a hard hat and vest or high-visibility shirt/jacket while on the working face. If you do not have these items, they can be purchased at the scale house.

Load Safety: All loads in open-top trucks or trailers must be tarped or strapped down to prevent waste from falling onto roadways.

Contact Information: For any questions, please call Northwestern Landfill at **304-865-3938**.

We encourage all West Virginia residents to take advantage of these free disposal days to responsibly manage waste and contribute to a cleaner environment. Thank you for your cooperation!

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

1) Opinion Editorials (Op-Eds) and Letters to the Editor may contain constructive criticisms, thoughts, and observations based on reliable information. Each submission is reviewed and accepted on an individual basis.

2) Discourse should be generally respectful, without profanity, rooted in fact, professionally presented (satire is acceptable), and written by the person submitting. All submissions are subject to revision concerning

writing mechanics, space available, and accuracy.

3) Editorial staff reserves the right to contact others concerning the subject matter to balance the presentation of the issue and/or concern.

3) Phone numbers must be included to facilitate editorial questions and fact-checking processes.

Editorials, letters to the editor, press releases, meeting notices, and announcements can be sent to contact@calhouncronicle.com.

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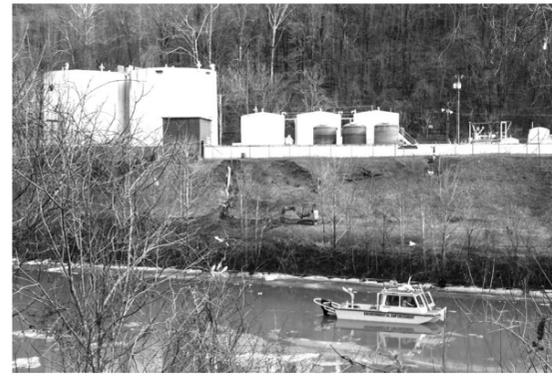


Contact: Stan Bumgardner • bumgardner@wvhumanities.org • 304-346-8500

Jan. 8, 1866: William Gustavus Conley was born near Kingwood (Preston County). Conley was West Virginia's 18th governor, serving from 1929 to 1933.

Jan. 8, 1919: The West Virginia legislature ratified the U.S. constitution's 18th Amendment in the Senate, 26-0, and in the House, 81-3. West Virginia was the 21st state to ratify the amendment. National prohibition went into effect under the Volstead Act on January 16, 1920.

Jan. 8, 1926: Comedian Soupy Sales was born Milton Supman. Raised in Huntington and graduating from Marshall College (now University), he achieved fame as a wacky television personality.



Jan. 11, 1865: Confederate forces under General Thomas Rosser burned the covered bridge at Beverly. Bridge builder Lemuel Chenoweth rebuilt the damaged span in 1872-73.

Jan. 11, 1893: U.S. Senator Harley Martin Kilgore was born in rural Harrison County. Kilgore served as a senator from West Virginia from 1940 until his death in 1952.



Jan. 12, 1869: Newspaperman Herschel Coombs Ogden was born near Fairmont. In 1888, he relocated to Wheeling and entered the newspaper business.

Jan. 13, 1905: Joseph H. Diss Debar died in Philadelphia. A supporter of the movement to create West Virginia, Diss Debar was commissioned in 1863 to design the Great Seal of West Virginia.

Jan. 14, 1842: Marion County was established and named after Revolutionary War hero Francis Marion. Middletown was chosen as the county seat, but the name was changed to Fairmont the following year.

Jan. 14, 1873: The first session of the Glenville Branch of the State Normal School began in the old Gilmer County courthouse. The legislature changed the name to Glenville State College in 1943 and to a university in 2022.



Jan. 9, 1911: Louise McNeill was born on the family farm in Pocahontas County. She was appointed poet laureate by Governor Jay Rockefeller in 1979, holding that title until her death in 1993.

Jan. 9, 2014: Hazardous chemicals were discovered leaking into the Elk River, contaminating the water supply for a nine-county region.

Jan. 10, 1925: Judge Elizabeth Virginia Hallanan was born in Charleston. She was West Virginia's first female federal court judge.

Jan. 10, 1928: Gov. Howard Gore appointed Minnie Buckingham Harper of McDowell County to fill the unexpired term of her husband, E. Howard Harper. She was the first Black woman to serve in a state legislative body in the United States.

Jan. 10, 1940: The Pond Creek No. 1 mine at Bartley in McDowell County exploded. The blast killed 91 miners, with another 47 escaping. Rescue teams worked five days to retrieve the bodies but found no additional miners alive.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Calhoun Civil Air Patrol Squadron holds weekly meetings on Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. at 413 High Street Grantsville, WV.

The First Baptist Calhoun Food Pantry on Route 5 E outside of Grantsville is a non-profit food pantry open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Community Resources Incorporated (CRI) Food Pantry: Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m.- 4 p.m., with free USDA commodities to those who qualify (food pantry only) on Court Street.

Upper West Fork Park meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m.

Calhoun County Park, a Night Sky Park, is always open - except for a special occasion or event that requires closing of the gate. The park board meets the 1st Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. in the park's "barn."

Calhoun County Historical Society meets at the Family History Center Museum (former Quality Shop) on Main Street on the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

Calhoun County Library hours are Mon., Wed., and Fri., 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Tue. and Thur., 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Online 24 hours at <https://calhounlib.com/>.

Minnora Methodist Mission Thrift Shop is open Mon & Wed 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Fri 10 - 1, providing affordable clothing and household items.

The Welfare of Animals Group (WAG) can assist low-income Calhoun County homes with 50% of their cat or dog spay/neuter fee. For information call 354-7042. Donations of dry cat food can be dropped off at Calhoun County Library, Grantsville.

The **Grantsville Pickleball Club** plays on Tuesday and Thursday nights in the Town Park at 7:00 p.m., weather permitting.

For information on **12-Step Recovery Meetings** and resources please contact the Calhoun FRN at 304-354-7177.

Mark your calendars for **Heartwood in the Hills Homecoming** on September 21, 2024 honoring 42 years of Celebrating the Artist in Every Person.

Lion's Club Bingo is held in the Lion's Club Building, 103 Stump St., Grantsville, on the first and third Saturdays of each month at 6 p.m.

Little Kanawha Calhoun Bus Schedule: Monday through Friday - Service within Grantsville city limits. Monday - Service to/from Annamoriah and Creston along Route 5 East/West. Tuesday - Service to/from Millstone, Arnoldsburg, Westfork, and locations south. Wednesday - Central county service to/from Mt. Zion, Russett, and Stumptown. Thursday - Roundtrip service along Route 16 North including Pleasant Hill, Nobe, Broomstick, and Big Springs. Roundtrip service from Grantsville to Parkersburg. Service between counties is available Monday-Friday to/from Grantsville. Call Toll-Free: 866-354-5522.

County Farmer's Markets

Calhoun County Farmer's Market, Upper West Fork Park, Chloe. Wednesdays 9 a.m.-1 p.m.,

Arnoldsburg Farmer's Market, West Fork Park, Arnoldsburg. Fridays 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Berea Gardens Drive Thru Farmer's Market, Beria Gardens, Minnora. Wednesdays 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Grantsville Farmer's Market, Season details not yet available.

To add your community service information to this listing email contact@calhounchronicle.com.

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



West Virginia Hospital Association Applauds Governor Morrisey's Leadership in Securing Funding for Rural Health Transformation

The West Virginia Hospital Association (WVHA) today commended Governor Patrick Morrisey for West Virginia's successful application to the Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP), which will bring \$199,476,099 annually for the next five years to the state.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that all 50 states will receive awards under the \$50 billion RHTP initiative, established under President Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill Act. West Virginia's substantial allocation reflects the state's commitment to strengthening rural healthcare infrastructure and improving health outcomes for communities across the Mountain State.

"We are grateful for Governor Morrisey's visionary leadership in securing these critical resources for West Virginia's rural healthcare system," said Jim Kaufman, President & CEO of the West Virginia Hospital Association. "This nearly \$1 billion investment over five years represents a transformational opportunity to address longstanding challenges in rural healthcare delivery."

The RHTP funds, which will become available in 2026, will support five key priorities:

- Bringing more care within reach of rural communities
- Strengthening and sustaining the rural clinical workforce
- Modernizing rural health infrastructure and technology

Driving structural efficiency and empowering community providers

Advancing innovative care models and payment reform

Governor Morrisey has already begun hiring staff within the Department of Health to administer the program. Funds will be allocated through a combination of direct state awards and competitive grants.

"The WVHA looks forward to working collaboratively with Governor Morrisey, the Legislature, and the Department of Health on the implementation of this historic program," Kaufman added. "The state's community hospitals stand ready to partner in developing innovative solutions that will ensure every West Virginian has access to quality healthcare, regardless of where they live."

Kaufman said, "the Association will update members as the state's allocation plans are finalized and released by the Governor's office. While the RHTP program presents a significant opportunity to transform rural healthcare in West Virginia, WVHA will also continue working with Congress to mitigate the pending Medicaid cuts included in the OBBBA. When fully implemented, these cuts will reduce federal Medicaid funding to West Virginia by more than \$1 billion annually."

About the West Virginia Hospital Association

The West Virginia Hospital Association represents hospitals and health systems across the state, working to advance quality healthcare for all West Virginians.

2026

Continued from Page 1

more metropolitan areas. The biggest thing people will see is that MHHS will be now be three-stories high.

Bert's Place a 12-unit apartment complex for low income and a safe, affordable environment free from drugs and alcohol to help individuals stay in recovery. The new facility will be a major renovation of the current Red Devil Inn.

Avalon will open a child care center and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) school which will be a great boost in educational opportunities in Calhoun County. The school is part of an overall program at Avalon (the former Calhoun High School) which will include restaurants, recreational facilities, meeting rooms and entrepreneurial zones and opportunities. And, of course, a world class swimming pool.

Governmental control will likely switch to the Republican party since the GOP now has more registered voters than the democrat party. As of the latest party enrollment the GOP has the advantage in registration 1,756-1,278 over the democrats with three countywide races – county clerk, circuit clerk and county commission – on the ballot. The biggest need the Republicans seemingly have is finding suitable candidates for the positions since they have been in democrat control for several decades.

The town and county will take a serious look at the concept of a metro government after seeing the progress the county has been making since hiring a professional administrator to run things.

Grantsville will get or get assuredness of having a Dollar General Store return to town. The town has been without a Dollar General for several months which has been an inconvenience to citizens of the town especially the senior citizens.

The long-running 354-655 Calhoun County civil war will end or abate as the citizens finally realize working together more things will be accomplished such as completing infrastructure projects like the expansion of water and sewer lines to the entire county.

Calhoun Middle/High School's athletic teams will have a renaissance with winning records abounding as the young Red Devils grow up and start reaching new heights.

The Citizen of the Year Award, which started with the naming of retired judge Larry Whited as its first winner, will start working with other groups such as the Calhoun Historical Society to establish a Calhoun County Hall of Fame which could be housed at the historical society building and could lead to formal enshrinement ceremonies and a banquet.

Both the Wood Festival and the Molasses Festival will enjoy banner years with increased attendance and community interaction.

Will those things actually happen?

We are not sure because know one knows what the future will bring but these are educated guesses which we will have to wait and see if they happen in 2026.

McCuskey Sets Stops in North Central West Virginia in the New Year

Attorney General JB McCuskey announced a representative from his office will meet with north central West Virginia residents in January to discuss consumer-related issues and answer any potential questions. Brooke Albright, a consumer outreach and compliance specialist with the office, will host the events as scheduled below:

- Jan. 7: 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. – Taylor County Senior Citizens, Inc.- 52 Trap Springs Rd., Grafton
- Jan. 9: 11:00 a.m. to Noon – Lewis County Senior Citizen Center - 171 W. 2nd St., Weston
- Jan. 12: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30p.m. – Fairmont Senior Center - 105 Maplewood Drive, Fairmont
- Jan. 14: 11:00 a.m. to Noon – Council of Senior Citizens of Gilmer County- 720 N Lewis St., Glenville
- Jan. 16: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. –Senior Monongalians - 5000 Greenbag Rd., Morgantown
- Jan. 26: 11:00 a.m. to Noon – Harrison County Senior Citizen's Center, Inc. - 500 W Main St., Clarksburg
- Jan. 29th: 10:30a.m. -- Presentation: Protecting Yourself from Scams -- Senior Monongalians - 5000 Greenbag Rd., Morgantown

For information on additional requirements specific to any location, attendees are encouraged to contact Brooke Albright at 304-777-9906. In case of inclement weather, please call ahead.

Note from Networking West Virginia

We apologize for any inconvenience caused by the system-wide updates performed the morning of January 6.

The updates began at 2:00 AM and were completed by 6:00 AM. During this maintenance window, customers may have experienced several brief service interruptions, each lasting approximately 1–2 minutes. Depending on location within the network, some customers may have experienced up to six interruptions during that time.

These updates were necessary to improve overall system performance and reliability. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we continue working to provide the best service.

If you have any questions or continue to experience issues, please contact our support team using the ticketing system in your customer portal or call (304) 501-5959.

Thank you for your understanding.

Calhoun County WV

These offices will be up for election in 2026:

County Clerk

Circuit Clerk

County Commissioner

Must file with the County Clerk office between January 12 to January 31

Be prepared before the next power outage.



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*Terms and Conditions apply.

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*Free toilet with purchase and installation of a walk-in tub or walk-in shower only. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Market restrictions may apply. Offer available in select markets only. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445 13VH11096000

West Virginia National Guard

Here is a summary of the total scores for all teams in the West Virginia National Guard wrestling tournament at Nicholas County High School Jan. 2-3, 2026.

Calhoun County Wrestling Results

Round 1: Calhoun County 30 vs. Richlands, VA 46

Round 2: Calhoun County 42 vs. Meadow Bridge 18

Round 3: Calhoun County 30 vs. Shady Spring 36

Round 4: Calhoun County 57 vs. Nicholas County 48

Round 5: Calhoun County 42 vs. Princeton 30

Pool C Results:
Calhoun County 23 vs. Ashland Paul Blazer, KY 48

Calhoun County 30 vs. Shady Spring 36

Calhoun County 24 vs. Doddridge County 48

Calhoun County 24 vs. Lincoln 56

Final Pool C Standings:
Shady Spring: 4-0

Lincoln: 3-1

Doddridge County: 2-2

Ashland Paul Blazer, KY: 1-3

Calhoun County: 0-4

Total Scores for All Teams

Johnson Central, KY: 4-0 (Champion)

Herbert Hoover Red: 3-1 (2nd place)

Oak Hill: 2-2 (3rd place)

Richlands, VA: 1-3 (4th place)

Braxton County: 0-4 (5th place)

Lewis County: 3-1 (6th place)

Roane County: 3-1 (7th place)

Ravenswood: 2-2 (8th place)

Greenbrier West: 2-2 (9th place)

Rockbridge, VA: 0-4 (10th place)

Shady Spring: 4-0 (11th place)

Lincoln: 3-1 (12th place)

Winfield: 4-0 (Pool D winner)

Clay County: 3-1

Liberty Raleigh: 2-2

Nicholas County: 1-3

Princeton: 0-4

Herbert Hoover Blue: 5-0 (Pool E winner)

Greenbrier East: 4-1

Webster County: 3-2

Gilmer County: 1-3

Richwood: 1-3

Meadow Bridge: 0-4

Calhoun County finished 0-4 in Pool C.

Please report your games

Coaches, scorekeepers, fans ... it does not matter where we get the information, but we need to get the information to be able to publish the results of your games in *The Calhoun Chronicle* and we

are pretty sure our readers would appreciate seeing those games in print.

There are easy ways to do that with today's technology. The easiest way to do that is to take your

telephone or tablet and take a picture of the scorebook (both sides Calhoun and the opponent) and e-mail them to us.

Our e-mail addresses are realfang@citlink.net or [\[hunchronicle.com\]\(mailto:hunchronicle.com\) and you could even report your game to the *Parkersburg News and Sentinel* the same way by sending an e-mail to \[jwbennett@newsandsentinel.com\]\(mailto:jwbennett@newsandsentinel.com\) which will reach Jay Bennett.](mailto:contact@cal-</p>
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Calhoun Middle School played host to New Martinsville in a boy-girl doubleheader. In the boys game Brayden Hardway gets off a shot despite being surrounded by Eagles while in the girls game Addison Caudill (4) gets off a shot. Photos courtesy Clear Blue Skys Studio.

Work continuing on Calhoun Chronicle Church Directory

EDITOR'S NOTE: We are still working toward creating a Church Directory for the Calhoun Chronicle and these are the churches we have thus far. We would like for you to look over the churches we have information about and correct anything we may have wrong in the church's summary.

Also, if we missed any churches in the county, please let us know and tell us about your church. We look forward to hearing from you because each and every church is very important. Also, we would like to get information on churches in neighboring counties where Calhoun people may attend such as churches in Smithville, Stumptown and Creston. We look forward to hearing from you.

APOSTOLIC

None listed

BAPTIST

The Church at Annamoriah

PASTOR DR. BARRY A. MILLER

SS @ 10:00 & Worship @ 11:00 Located about 1/2 of a mile out Katie's run road Annamoriah, West Virginia



Phone 304-354-7780, Find us on Facebook!

CATHOLIC

Evening: 6:30 pm Wednesday Evening: 7:00 pm
METHODIST



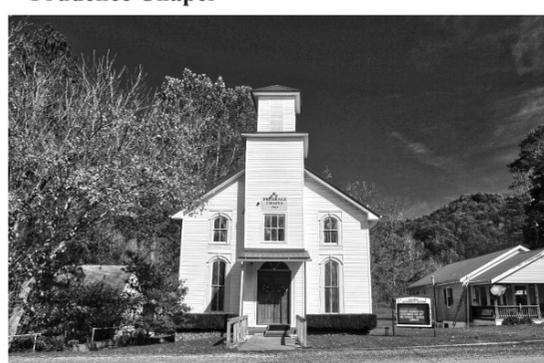
ALBERT'S CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday School 10:00 am, Worship 11:00 am
Mt Zion United Methodist Church



Worship 10:00 am, 304-514-1346

Prudence Chapel



Minnora, WV along Rt 16
Pastor Tim Hickman, preaching at 11am the 1st and 3rd Sundays and Sunday School at 10am. 2nd and 4th Sundays preaching at 10am and Sunday school at 11am. 304-354-7365 Everyone is welcome.

Walker United Methodist Church



located 1627 Walker Rd in Chloe, WV Pastor Tim Hickman Sunday services start at 10 AM

Orma United Methodist

Located at 17663 South Calhoun Highway. Sunday services beginning at 10 A.M. Pastor Timothy Hickman, preaches every first and third Sunday morning at 10 A.M. Everyone is welcome to attend.

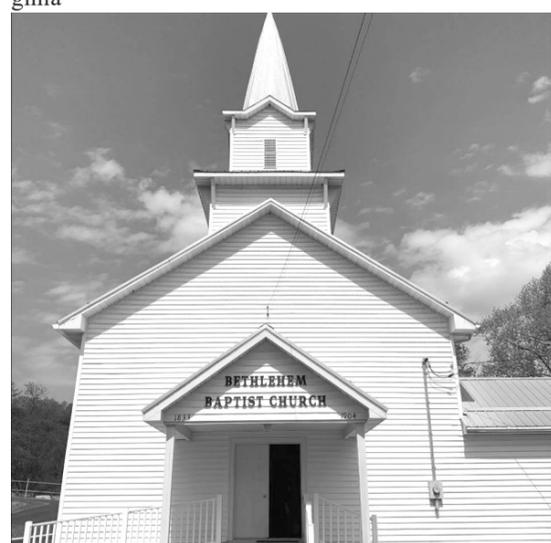


Knotts Memorial Church

Pastor Tim Davis Sunday Worship: 9 am Sunday School: 10 am Wednesday Bible Study: 6 pm Thursday Men's/Women's groups: 6 pm Congregation Led Services <https://www.KnottsChurch.com>

NON DENOMINATIONAL

Cornerstone Praise and Worship 527 Highland Street, Grantsville, WV. Pastor: Kevin Church Sunday School 10:00 am, Worship 11:00 am, Sunday Evening Prayer Group 6:00 pm Wednesday Bible Study 6pm (adults and youth). Find us on Facebook!



BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School 10 a.m. – Worship 11 a.m.

Pastor: Tom Law

Route 5 East Little Kanawha Highway, Grantsville, WV



Good Shepherd Catholic Church

701 Mineral Road, Glenville, WV.

Pastor: Father Gary Naegele, Mass schedule: Sun. 11:00 a.m. Daily Mass and Holy Day as announced in bulletin; Confessions: before Sunday Mass.



Holy Redeemer

602 Parkersburg Rd. Spencer

(304) 927-2013

holyredeemerwv@gmail.com



Brooksville Church Missionary Baptist

Pastor Matt Sanders, Sunday School – 10 a.m., Worship 11 a.m.,

Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 PM (Adult & Youth Programs). Phone 304-354-6967 The Perfect Church for Those Who Aren't! Find us on Facebook! Brooksville Missionary Baptist Church

Chapel Baptist

1710 Nobe Rd Big Springs, WV, 26137, Pastors Harold Francis and Tom Law, Sunday and Wednesday Services 6 P.M. beginning in November.

(304) 354-6080 <https://www.chapelbaptist.org>

Enon Baptist Church

Russett Road Grantsville, WV 26147 Pastor John Vannoy

First Baptist Church of Grantsville

Associate Pastor Rick Godfrey

Sunday: 10:00 – Sunday school 11:00 – morning worship

Wednesday: 7:00 – Bible study

Pastor Ron's cell: +1 (304) 786-6273 Home: (304) 477-3339

Freedom Baptist Church

Chloe, WV, Campus Pastor Steve Boggs. Open at 10am Preaching at 10:30 am Call 304-655-7692 for information: Internet services Done by Pastor (Mike Worf) at Freedom Baptist Church of Okeechobee Florida Sunday morning 10:30am, Sunday night 8pm, Wednesday night 7pm and Friday night 8pm



St. Elizabeth of Hungary

St Rt 14 S, Elizabeth

(681) 236-2700

stelizofhungary@gmail.com

CHURCH OF CHRIST



Steer Creek Church of Christ 3466 Rosedale Road Stumptown, WV 25267 Sunday Morning Bible Study/ Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.

INDEPENDENT



PLEASANT HILL CHURCH

Pastor, Rick Matheny

3757 N. Calhoun Highway, Grantsville, WV 26147.

Full Gospel Lighthouse Church

Big Bend, WV Pastor: Mike Doherty Phone: 304.916.4668 Sunday Morning: 10:00 am Sunday



Prosperity Baptist Church
844 Leading Creek Rd.
Big Springs, WV 26137

VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Steven Carter, Sunday School – 10 a.m., Worship 11 a.m., Sunday Evening – 6 p.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m. (Adult & Youth Programs).

Calhoun County Republican Executive Committee Meeting Agenda

Date: Thursday, January 8th, 2026, **Time:** 6:00 p.m. **Location:** Little Courtroom, Calhoun County Courthouse, Grantsville, WV

- Agenda:**
- Opening Prayer
 - Call to Order
 - Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag
 - Roll Call of Committee Members
 - Treasurer's Report
 - Old Business
 - Discussion on Membership and Officers

New Business

Consideration of Appointments to Newly Opened Positions:

- Calhoun County Clerk
- Calhoun Circuit Clerk

Resignation of Eric Lupardus from the Calhoun Republican Executive Committee

Election Preparation Discussion

Adjournment

This agenda provides a clear and detailed outline of the meeting's structure and topics to be addressed.

Emergency Calhoun County Commission Meeting for Tuesday, January 6th, 2026

Commissioners: Eric Lupardis – Craig Arthur – Lee Rush

EMERGENCY COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, January 6, 2026, at 4:00 pm

AGENDA

- I. Prayer Followed by Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Call to Order
- III. New Business

- a. Accept Resignation from Jean Simers, County Clerk
- b. Appoint New County Clerk

IV. Adjourn

Agendas are subject to revision up to 2 days prior to the meeting.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Due to production schedules the Calhoun Chronicle will have coverage of this meeting in the Jan. 15, 2026, issue.

LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Western Auto

OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT SALES, PARTS & SERVICE for

Husqvarna, Stihl, Briggs & Stratton

Western Auto is also your home and garden store.

315 Main St., Glenville
304-462-5631

LEGAL

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

The undersigned Clerk of the County Commission of Calhoun County does hereby give NOTICE that, pursuant to the provisions of West Virginia Code §41-5-13(b), there has been filed and there is pending before me and the said County Commission an Affidavit for ancillary administration of West Virginia real estate without the appointment of any personal representative and does state as follows:

Decedent	Decedent's Address	Date of Death	Date of Will
Michael E. Lofty	400 South 7th St. Marietta, OH 45750	October 9, 2020	October 31, 2012

Name of Person Filing Affidavit	Address	Relation to Decedent	Date of First Publication
Philip A. Lofty	397 Twin Creeks Dr. Stokesdale, NC 27357	Brother	January 8, 2026

Any interested person objecting to the filing of the foreign will or affidavit or objecting to the absence of appointment or administration being made in this State must file a written objection with the County Commission whose address is 363 Main Street; PO Box 230; Grantsville, WV 26147; within sixty (60) days after the date of first publication or thirty (30) days of service of this Notice upon such interested person filing the Notice, whichever is later.

Notice is given that if an objection is not timely filed, the objection is barred and that the Ancillary Administration of the West Virginia real estate of the above decedent shall be deemed final and complete in accordance with the provisions of law.

Enter this 8th day of January, 2026.

Jean Simers
Clerk of the County Commission
Class II Legal

LEGAL

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that proceedings in the following estates are pending before the County Commission of Calhoun County, West Virginia, at the Courthouse in the City of Grantsville, West Virginia:

Decedent	Personal Representative	Address
Shyrick Jon Raber	Connie Raber	15 Suzanne Street, Little Hocking, OH 45742

January 8, 2026

Notice is hereby given that the preceding estate(s) have been opened for probate in the Calhoun County Clerk's office at 363 Main Street, PO Box 230, GRANTSVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA 26147. Any person seeking to impeach or establish a will must make a complaint in accordance with the provision of West Virginia Code 41-5-11 through 13. Any interested person objecting to the qualifications of the personal representative or the venue of jurisdiction of the commission, shall file notice of an objection with the County Commission within 60 days after the date of the first publication or within 30 days of the service of the notice, whichever is later. If an objection is not filed timely, the objection is forever barred.

Any person interested in filing claims against an estate shown below must file them in accordance with West Virginia Code, 44-2 and 44-3. All persons having claims against one or more of the estate(s) shown above, whether due or not, are notified to exhibit their claims, with the voucher thereof, legally verified, to the Clerk of the Calhoun County Commission at Calhoun County Clerk's Office at 363 Main Street, PO Box 230, GRANTSVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA 26147 on or before **March 9, 2026**. Otherwise they may by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate(s). All beneficiaries of said estate(s) may appear on or before said day to examine said claims and otherwise protect their interests.

Settlement of the estate(s) of the preceding named decedent(s) will proceed with or without reference to a fiduciary commissioner unless within 60 days from the first publication of this notice a reference is requested by a party of interest or an unpaid creditor files a claim and good cause is shown to support reference to a fiduciary commissioner.

Jean Simers, Clerk
Calhoun County Commission
Class II Legal

LEGAL

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE is hereby given pursuant to and by of the authority vested in the Substitute Trustee, Pill & Pill, PLLC, by that certain Deed of Trust dated June 21, 2005, executed by the Borrower, Elizabeth Ferrell, unmarried to Linda E. Robinson, the Trustee, of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Calhoun County, West Virginia, in Book 138 at Page 307. At the time of the execution of the Deed of Trust, this property was reported to have a mailing address of Bull River Road, ST RT 5 n/k/a 73 Bull River Rd, Grantsville, WV 26147. Pill & Pill, PLLC was appointed as Substitute Trustee by APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE dated November 4, 2025, of record in the Clerk's Office in Book 192, at Page 676. The Borrower defaulted under the Note and Deed of Trust and the Substitute Trustee has been instructed to foreclose under the Deed of Trust. Accordingly, the Substitute Trustee will sell the following described property to the highest bidder at the front door of the Courthouse of Calhoun County, in Grantsville, West Virginia, on the following date:

January 21, 2026, at 3:30 p.m.

A CERTAIN LOT, TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING SITUATE ON THE WATERS OF BENNETT'S MILL RUN, IN THE DISTRICT OF SHERMAN, COUNTY OF CALHOUN, STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, FURTHER BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT: BEGINNING AT A SET IRON PIPE IN THE HILL ON THE WEST SIDE OF BENNETT'S MILL RUN; THENCE CROSSING BENNETT'S MILL RUN, S 31 E, 230 FEET TO AN IRON PIPE IN THE EDGE OF COUNTY ROAD 35/17 AT THE OUTLET OF PIPE END; THENCE WITH SAID COUNTY ROAD, S 52° 30' W, 183.73 FEET TO AN IRON PIPE IN THE EDGE OF COUNTY ROAD 35/17, A CORNER TO JOE JOHNSON LOT; THENCE LEAVING SAID COUNTY ROAD 35/17 AND WITH SAID JOHNSON LINE, N 32° 30' W, 193.50 FEET TO A 16-INCH SYCAMORE, ANOTHER CORNER TO SAID JOE JOHNSON LOT; THENCE LEAVING THE JOE JOHNSON LINE, N 32° 30' W, 36.50 FEET, CROSSING BENNETT'S MILL RUN TO A SET IRON PIPE NEAR A 5-INCH HICKORY; THENCE UP SAID BENNETT'S MILL RUN, N 52° 30' E, 190.18 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 1 ACRE, MORE OR LESS.

Tax Map Reference: 05-6-0031-0004-0000

Being the parcel of land conveyed to ELIZABETH FERRELL from DONALD E. DETTMAN AND EDNA DETTMAN by that deed dated 09/12/1991 and recorded 09/24/1991 in deed book 171, page 320 of the CALHOUN County, WV Public Registry.

TERMS OF SALE:

- The property will be conveyed in an "AS IS" physical condition by Deed containing no warranty, express or implied, subject to the Internal Revenue Service right of redemption, all property taxes, prior Deeds, liens, reservations, encumbrances, restrictions, rights-of-ways, easements, covenants, conveyances and conditions of record in the Clerk's office or affecting the subject property.
- The Purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the transfer taxes imposed by the West Virginia Code § 11-22-1.
- The Beneficiary and/or the Servicer of the Deed of Trust and Note reserve the right to submit a bid for the property at sale.
- The Trustee reserves the right to continue sale of the subject property from time to time by written or oral proclamation, which continuance shall be in the sole discretion of the Trustee.
- The Trustee shall be under no duty to cause any existing tenant or person occupying the property to vacate said property, and any personal property and/or belongings remaining at the property after the foreclosure sale will be deemed to constitute ABANDONED PROPERTY AND WILL BE DISPOSED OF ACCORDINGLY.
- The total purchase price is payable to the Trustee within thirty (30) days of the date of sale, with ten (10%) of the total purchase price payable to the Trustee at sale.

Should any party have inquiries, objections to the sale or protests regarding the sale, or requests regarding the sale, please notify the Trustee below by one of the means of communication set forth below.

Pill & Pill, PLLC, Substitute Trustee
Richard A. Pill, Esq.
Pill & Pill, PLLC
85 Aikens Center
Martinsburg, WV 25404
(304) 263-4971
foreclosures@pillwvllaw.com

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CALHOUN COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE INTEREST OF:
Z.T. (DOB: 2/16/2019) Case No. CC-07-2025-JA-36
Adult Respondent(s): Carlecus Blackwell
Unknown Father

ORDER OF CLASS II PUBLICATION

The subject of this suit is to determine custody of the Infant Respondent.

A more particular description of this suit is contained in the Petition on file in the Office of the Circuit Clerk of Calhoun County, West Virginia.

To Carlecus Blackwell, Putative Father of Z.T., and Unknown Father

On or about February 16, 2019, Z.T. was born to Zayla Taylor. The father is unknown, but Carlecus Blackwell is the Putative Father.

Pursuant to Chapter 49, Article 4 Section 601 of the West Virginia Code, notice is hereby given to you that a petition has been filed in the Circuit Court of Calhoun County, West Virginia, which proceedings can result in the permanent termination of parental rights. It appearing that the whereabouts of CARLECUS BLACKWELL AND UNKNOWN FATHER are presently unknown at this time. It is **ORDERED** that CARLECUS BLACKWELL AND UNKNOWN FATHER are notified that they may obtain a copy of the Petition from the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Calhoun County, West Virginia, and it is further **ORDERED** that CARLECUS BLACKWELL AND UNKNOWN FATHER are to appear in the courtroom of the Honorable Anita Harold Ashley, Judge of the Circuit Court of Calhoun County, West Virginia, Third Floor, Calhoun County Courthouse, Grantsville, West Virginia, on January 14, 2026, at 2:00 PM for an Adjudicatory Hearing if they so desire to object or make other defenses to the Petition. You have the right to counsel at every stage of these proceedings and counsel has been so appointed. Failure to answer and defend could result in the permanent loss of parental rights. The adjudicatory hearing may be rescheduled without further notice of publication.

A copy of said petition, all subsequently filed legal documents, and appointment of counsel orders can be obtained from the undersigned Clerk at her office located at the Calhoun County Courthouse, Grantsville, Calhoun County, West Virginia.

ENTERED by the Clerk of said Court on the 19th day of December 2025.

Sheila R. Garretson
Sheila R. Garretson
Clerk of Court

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CALHOUN COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE INTEREST OF:
O.T. (DOB: 12/06/2020) Case No. CC-07-2025-JA-37
Adult Respondent(s): Kyle Maccumon
Unknown Father

ORDER OF CLASS II PUBLICATION

The subject of this suit is to determine custody of the Infant Respondent.

A more particular description of this suit is contained in the Petition on file in the Office of the Circuit Clerk of Calhoun County, West Virginia.

To Kyle Maccumon, Putative Father of O.T., and Unknown Father of O.T.

On or about December 6, 2020, O.T. was born to Zayla Taylor. The father is unknown, but Kyle Maccumon is the Putative Father.

Pursuant to Chapter 49, Article 4 Section 601 of the West Virginia Code, notice is hereby given to you that a petition has been filed in the Circuit Court of Calhoun County, West Virginia, which proceedings can result in the permanent termination of parental rights. It appearing that the whereabouts of KYLE MACCUMON AND UNKNOWN FATHER are presently unknown at this time. It is **ORDERED** that KYLE MACCUMON AND UNKNOWN FATHER are notified that they may obtain a copy of the Petition from the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Calhoun County, West Virginia, and it is further **ORDERED** that KYLE MACCUMON AND UNKNOWN FATHER are to appear in the courtroom of the Honorable Anita Harold Ashley, Judge of the Circuit Court of Calhoun County, West Virginia, Third Floor, Calhoun County Courthouse, Grantsville, West Virginia, on January 14, 2026, at 2:00 PM for an Adjudicatory Hearing if they so desire to object or make other defenses to the Petition. You have the right to counsel at every stage of these proceedings and counsel has been so appointed. Failure to answer and defend could result in the permanent loss of parental rights. The adjudicatory hearing may be rescheduled without further notice of publication.

A copy of said petition, all subsequently filed legal documents, and appointment of counsel orders can be obtained from the undersigned Clerk at her office located at the Calhoun County Courthouse, Grantsville, Calhoun County, West Virginia.

ENTERED by the Clerk of said Court on the 19th day of December 2025.

Sheila R. Garretson
Sheila R. Garretson
Clerk of Court

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Calhoun County Commission organizational meeting

The organizational meeting of the Calhoun County Commission was called to order on Friday, January 2, 2026, at 9:02 a.m. by President Commissioner Arthur. Others present: Commissioner Lupardus, Commissioner Rush, and County Administrator, Jennifer Randolph. Commissioner Arthur led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer.

Lupardus introduced Brian Arthur, the new O&M Manager who started working today.

Election of County Commission President for 2026 Rush moved to appoint Eric Lupardus as President for 2026, seconded by Arthur. Motion passed 3-0.

Lupardus led the remainder of the meeting and thanked Arthur for his leadership.

Adopt Rules of Order for Commission Meetings: Rush moved to adopt the Roberts Rules of Order, seconded by Lupardus. Motion passed 3-0.

Set Courthouse Days/Hours for 2026: Arthur moved to set courthouse hours as Monday through Friday 8am to Noon and 1pm to 4pm, seconded by Rush. Motion passed 3-0.

Set Courthouse Holidays for 2026: Arthur moved to accept the following holidays for 2026, seconded by Rush. Motion passed 3-0.

- January 19 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- February 16 - Presidents' Day
- April 3 - Good Friday*
- May 12 - Primary Election Day
- May 25 - Memorial Day
- June 5 - Wood Festival - ½ Day (close at noon)*
- June 19 - West Virginia WV Day
- July 3 - Independence Day
- September 7 - Labor Day
- October 12 - Columbus Day
- November 3 - General Election Day
- November 11 - Veterans' Day
- November 26 & 27 - Thanksgiving Day & Day After
- December 24 - Christmas Eve
- December 25 - Christmas Holiday
- December 31 - New Year's Eve
- January 1 - New Year's Day
- And Other Holidays as Declared by Governor Resulting in Closed Courts.

Set County-Wide Trick or Treat for 2026: Lu-

pardus moved to set Trick or Treat for Arnoldsburg on October 31 from 5-7pm, seconded by Arthur. Motion carried 3-0. The Administrator will check with the Town of Grantsville to coordinate trick or treat with the Block Party.

Set Regular Commission Meeting Dates and Times: 2nd Monday at 1:30pm; 4th Monday at 5pm: Arthur moved to set the dates and times as presented with the following exceptions, seconded by Rush. Motion carried 3-0.

- January 12 - move to 4pm
 - February 9 - move to February 12 at 1:30pm
 - May 25 - move to May 27 at 5pm
 - June 8 - move to June 10 at 1:30pm
 - October 12 - move to October 13 at 1:30pm
 - November - one meeting on November 16 at 5pm
 - December - one meeting on December 14 at 5pm
- Lupardus called for a special meeting on Tuesday, January 6 at 4pm and a Work session January 13th at 6pm at the upper west fork park.

Set Board of Equalization and Review Meetings Dates at 1:30pm: Arthur moved to accept the following dates for Board of Review and Equalization meetings, seconded by Rush. Motion carried 3-0.

- January 30
- February 4
- February 9 at 4pm in person and TEAMS
- February 13
- February 19
- February 25

Set Budget/Levy Meetings Dates and Times: Arthur moved to set the budget meetings as follows, seconded by Rush. Motion carried 3-0.

- March 2, 9, 16 @ 1:30pm
- March 23 at 5pm

Appointment of Humane Officer: Arthur moved to reappoint deputy Hannah Stephens humane officer, seconded by Rush. Motion carried 3-0.

Appointment of Commissioners to Various Boards & Committees: Arthur moved to keep the same boards as currently, seconded by Rush. Motion carried 3-0.

Rush moved and Arthur seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:36 a.m. Motion carried 3-0.

Prevent a Winter Blood Shortage – Donate Blood Today!

The American Red Cross of the Ohio River Valley is calling on all eligible donors to help prevent a critical winter blood shortage. The organization is facing a significant strain on its blood supply following the busy holiday season, compounded by winter weather and packed schedules. Without immediate action, hospitals may face challenges in providing lifesaving care, forcing doctors to make difficult decisions about blood transfusions. Donors with blood types O, A negative, and B negative are especially needed.

How You Can Help: Make an appointment to donate blood or platelets today! It's easy to schedule your donation:

- Visit RedCrossBlood.org
- Download the **Red Cross Blood Donor App**
- Call **1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)**
- Enable the **Blood Donor Skill** on any Alexa Echo device

Special Super Bowl LX Giveaway: As part of National Blood Donor Month, the Red Cross is teaming up with the National Football League (NFL) for the seventh year to encourage blood donations. Donors who give blood between **January 1-25, 2026**, will be automatically entered for a chance to win an exciting **Super Bowl LX giveaway**. The winner and a guest will receive:

- Tickets to **Super Bowl LX** in Santa Clara, California
- Access to day-of in-stadium pregame activities
- Tickets to the official **Super Bowl Experience** Round-trip airfare
- Three-night hotel accommodations (**February 6-9, 2026**)

A **\$1,000 gift card** for expenses
For full details, visit RedCrossBlood.org/Super-Bowl.

Join the Team: The Red Cross is partnering with Pro Football Champion and blood donor **Saquon Barkley** to remind everyone that the best offense against a winter blood shortage is making and keeping blood donation appointments. Barkley shared his personal experience, saying, "I gave blood once in college and that was the only time I had ever been asked to give, until the Red Cross reached out this fall. It was a no-brainer for me to give again. It only takes about an hour and once you realize in that short amount of time how much help it can bring – it's a beautiful thing."

Who Can Donate: Individuals **17 years of age** in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law)

Weigh at least 110 pounds
Are in **generally good health** High school students and donors **18 years or younger** must meet specific height and weight requirements.

Save Time with RapidPass®: Blood and platelet donors can save time by completing their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online on the day of their donation. Visit RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App to get started.

About the American Red Cross: The American Red Cross provides critical services, including disaster relief, blood supply, lifesaving skills training, international humanitarian aid, and support for veterans and military families. As a nonprofit organization, the Red Cross relies on volunteers and the generosity of the public to fulfill its mission. Learn more at redcross.org or CruzRojaAmericana.org, and follow us on social media.

Contact: Sharon Kesselring, Executive Director
Phone: (304) 488-5279 Email: Sharon.Kesselring@redcross.org

Make a lifesaving difference this winter – donate blood today!

Secretary of State Kris Warner announces Candidate Filing Period for upcoming May 12th Primary Election; Releases 2026 'Running for Office Guide'

Secretary of State Kris Warner has announced the official Candidate Filing Period for West Virginia's May 12th Primary Election.

Registered voters interested in running for public office in 2026 must file on or between Monday, January 12th, and Saturday, January 31st. Candidates who must file with the Secretary of State's Office include those running for statewide and legislative offices, state executive committee, offices to be filled by voters in more than one county, and judicial offices (excluding magistrates).

Candidates running for offices to be filled by voters in a single county, including county commission, magistrate, and district-level political party executive committees, must file with the County Clerk.

Candidates may file in-person or by mail. Certificates of Announcements mailed to the County Clerk or the WV Secretary of State must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service on or before Saturday, January 31st, 2026. Filing Fees are required to be paid at the time the filing is made, or the submission will be rejected. Candidates whose claimed political party affiliations or residence address do not match their official voter registration records are subject to rejection.

The State Capitol and regional offices in Clarksburg (153 West Main Street) and Martinsburg (229 East Martin Street) will be open on Saturday, January 31st, from 9:00am until midnight.

For more information on elections in West Virginia, how to register to vote, how to vote by absentee, or how to update your voter registration, please visit GoVoteWV.com (an official website of the WV Secretary of State's Office).

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2026 Calhoun County Commission

January	February	March	April
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May	June	July	August
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September	October	November	December
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Commission Meeting - 2nd Monday at 1:30pm; 4th Monday at 5pm
 Holiday
 Board of Review Meeting
 Budget Meeting - Lay the Levy

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