

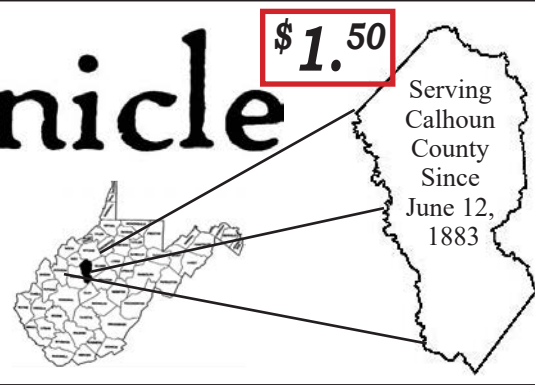


The Calhoun Chronicle

and

The Grantsville News

“Good Government, Pure Homes and Godly Hearts”



Whole Number 7236

Grantsville, West Virginia 26147

Thursday, August 27, 2026

Calhoun Commission President Blasts Contractor in Upper West Fork Park Dispute

By Stephen Smoot

In a busy and wide-ranging session of the Calhoun County Commission this week, Commission President Eric Lupardus used what President Theodore Roosevelt used to call the “bully pulpit.” He launched a broadside against a contractor filing suit against the Upper West Fork Park over not using his services to construct the

new building there.

The meeting opened with remembrance of the lives of two young men from Clay County in a tragic vehicle accident. In his opening invocation, Commissioner Craig Arthur prayed “Father, our hearts go out for the tragedy in Clay County.”

After the Pledge of Allegiance, the meeting opened.

Commission President Lupardus unsealed a bid for the new County Park building. The bid for \$128,022 came from T and B Contracting in Clendenin. Under their proposal, they would perform the concrete work and erect the steel structure, but not improve the interior.

After discussion of the bid, Commissioner Lee Rush noted the public excitement for the completion of the

DISPUTE cont. on page 4

Welcome Back!



With State needs and youth focus more on success in lucrative trades fields higher than it has been in generations, the Calhoun-Gilmer Career Center staff is ready to connect students to those opportunities



The sales stand for Orma's Valhalla Farms, funded by a mini Grant, opened to customers in June

Calhoun County-Based Valhalla Farm Benefits From Minigrant

By Stephen Smoot

Marquis and Robin Barr followed their dreams of agriculture from the West Coast to Orma and found help from a Farmers Market minigrant last year. Other farms or farmers markets in Calhoun County and across West Virginia have the opportunity to get the same support.

The West Virginia’s Department of Agriculture recognizes the growing convergence of the appreciation freshly grown local foods and other farm-based products with the Mountain State’s ever-expanding tourism market. As the West Virginia Agritourism Initiative explains, “across the state, agritourism partners are creating meaningful connections between agriculture, community, and visitors. From pick-your-own farms and family markets to wineries, distilleries, and educational experiences, these destinations reflect the creativity and collaboration.”

Supporting that growth is a grant of up to \$5,000 available from the West Virginia Farmers Market Association, supported by the WVDA.

Applications opened on August 7 during National Farmers Market Week and will extend through September 18 at 11:59 p.m. West Virginia State Commissioner of Agriculture Kent Leonhardt noted that “Local farmers’ markets and the producers who support them are vital to our state’s economy, as well as food security.”

He added that “when we saw bottle necks in the national food system, it was West Virginia farmers who stepped up to feed our citizens. The pandemic proved how important local agriculture is to our communities, so this week get out and support those markets and their farmers.”

“It has been a great roller coaster, but that’s farming,” said Mrs. Barr. She and her husband, a United States military veteran, moved to Orma from the West Coast about four years ago and bought land. She noted that “there was no proper fencing” and that a lot of labor and tender loving care went into building up the property to support a working farm.

Their operation, Valhalla Farms, specializes in seasonal produce, handmade herbal products, registered Shetland sheep and wool, and baked goods.

One source of help for the Barrs prior to the farmer’s market grant came from the WVDA “Veterans and Heroes to Agriculture” program. It was established “to integrate veterans into the field of agriculture and support veterans currently working in agriculture.” Assistance may come to those working on post-mine lands, using high tunnel greenhouses, “expanding the apiary industry”, “developing cottage industries”, “exploring niche crops”, and other areas of endeavor.

Regionally, the Farmers’ Market minigrants, which are available to anyone in the field, not just veterans, have proved vital in supporting the different missions of differing markets. Each organizer and community has a different perception of farmers markets and what they can do for customers and community. A diversity of styles and efforts makes them even more enjoyable for

FARM cont. on page 4

Secretary of State’s Office Touts New Office of Entrepreneurship to Help W. Va Small Business

By Stephen Smoot

One of the biggest efforts under previous Secretary of State Mac Warner and the current official in that role, Kris Warner, has been in making the office’s work with businesses more efficient, easier, and more customer friendly. Establishment of the new Office of Entrepreneurship last month advanced that mission considerably. Senate Bill 878 from the 2026 West Virginia State Legislature laid the legal groundwork for it.

Secretary Warner called the new initiative “pretty exciting” and shared that “we hired a new director, Lesli Taylor. She comes to us from the Higher Education Policy Commission. She’s an entrepreneur herself, comes from an entrepreneurial family.”

“I come from a long line of entrepreneurs,” shared Taylor. She described how her first job came “in Paw Paw’s hardware store, running the cash register when I was young.” Taylor noted that in smaller communities, such businesses serve other functions. She remembered how her grandfather’s store was also “a hub of community” providing “a sense of togetherness.”

“It’s so hard to explain to someone who hasn’t lived it,” she added, saying that the store workers knew which customer would come regularly on which day. “If we didn’t see that customer” for a week or two “we’re making phone calls to see if they’re okay.”

Secretary Warner stated that one of the primary goals of the first 100 days lies in “putting together a playbook for anyone starting a business in West Virginia.”

He explained that “We heard from people saying, ‘I just feel like I’m in a gotcha moment. I registered with the Secretary of State’s office, and then everything else is a gotcha moment.’” Some might relate that “I didn’t know that I had to have a city permit or I didn’t know that I had to have a health permit or I didn’t know that I had to have a food handler’s permit.”

“There’ll be links in that playbook,” he said, further adding that “You plug in your address, and they’ll tell you that there might be different requirements if you live inside the city limits of Morgantown versus you’re outside the city limits, or some communities might have different stan-



Secretary of State Kris Warner and Office of Entrepreneurship Coordinator Lesli Taylor seek to connect both entrepreneurs and established businesses to knowledge resources across State government.

dards based on the type of business.”

“This playbook will basically take you through everything your type of business needs to do” prior to starting. The entrepreneur is then informed about the challenges and compliance requirements so that he or she can either prepare to face them or even decide to go in another direction before taking the risk.

Taylor discussed how the first step towards this office came in the one stop business center, established in 2017. Every business must register with the West Virginia Secretary of State’s Office and also submit a yearly report. The effort then expanded to work to include every state agency involved with taxation and regulatory compliance, bringing all the information into one place for both entrepreneurs just starting out and also established businesses to access. Taylor had special praise for Mark Burdette from the small business center and Emily Cramer from the West Virginia Tax Office for their help in bringing the vision together.

The Office of Entrepreneurship will also have a hotline for questions that lead to human voices on the other end. “When people want information, they want to talk to a real person,” Taylor noted.

Home Country

Slim Randles
Joe Glidden died 105 years ago, and millions of cowboys in New Mexico would celebrate if they knew why, and if there were really millions of cowboys in New Mexico, which there aren’t.

Now while you’re parsing that sentence, let me explain that Joe Glidden was a farmer in Illinois and his wife, his daughter and his two sons all died before Joe was 38. In a fit of despondence, he invented barbed wire. In 1874, in another fit of despondence, the United States let him patent the darned stuff.

Depression is a terrible thing. Why else would a lonely farmer take a perfectly good coffee grinder and teach it to wrap sharp points around a piece of harmless, smooth wire, turning it into the bane of every rancher’s and cowboy’s existence? So it was that, since 1874, the West got fenced, and cowboys got torn up, and bluejeans had to be made stiffer, and cowboys had to find wives so their shirts could get mended, and some doctor had to invent tetanus shots.

Statement From Greg Collins of North Star Child Advocacy Center

As I prepare to step away from my role as Executive Director of North Star Child Advocacy Center and begin a new professional opportunity, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has supported North Star—and me—over the past five years.

It has been an incredible privilege to serve this organization and work alongside such compassionate community partners, churches, volunteers, donors, multidisciplinary team members, and advocates. Your generosity, encouragement, collaboration, and unwavering commitment have helped North Star provide hope, healing, and a safe place for children and families during some of the most difficult moments of their lives.

I am especially grateful for North Star’s incredible staff. Every day, I have witnessed the remarkable strength, compassion, and dedication these women bring to their work. They stand beside children and families during their most difficult moments, often carrying the emotional weight of this work while continuing to offer comfort, hope, and support. Their courage, resilience, and commitment to North Star’s mission inspire me more than words can express. Any success I have had as Executive Director is a direct result of having such amazing people around me. It has been one of the greatest honors of my career to lead—and learn from—this extraordinary team, past and present.

I also want to thank our incredible and active Board of Directors. Over the past five years, this board has grown and developed into an integral part of every success North Star is experiencing. Their commitment extends far beyond governance—they are engaged, supportive, and deeply invested in the future of this organization. The heart and compassion they demonstrate for North Star’s mission, as well as for the staff members carrying out this difficult work each day, is one of the most amazing things I have ever witnessed. I am profoundly grateful for their leadership, encouragement, and steadfast belief in

So what happened to Joe Glidden after he came up with barbed wire? Well, he remarried, was elected sheriff of his county, became one of the richest men in the United States, and eventually owned a 250,000-acre ranch in Texas, a hotel, a bank and a newspaper.

Ain’t no justice in this world.
The late Cleofes Ortiz, who was declared an official state treasure here in New Mexico, used to play old-time fiddle music for school children all over the state. This maestro of Starvation Peak always used to wait for the inevitable question to arise when one of the sharp-eyed kids would notice he was missing the end of one of his fingers. His eyes would twinkle and he’d tell the kids, “When I was a kid, we were too poor to buy violin strings, so I had to use barbed wire.”
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North Star.
Together, we have strengthened and expanded programs, built valuable partnerships, increased awareness, and continued creating a community where children are heard, believed, protected, and supported. During the past five years, North Star purchased a building of its own, eliminating the need to lease space and creating a permanent home for the children and families we serve. We also added another county to our official service area, extending North Star’s reach to even more children in need.

One of our most meaningful accomplishments was adding a full-time therapist to our staff. This allows us to provide specialized care to the children we serve when they need it, without requiring them to wait weeks to be seen elsewhere. These achievements represent more than organizational growth—they reflect our shared commitment to ensuring that every child has timely access to safety, healing, and hope. I am deeply proud of what we have accomplished, and I recognize that none of it would have been possible without each of you.

Although I am leaving my position as Executive Director, I am not leaving the North Star family. I will immediately transition onto North Star’s Board of Directors, where I will assist with the incoming director’s transition and continue supporting the organization’s mission. I remain committed to sharing North Star’s story, highlighting its vital work, and encouraging others to support the children and families it serves.

Thank you for trusting me, working beside me, and believing in North Star’s mission. Your support has meant more than I can adequately express. While this transition is bittersweet, I am excited about North Star’s future and confident that its guiding light will continue to shine brightly for children and families throughout our community.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Greg Collins
Executive Director
North Star Child Advocacy Center

Con Artistry, Academia, and “The Magical Negro”

By Stephen Smoot
Consider a man who has worked painstakingly to fabricate an entire life that is not his own. His lies grow more fantastical, spinning out of control as he tells tales upon tales until one day he is found out. The liar must deal with the consequences of his actions and seeks to escape through suicide.

It happens a lot, many times when a man has a secret paramour, or simply a terrible secret. While one sympathizes as a human being to an extent, the feeling is generally that the person could not handle the weight of the consequences of his crimes. Yet no one ever blames the person who outed the cheater. Sympathy rightly goes most to the person cheated upon because cheating remains a sin no matter whether he could live with the consequences or not.

In Europe, an American academic faces the loss of his job because he outed a cheater. Not one in the romantic, but in the academic sense.

One of Britain’s most elite educational institutions, Cambridge University, in 2023 hired an academic named Jason Arday. The black academic had worked in other institutions and seemed to have a dramatic and inspiring backstory of overcoming illness and poverty, achieving incredible athletic feats. Among his claims were that he was mute until 11, illiterate until 18, and could run 600 miles in six days.

He also claimed employment at The Ohio State University and Glasgow University, both of which denied he had ever worked there.

Academia in the United States has historically had as short a trigger on lying and cheating as baseball used to have for gambling. In the 20th century, the University of Notre Dame fired a highly successful football coach because he stated on his resume that he had played varsity instead of junior varsity in college, a lie decades-old. The timing of the lie did not matter so much as the potential stigma lying and cheating brings to an institution of higher learning, whether it be a tenured professor or a head football coach.

Colleges and universities are only as good as they are trustworthy in terms of seeking and sharing truth.

Nathan Cofnas, an American teaching at the University of Ghent in Belgium, had suspicions about Arday, hired as a sociology professor. He ran the professor’s thesis through a plagiarism checker and found over 100 instances of stealing from a fellow academic. When combined with an implausible, actually impossible, life story, the game was up. He accused Cambridge of hiring and defending Arday simply due to the cause of racial diversity and ignoring red flags because of his image and charisma.

After a period of public and press questions going to the heart of the Cambridge academic mission and how Arday’s lies compromised it, Arday took his own life. Ever since, European Leftists have venerated him as a saint and called for press suppression laws.

Arday is hardly the first individual nationally exposed for gifting. Two of the best known examples in the United States are Frank Abagnale Jr. and Stephen Glass.

Arday certainly did not face anywhere near the same pressure as Abagnale, although both played the same con. They posed as bright young men with fascinating stories to get into positions they did not earn. The excellent film “Catch Me If You Can” portrays him convincing a hospital to hire him as a surgeon, believing he earned his degree at an Ivy League university and had employment at premier health care facilities even though he had never even taken a college science class. He similarly talked his way into a history professor and airline pilot position.

Abagnale did not have to worry about being dragged on social media, but he did have the Federal Bureau of Investigation relentlessly on his tail. He knew the consequences of getting caught was decades in federal prison, not general humiliation.

Stephen Glass in the early 1990s came on board The New Republic as the bright young man of the staff. Over time, he wove fantastical and tough to confirm stories about embarrassing conservative misdeeds that never happened. Remember, this was a pre smartphone world and there were not videos of every public event floating around.

Working for a liberal publication that focused on politics, editors later admitted that their biases kept them from examining his work more deeply.

When discovered, Glass’s public humiliation became national when Hollywood made a motion picture about his crimes called “Shattered Glass.” The film portrayed him in a weird and pathetic, as opposed to a sympathetic, light. He simply moved on to law school and practices in that field today.

The usual suspects accused the press and commentators of racism, however because Arday was pursued similarly to Glass or the New York Times’ Jayson Blair who lost his job after publishing stories about going to West Virginia. Locals pointed out that his writing proved that he had never been to the places he claimed to write about. The New York Times’ reputation has never really recovered from that.

But where does the racism truly lie?
In 2001 or so, director Spike Lee while speaking to a group of film students articulated the archetype of what he called “the magical, mystical Negro character.” Lee argued that creative works like “The Green Mile” or “The Legend of Bagger Vance” resurrected images of “the happy slave” and “the noble savage.”

In turn, he savages writers such as Stephen King for producing the work and actors such as Will Smith for playing the roles. Lee goes a bridge too far in accusing them of fomenting racism, but he makes a point about the use of such imagery. Stephen King was trying to contrast a pure heart against the sometimes ugly racism of the 1930s South and “The Green Mile” was one of his truly great works.

Arday, however, almost literally transformed himself into the stereotype and Cambridge University was only too willing to use him to advance its own image.

National Public Radio’s commentary on the issue centered on points made by Tyler Austin Harper, a former professor now writing for The Atlantic. He told NPR that “some universities had created a culture in which Black and Brown academics could be treated as if they were there to be ‘Black and Brown first and foremost, and scholars and educators second.’” This comes right to the edge of accusing higher education of violating the Civil Rights Act in terms of using race in hiring.

Harper went on to accuse those blaming the press of trying to ignore or cover up academia’s failures. That includes academics and the Communist inspired Green Party movement in Europe. Communist radicals even proposed replacing an iconic statue of Winston Churchill with Arday. The Left has no actual real heroes to hang their hats on, so they take anyone whose image they can use to manipulate the gullible, regardless of reality.

The right course of action lies in shaming everyone involved, from the fabulist Arday to the administrators who ignored and thus enabled his delusions. Shame is good when used against malefactors such as these. The fear of shame is a powerful social tool that makes people think twice before engaging in self-destructive actions or actions destructive to those around them. One cannot forget that Arday did both.

What is the wrong reaction is the Leftist urge to suppress free speech because the press found a liar in their academic ranks. Since the case of William Cosby versus the New York Post Boy in the 1750s, Britain and the United States have agreed that the truth is the best defense when the press faces accusations against itself.

The damage done to academia will be the most lasting. Trust comes from faith that an institution will act in the truth and will resist lies and gifts. How can anyone trust that a Cambridge University education has any meaning if one cannot trust that their hires have more qualifications than a student tutor?

American higher education has seen its own reputation decline and its own mass utility questioned because too many schools have allowed ideology to corrupt their basic mission to educate and to prepare students. Those questions could be answered if but academia would commit to a true diversity of viewpoints and backgrounds instead of a false diversity of surface attributes where everyone thinks and believes more or less in the same ways.

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 me-

chanics, 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@calhounchronicle.com.

The Calhoun Chronicle



and
The Grantsville News

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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.

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.

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 An-namoriah and Creston along Route 5 East/West. Tuesday – Service to/from Millstone, Arnolds-burg, 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

Grantsville Farmer's Market will open June 11 from 9 a.m to 1 p.m. Come and shop from a wide selection of produce, eggs, baked goods, and more

Donations for the upkeep of the Freed Cem-etry are greatly appreciated. This cemetery is in Calhoun, WV off Leading Creek Road. Donations should be sent to P.O. Box 551 MacFarlan, WV 26148 c/o Rick Murphy. Thank you in advance.
Calhoun County Solid Waste Authority Monthly Meeting August 19, 2026, 5:00 pm, Mom's Place Too, 340 Main Street, Grantsville, WV 26147
Monthly Tire Collection August 21st, 2026, 10 - 2

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



Dear Recycle Lady,

Inside one of the boxes containing a prescription were many sheets of directions on white paper fold-ed into very tight folds and glued together in one place. Does this tightly folded paper need to be un-folded before recycling it?

Just Wondering

Dear Just Wondering,

Yes, the paper should be unfolded to help re-duce the volume of the paper and to make it easier to transport. It also eliminates any contaminants that might have been inside the folds. Flatting the paper helps with sorting and improves the pro-cessing in the recycling facility. Thanks for tak-ing the time to unfold the directions and remove any glue that might have been used to hold the paper tightly folded. The Recycling staff appreci-ates you!

Dear Recycle Lady,

I found some old, rusty pieces of scrap metal in the barn this morning and I don't know what to do with them. Can they be recycled? Do I need to clean them up?

Cleaning up the Barn

Dear Cleaning up the Barn,

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Old rusty pieces of scrap metal of any size and any condition are recyclable at the Recycling Center. Rust occurs when iron reacts with oxygen from water or moisture and produces iron oxide. It is only on steel cans or steel objects. Aluminum cans don't contain iron and will never rust, regardless of how long they are left in water and Stainless steel is extremely resistant to rust. Since steel is the primary metal in engineering, rusty metal is likely to be found on many different ob-jects around the house or barn. Nails, screws, auto parts, and furniture are only a few of the places where rust can be found. The Recycling Center accepts both auto and furniture parts but not nails and screws. Those can be taken to Boggs Scrap Metal Yard in Caldwell. While rust can be removed from metal using household products like lemon juice, baking soda, vinegar, and steel wool, or you can purchase chemicals to remove rust, it is not necessary. To prevent rust, metals can be coated ahead of time with several effective coatings. Epoxy Coatings provide a strong bar-rier against moisture as does a coating of oil, or commercially available rust converters. A coating of zinc protects metal from corrosion in a process called galvanization. There is also a dry powder that will create a hard finish resistant to rust af-ter being cured under heat.

Dear Recycle Lady,

What is the difference between a clear plastic jug and a white plastic jug?

What's the Difference?

Dear What's the Difference,

The primary difference between clear plastics jugs and white plastic jugs is their light-blocking properties. Clear plastic jugs are translucent or transparent and their content is highly visible; while white jugs are opaque plastic containers that don't allow any light to pass through. Made of high-density polyethylene (HDPE) #2 plastic, some customers prefer white plastic jugs for milk because of their light-blocking property. Block-ing UV light helps maintain the milk's freshness and prevents spoilage. Clear plastic jugs are made with Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) or #1 plastics and often preferred for their visibility. Both #1 plastics and #2 plastics are recyclable.

Good News: A Cougar raising kittens was seen for the first time in 100 years in Minnesota. Cougars were believed to be extinct, but this sighting sug-gests that Cougars are breeding there again.

Bad News: A wildfire in Australia destroyed 70% of the Pink Cockatoos core habitat. Since most of the cypress pines were lost artificial hollows are be-ing built for their use.

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

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MISCELLANEOUS

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DISPUTE

project. Commission President Lupardus noted that setting plans aside for the bathhouse reduced the scope of the cost from at least \$600,000 “so we’re well under that.”

Commissioners voted in approval.

Next, the Commission took up a proposal to transfer pandemic-era American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds from a BEAD fiber optic project that fell through to the two county public service districts. Commission President Lupardus noted that ARPA funds must be spent down completely by the end of the calendar year and asked for suggestions from his colleagues.

The county has approximately \$570,000 in unspent ARPA funds

He went on to remind those in attendance of ongoing issues, such as leaks at the Y intersection in Arnoldsburg, unaddressed violations, and outstanding debt. Some of that debt is owed to the Town of Grantsville.

Commissioner Arthur inquired about PSD use of county owned vehicles. Since neither the Calhoun County Commission nor any other county government agency operates the PSDs, the trucks are on loan. Commission President Lupardus shared “there is a written agreement to return those trucks to the county.”

He added “we need the money to go. It needs to be spent,” but he shared concerns about the PSDs’ management of finances. “There were other people who asked for funds,” Lupardus noted, naming the Calhoun County Committee on Aging and Minnie Hamilton as two entities that “went through the proper channels and submitted an application to receive the ARPA funds.”

Arthur stated that another issue lay in one PSD relying on “one pump they’ve patched together for several years without backup.”

Lupardus noted that the priorities for the PSD should lay in addressing safety concerns of citizens, “fix leaks, ensure they are up to code on having enough pumps.” He asked his colleagues if they should hand over a lump sum to each, then reminded the Commission that the paperwork to dissolve the Operations and Management agreement between the PSDs and the Town of Grantsville West Virginia Public Service Commission mentioned the intention to consolidate the two PSDs in Calhoun County.

That action would form a single district with 1,125 customers.

Commissioners then discussed the various projects and proposals to expand service and connect to neighboring county systems for redundancy. They approved giving the PSDs some funds to address issues, then revisit in a future meeting.

Deirdre Purdy then rose to speak about a legal matter involving the Upper West Fork Park. She related that their fire insurance company suggested working with a local contractor “who knows costs” so they could ascertain what to pay on a claim. Purdy shared

Continued from Page 1

that they engaged Steve Kinder of Start to Finish Construction in Roane County to undertake negotiations.

“He did a great job at that,” she shared, adding that the park eventually received \$445,000 from their claim. “Then they started coming to our meetings and offering to build us a new building,” purdy said, going on to state that they offered a quote of \$583,000 plus 20 percent for “overhead and profit.”

“So it was clear that we couldn’t do it,” said Purdy. The next step lay in following the County Commission’s suggestion to put the work out to bid, which “started out to be the greatest thing.” The day the project went out, however, a lawyer representing Start to Finish sent a letter “claiming we had breached a contract he believes somehow he has to build us a new building. I thought they had beaten that back by pointing out to his attorney that we didn’t have a contract to build a new building.”

Purdy, a retired attorney, has helped in all ways that she legally can, but stated that she has no standing anymore to practice in court. Kevin Harris of Ripley-based Harris and Holmes, who performs work for Calhoun County, has advised Upper West Fork Park thus far. Commissioners agreed that if necessary, they could cover legal costs for the park.

At that point, Lupardus offered his opinion of the contractor filing suit. He said “I just want to say that I’m disgusted in a contractor that would try and sue a non profit that just had their building burnt down. And if anything comes out on Ridgeview, of any of these meetings, this here should be one thing that should get out there. You’ve got a gentleman that is absolutely scum of the earth trying to sue a non profit.”

He went on to add that the suit raised the ire of officials at the State level “that are very upset this has been pursued.”

Commissioners then agreed to allow the Calhoun County Office of Emergency Management to explore selling vehicles that were aging and also had excess capacity of equipment.

Next up, Commissioners discussed tourism marketing promotion of the opening of the Avalon center. Lupardus suggested setting aside \$3,500, the same amount used for Waypoint Zero promotion in June. They also agreed to pay \$750 for Wood Festival committee members to attend a fairs and festivals conference and left it open for the Molasses Festival to consider as well.

Matthew Hall then shared recent progress in addressing illegal dumping sites in Calhoun County, stating that he had collected 6,120 pounds of garbage and 519 tires. In recent work, he described finding a site that posed pollution threats in that it had a flat screen television as well as a metal bedframe and mattress, multiple tires, and furniture. He added that he could use more volunteer assistance to cover more sites.

Lupardus suggested creating a schedule of cleanups where the public could join, then post on social media.

West Virginia Department of Education Releases Yearly Assessment of Systems and Schools

By Stephen Smoot

The WVDE’s yearly report on the performance of school systems and schools came out this month with praise of progress. It opened with “West Virginia continues to see improvements in student achievement in most grades, as demonstrated by the 2026 student assessment results.” It went on to share that “Due to the hard work of administrators, educators, and students, the 2026 proficiency rates in math and English Language Arts now exceed 2019 pre-COVID proficiency rates over all and at most grade levels.”

Math proficiency increased overall from 38 to 39 percent, much of the growth seen in elementary and middle school grades. ELA proficiency remained the same at 48 percent. Science dropped from 30 to 29 percent, the 2024 level.

Since 2021, according to a WVDE chart, science has remained in the high 20s in percentile. ELA has improved in that period from 40 to 47.8 while math has jumped from 28.1 percent to 39.4 percent.

Despite a strong focus in recent years from the state and most local systems, “chronic absenteeism impacts student outcomes with a distinct correlation between” high absenteeism and poor student performance by 15 percent in ELA and 20 percent in math.

West Virginia’s prime challenge remains its second in the nation status “for most underprivileged children.” The breakdown of the traditional family, the ripple effect of high rates of drug addiction, and other social issues have made home lives of children more difficult, making education a more difficult focus for them.

The most efficient manner to review results of the yearly assessment comes in the “Balanced Scorecard.” This provides charts showing where systems and schools lie on progress toward, and the maintenance of, standards. Different tests measure progress in different subjects in different grades.

Red means “does not meet standard.” Yellow indicates partially met standards. Blue shows that a school or system meets a standard while green indicates that they exceeded standards. However much of a bar is filled by the specific color indicates how close the school or system lies to the next tier.

Elementary schools are judged in three categories, academic achievement, academic progress, and student success. Here, Calhoun County performed fairly well

In academic achievement, Arnoldsburg School came just shy of meeting standards in both English Language Arts and also mathematics. While still technically only partially meeting them, the bar indicated that even a modicum of progress would move them to the next tier. Attendance also fell just shy of meeting standards, but behavior metrics exceeded state expectations.

Pleasant Hill School performed very well. It fell just shy of meeting ELA standards in academic achievement, but does meet them in mathematics. Under academic progress, Pleasant Hill students exceeded state standards in both ELA and math. Attendance and behavior saw the same scores as Arnoldsburg.

The measure of high schools uses the categories of academic achievement, graduation rate/cohort, and student success. Calhoun County Middle/High School did not meet standards in on track for graduation, but came close to meeting the next tier.

Attendance and post secondary achievement partially met standards. For “Post Secondary Achievement,” officials in some systems have expressed frustration in the past that the State has been vague on what that means or how to improve one’s standing in it.

In mathematics achievement, CCM/HS did not meet standards, but came very close to achieving the partially met standards tier. Mathematics presents a statewide question. When looking across West Virginia, only the top tier of academically recognized schools even partially met standards. The vast majority of state high schools were in the red.

Some of the top schools statewide, including Bridgeport High School in Harrison County, Hurricane and Winfield High Schools in Putnam County, and George Washington High School in Charleston, only score half of the bar on “partially meets standard.”

At the same time, measures seem to indicate from the elementary and middle grades that students have learned arithmetic adequately well. Numbers there progressed over last year.

West Virginia’s top ranked system on Schooldigger, which focuses only on metrics, is Jackson County. Neither Ripley nor Ravenswood, both ranked high among state high schools overall, met standards in math.

Dr. Sheena Van Meter has served as superintendent of Hardy County Schools since 2017 and recently accepted an offer to hold the same role in Harrison County. She states that the standard of assessment of mathematics uses the wrong metric to measure progress.

The State relies on the Scholastic Aptitude Test as the measure of mathematic proficiency, which was originally designed to show the level of preparation of a student for college. Superintendent Van Meter asserts that using the SAT for math provides an inaccurate idea of the future success of a student.

She explained that “30 percent of students in Hardy County go on to college” but that many others find success in other routes. They attend career and technical schools, receive workforce trainings at community and technical colleges, go straight into the workforce, or join the military. Each one of those fields offers pathways to career success outside of higher education.

Superintendent Van Meter illustrated that a trades student demonstrates their knowledge and capacity for growth already when they take the NOCTI exam. That for welding, for example, tests for safety, weld fit-up and quality, welding symbols and blueprint reading, and other tests of technical knowledge and also applied science. Yet all have to show knowledge on a college entrance exam even if they have earned Level 1 Certification in their chosen field.

Testing in the trades “is very different than taking the SAT,” she explained.

That does not mean that schools should pull back on math education, however. “We have used so much technology that we’ve gotten away from high-level thinking skills,” said Superintendent Van Meter. She urged that school systems need “to pull back on tech, bring the pencil and paper back. Teach math the old-fashioned ways.”

FARM

Continued from Page 1

locals and tourists alike.

Valhalla Farms used the grant to build and open a direct to customer farm stand from which to sell products grown and produced on their farm. It opened for business in June, using the grant awarded in 2025.

The Barrs have two operations under the Valhalla umbrella. Marquis Barr runs the farm and also is exploring using the land and operation to assist veterans trying to readjust to society. A farm and bed and breakfast in Pendleton County, Mountain Cajun Get-away, has made a success of combining agriculture and support for veterans.

“Our hopes are to connect with other veterans, have a place for veterans to come (and) transition back into society (in a way) that isn’t so choppy.”

Mrs. Barr established a business that takes medicinal plants and herbs and transforms them into salves, tinctures, and other natural products. This includes the traditional beverage “fire cider.” The Old Farmers Almanac describes this as “a bold, spicy herbal vinegar that’s been enjoyed for generations” as “a lively warming tonic.” It can contain horseradish, garlic, ginger, onions, turmeric, and hot peppers, as well as other ingredients to suit the taste of the consumer.

In the spirit of sharing the wealth of knowledge, the Barrs offer classes in how to blend the drink.

She also offers products than can help to soothe symptoms of menopause.

Flexibility within the grant allows for operators to use funds to grow in natural and organic directions

toward better promotion and sales of products.

For example in Hardy County, the Wardensville Farmers Market used a 2025 grant to purchase equipment and support marketing. That business sells locally grown and produced foods, attracting a large tourism base of customers to the town. Wardensville Farmers Market also engages in projects to educate young people in agriculture business and production.

In Pendleton County, a 2023 grant helped the Franklin-based farmers market to purchase a modern point of sale system. Its director, Annie Humes, used it to further the goal of reducing sale barriers to local producers by creating an efficient consignment sale system. Humes continues to encourage anyone interested in producing for sale, even in small amounts, to engage the Pendleton County Farmers Market with the goal lying in encouraging producers to try direct sales to customers through the market.

At Valhalla Farms, the goal is clear. They want to build on their success by taking the food that they would put on their own table and “put it on their table for the community, produced in the proper way, better than the mass produced stuff at the grocery store.”

Even more so, Mrs. Barr promised that “you can taste the love in the food that we make and in the food we grow.”

At the end of July, the family posted on Facebook “can we just take a moment to say how grateful we are for our customers and everyone who has supported us in our first month open. Thank you Thank you Thank you!!”



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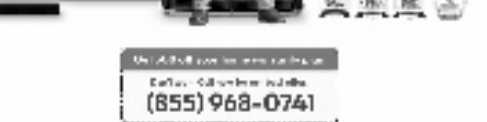


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LEGAL

(2025-C-000082 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCCO MINERALS LLC)
To: GENEVA CARPENTER, or heirs at law, devisees, condition, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, beneficiaries, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT LEE MAP 9999 PARCEL 0000 4100 0000
You will take notice that EDCCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, Cart. No. 2023-C-000082, located in LEE District, 1/2 30 HAINES, which was returned delinquent or unreturned in the name of CARPENTER, GENEVA, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and unreturned lands of CALHOUN County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 23, 2026. EDCCO MINERALS LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2026 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 - 6061. \$ 89.49
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 - 6876. \$ 26.99
Additional taxes with interest. \$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest. \$ 209.95
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest. \$ 335.45
Additional Statutory Fee with interest. \$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check. \$ 661.89

You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026, by paying the above total less any unreturned 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 July 30, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Unreturned Lands of CALHOUN 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 A, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305
Questions please call 1-800-580-6508

LEGAL

(2025-C-000117 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCCO MINERALS LLC)
To: PAUL BROUGHTON, or heirs at law, devisees, condition, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, beneficiaries, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT LEE MAP 9999 PARCEL 0002 6400 3002
You will take notice that EDCCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, Cart. No. 2023-C-000117, located in LEE District, SW 30 HAINES RUN 1/2 INT, which was returned delinquent or unreturned in the name of BROUGHTON, PAUL, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and unreturned lands of CALHOUN County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 23, 2026. EDCCO MINERALS LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2026 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 - 5743. \$ 85.85
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 - 5738. \$ 23.30
Additional taxes with interest. \$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest. \$ 209.95
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest. \$ 251.45
Additional Statutory Fee with interest. \$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check. \$ 578.55

You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026, by paying the above total less any unreturned 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 July 30, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Unreturned Lands of CALHOUN 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 A, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305
Questions please call 1-800-580-6508

LEGAL

(2025-C-000197 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCCO MINERALS LLC)
To: NOROMA ENERGY, LLC, BAC MINERALS, LLC, GENEVA POST, DONALD MCCHESENEY POST, STELLA KNOTTS, or heirs at law, devisees, condition, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, beneficiaries, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT SHEKMAN MAP 9999 PARCEL 0001 3040 0000
You will take notice that EDCCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, Cart. No. 2023-C-000197, located in SHEKMAN District, 1/4 13 STYAMOCK, which was returned delinquent or unreturned in the name of POST DONALD MCCHESENEY, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and unreturned lands of CALHOUN County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 23, 2026. EDCCO MINERALS LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2026 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 - 19085. \$ 85.85
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 - 19089. \$ 23.30
Additional taxes with interest. \$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest. \$ 103.29
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest. \$ 313.70
Additional Statutory Fee with interest. \$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check. \$ 526.14

You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026, by paying the above total less any unreturned 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 July 30, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Unreturned Lands of CALHOUN 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 A, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

LEGAL

(2025-C-000218 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCCO MINERALS LLC)
To: CAROLYN A. SCOTT, c/o JULIA SCOTT, LELIA MCCUTCHEON, or heirs at law, devisees, condition, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, beneficiaries, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT SHEKMAN MAP 9999 PARCEL 0004 4610 3001
You will take notice that EDCCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, Cart. No. 2023-C-000218, located in SHEKMAN District, 1/20 INT 74 MILL RIVER, which was returned delinquent or unreturned in the name of SCOTT CAROLYN A, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and unreturned lands of CALHOUN County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 23, 2026. EDCCO MINERALS LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 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 - 19679. \$ 86.61
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 - 19674. \$ 23.31
Additional taxes with interest. \$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest. \$ 103.84
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest. \$ 391.85
Additional Statutory Fee with interest. \$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check. \$ 605.61

You may redeem at any time before January 31, 2027, by paying the above total less any unreturned 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 10, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Unreturned Lands of CALHOUN 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 A, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305
Questions please call 1-800-580-6508

LEGAL

(2025-C-000111 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCCO MINERALS LLC)
To: LAURA RICHARDS HINES, HESA MCCOY, GOLDIE SWINER, FLORA DUKKEY, ZELMA SIMONTON, MARTHA SNYDER, or heirs at law, devisees, condition, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, beneficiaries, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT LEE MAP 9999 PARCEL 0002 3950 0000
You will take notice that EDCCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, Cart. No. 2023-C-000111, located in LEE District, 34 70 LITTLE CREEK, which was returned delinquent or unreturned in the name of RICHARDS LAURA HINES, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and unreturned lands of CALHOUN County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 23, 2026. EDCCO MINERALS LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2026 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 - 10001. \$ 100.37
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 - 10006. \$ 38.15
Additional taxes with interest. \$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest. \$ 209.95
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest. \$ 346.95
Additional Statutory Fee with interest. \$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check. \$ 715.42

You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026, by paying the above total less any unreturned 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 July 30, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Unreturned Lands of CALHOUN 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 A, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305
Questions please call 1-800-580-6508

LEGAL

(2025-C-000181 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCCO MINERALS LLC)
To: LEONIA V BASCHE, c/o DELORES JOSELYN, or heirs at law, devisees, condition, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, beneficiaries, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT SHEKMAN MAP 9999 PARCEL 0000 0910 0000
You will take notice that EDCCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, Cart. No. 23-C-000181, located in SHEKMAN District, 1/2N 1000 HEARLIN FROM HWY/RANGLE W-340, which is a returned delinquent or unreturned in the name of BASCHE LEONIA V, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and unreturned lands of CALHOUN County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 23, 2026. EDCCO MINERALS LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2026 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 - 15445. \$ 85.85
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 - 15752. \$ 23.30
Additional taxes with interest. \$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest. \$ 103.29
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest. \$ 377.45
Additional Statutory Fee with interest. \$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check. \$ 588.89

You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026, by paying the above total less any unreturned 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 July 30, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Unreturned Lands of CALHOUN 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 A, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305
Questions please call 1-800-580-6508

LEGAL

(2025-C-000204 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCCO MINERALS LLC)
To: ERLYN D. STUMP, CHARLES A. STUMP, GAY STUMP, or heirs at law, devisees, condition, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, beneficiaries, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT SHEKMAN MAP 9999 PARCEL 0003 0150 3001
You will take notice that EDCCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, Cart. No. 23-C-000204, located in SHEKMAN District, 1/4 35 OG HUSH ELN GAY STUMP HES W-388, which is a returned delinquent or unreturned in the name of STUMPF ERLYN, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and unreturned lands of CALHOUN County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 23, 2026. EDCCO MINERALS LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2026 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 - 19085. \$ 85.85
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 - 19089. \$ 23.30
Additional taxes with interest. \$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest. \$ 103.29
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest. \$ 346.95
Additional Statutory Fee with interest. \$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check. \$ 578.39

You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026, by paying the above total less any unreturned 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 July 30, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Unreturned Lands of CALHOUN 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 A, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305
Questions please call 1-800-580-6508

LEGAL

(2025-C-000242 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCCO MINERALS LLC)
To: CORA M JARVIS, c/o GERALD JARVIS, OTIS JARVIS, BARBET C. PARKER, or heirs at law, devisees, condition, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, beneficiaries, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT WASHINGTON MAP 9999 PARCEL 0001 6550 0000
You will take notice that EDCCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, Cart. No. 23-C-000242, located in WASHINGTON District, 1/4 6H MEADOW ELN, which was returned delinquent or unreturned in the name of JARVIS CORA M, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and unreturned lands of CALHOUN County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 23, 2026. EDCCO MINERALS LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2026 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 - 24246. \$ 83.16
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 - 24263. \$ 24.10
Additional taxes with interest. \$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest. \$ 134.95
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest. \$ 403.70
Additional Statutory Fee with interest. \$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check. \$ 645.91

You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026, by paying the above total less any unreturned 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 July 30, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Unreturned Lands of CALHOUN 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 A, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305
Questions please call 1-800-580-6508

LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY INFORMATION



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LEGAL

**REQUEST FOR BIDS FOR A SYSTEM REFRESH AND
SOFTWARE UPDATE FOR NEXT GEN 911 PREPARATION**
- **MANCAD:** Install new server, software, music wall, three CAD workstations, HP software, 3-year service plan, and ZETRON on-site installation.
- **MAY Call Taking:** Install new servers, two workstations, 3-year service plan, and ZETRON on-site update.
- **MAY Dispatching:** Install two new workstations, two routers, update to the latest version, 3-year service plan, plus the cost of labor.
All Bids must be received by September 7, 2026.
Calhoun County E911
511 Allen B. McMillan, III, 444 Zion, WV 26111

LEGAL

(2025-C-000340 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCO MINERALS LLC)
To: GAIL L. BOGGS, 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 any interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT WASHINGTON MAP 9999 PARCEL 0004 0460 0000
You will take notice that EDCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2025-C-000340**, located in WASHINGTON District, 1/48 10, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of BOGGS GAIL L, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of CALHOUN County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 23, 2026. EDCO MINERALS LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2026 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 - 21617.	\$	85.85
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 - 21671.	\$	23.30
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	103.29
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	403.70
Additional Statutory Fees with interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	616.14

You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026, 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 July 30, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Nonentered Lands of CALHOUN 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

LEGAL

(2025-C-000302 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCO MINERALS LLC)
To: **NADINE LAMB, d/b/a ADAM LAMB, JACKIE DWAYNE IVY, JOHN C. SNYDER, NORMAN CH NICHOLAS, CREED LAMB, HAZEL CHRISTIAN, RUBY MONLEY, NELLE DOWNEY, JAMES C. LAMB, GOLDIE KOCE, DOROTHY JEAN SIKES, MARY SHIR MILLER, ROBERT LEE GROGGS, LOTTIE CLOUSER, LORETTA GRAY, FRANK GROGGS, GARY GROGGS, TED GROGGS, PAUL GROGGS, 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 any interest in the subject property.**
DISTRICT WASHINGTON MAP 9999 PARCEL 0001 9518 3001
You will take notice that EDCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2023-C-000302**, located in WASHINGTON District, 89 OF 12 49 WALKER CORM, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of LAMB NADINE, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of CALHOUN County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 23, 2026. EDCO MINERALS LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2026 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 - 24942.	\$	85.85
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 - 24963.	\$	23.30
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	103.29
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	728.91
Additional Statutory Fees with interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	941.35

You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026, 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 July 30, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Nonentered Lands of CALHOUN 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

LEGAL

(2025-C-000321 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCO MINERALS LLC)
To: **CALVIN L. SMITH, d/b ROBERTA SIMMONS, STEPHEN L. SATTERFIELD, EDWIN L. SMITH, DONALD RAY MEERS, JACKIE D. SMITH, PATRICIA M. DENOW, d/b KATH DENOW, JOHN W. SMITH, RUBY THOMPSON, RICHARD L. SMITH, 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 any interest in the subject property.**
DISTRICT WASHINGTON MAP 9999 PARCEL 0002 7918 0000
You will take notice that EDCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2023-C-000321**, located in WASHINGTON District, 1/2 19 L. NECUIT RD 30 W-150, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of SMITH SPURGEON ETUX, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of CALHOUN County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 23, 2026. EDCO MINERALS LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2026 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 - 26845.	\$	85.85
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 - 26816.	\$	23.30
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	103.29
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	1,013.73
Additional Statutory Fees with interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	1,226.17

You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026, 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 July 30, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Nonentered Lands of CALHOUN 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

(2025-C-000102 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCO MINERALS LLC)
To: GENEVA CARPENTER, MADELINE CARPENTER, RALPH MAFFETT, 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 any interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT LEE MAP 9999 PARCEL 0001 9460 0000
You will take notice that EDCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2025-C-000102**, located in LEE District, 2/3 12 DANIELS MAFFETT GAS CO W-NONE, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of CARPENTER GENEVA, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of CALHOUN County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 23, 2026. EDCO MINERALS LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2026 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 - 6083.	\$	85.85
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 - 6080.	\$	23.30
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	103.29
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	335.45
Additional Statutory Fees with interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	547.89

You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026, 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 July 30, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Nonentered Lands of CALHOUN 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

LEGAL

(2025-C-000334 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCO MINERALS LLC)
To: GAIL L. BOGGS, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known irs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an divided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject operty.

DISTRICT WASHINGTON MAP 9999 PARCEL 0004 0400 0000
You will take notice that EDCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 25-C-000334**, located in WASHINGTON District, 1/48 125, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of BOGGS GAIL L, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered ids of CALHOUN County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 23, 2026. EDCO MINERALS LLC quests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, as provided law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before Dember 31, 2026 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 - 21611.	\$	85.85
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 - 21665.	\$	23.30
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	149.95
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	403.70
Additional Statutory Fees with interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	662.80

u may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026, by paying the above total less any unearned interest. 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 tate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.

Given under my hand July 30, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Nonentered Lands of CALHOUN 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

LEGAL

(2025-C-000195 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCO MINERALS LLC)
To: DON CONNER, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known irs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an divided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject operty.

DISTRICT SHERMAN MAP 9999 PARCEL 0001 1300 0000
You will take notice that EDCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 25-C-000195**, located in SHERMAN District, 1/7 37 STEER CREEK, which was returned delinquent nonentered in the name of CONNER DON, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nentered lands of CALHOUN County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 23, 2026. EDCO MIN- RALS LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or fore December 31, 2026 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 - 16343.	\$	85.85
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 - 16416.	\$	23.30
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	119.95
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	251.45
Additional Statutory Fees with interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	480.55

u may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026, by paying the above total less any unearned interest. 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 tate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.

Given under my hand July 30, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Nonentered Lands of CALHOUN 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

LEGAL

(2025-C-000337 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCO MINERALS LLC)
Re: GAIL L. BOGGS, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, executors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, executors, co-owners, other parties having an official interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT WASHINGTON MAP 9999 PARCEL 0004 0400 0000
You will take notice that EDCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, Cert. No. 2023-C-000337, located in WASHINGTON District, 1/324 13, which was returned delinquent or noncompliant in the name of BOGGS GAIL L., and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and noncompliant lands of CALHOUN County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 23, 2026. EDCO MINERALS LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2026 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 - 21614. \$ 85.85
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 - 21668. \$ 23.30
Additional taxes with interest. \$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest. \$ 103.29
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest. \$ 403.70
Additional Statutory Fees with interest. \$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashless check, money order, certified or personal check. \$ 616.14
You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026, by paying the above total less any unreturned interest of the above real estate to 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 turnover of the deed described above.
Given under my hand July 30, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Noncompliant Lands of CALHOUN County, State of West Virginia
Please return this letter and payment to the West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections Division 1908 Kanawha Boulevard East Building 1, Room W-114 Charleston, West Virginia 25305 Questions please call 1-800-590-6568

LEGAL

(2025-C-000338 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCO MINERALS LLC)
Re: GAIL L. BOGGS, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, executors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, executors, co-owners, other parties having an official interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.
DISTRICT WASHINGTON MAP 9999 PARCEL 0004 0400 0000
You will take notice that EDCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, Cert. No. 2023-C-000338, located in WASHINGTON District, 1/192 44.75, which was returned delinquent or noncompliant in the name of BOGGS GAIL L., and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and noncompliant lands of CALHOUN County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 23, 2026. EDCO MINERALS LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2026 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 - 21615. \$ 85.85
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 - 21669. \$ 23.30
Additional taxes with interest. \$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest. \$ 103.29
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest. \$ 403.70
Additional Statutory Fees with interest. \$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashless check, money order, certified or personal check. \$ 616.14
You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026, by paying the above total less any unreturned interest of the above real estate to 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 turnover of the deed described above.
Given under my hand July 30, 2026
Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Noncompliant Lands of CALHOUN County, State of West Virginia
Please return this letter and payment to the West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections Division 1908 Kanawha Boulevard East Building 1, Room W-114 Charleston, West Virginia 25305 Questions please call 1-800-590-6568

National Agricultural Statistics Service



Telephone: 1-304-357-5123
Email: nass-wv@usda.gov



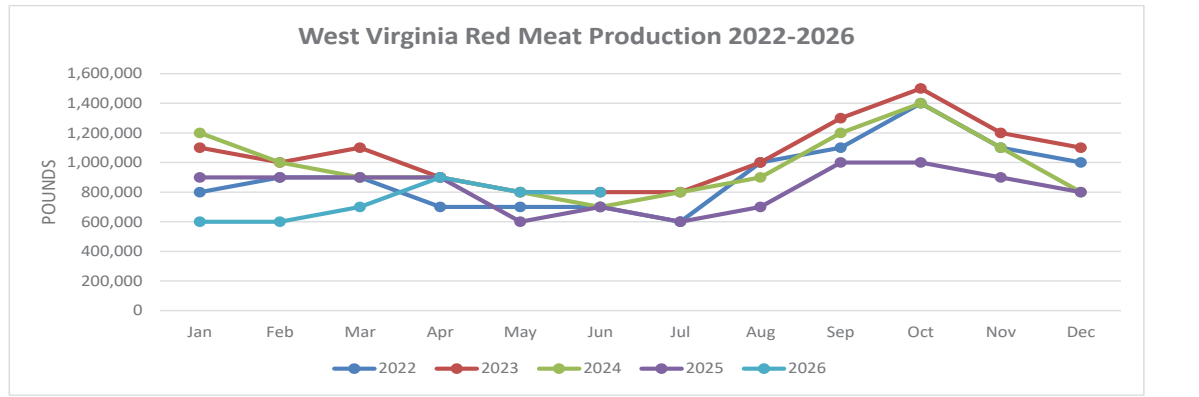
MOUNTAIN STATE REPORTER

National Agricultural Statistics Service
West Virginia Field Office
in cooperation with
West Virginia
Department of Agriculture
Kent Leonhardt, Commissioner
Alissa Cowell-Mytar, State Statistician

Released: August 2026 Volume 39, Number 8

RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production in West Virginia during June 2026 totaled 800,000 pounds. This was up 8 percent from June 2025. **Commercial cattle slaughter** totaled 1,089,000 pounds live weight, up 25 percent from June 2025. Cattle slaughter totaled 800 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 92 pounds from the previous year, at 1,290 pounds. **Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 136,000 pounds live weight, down 12 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 500 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from the previous year, at 279 pounds.



AUGUST CROP PRODUCTION

West Virginia - All other hay production (excluding alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures) is forecast at 1,040,000 tons, up 20,000 tons from 2025. The area harvested is expected to total 650,000 acres, up 50,000 acres from the previous year. Average yield per acre is forecast at 1.60 tons, down 0.10 ton per acre from 2025.

FSA OFFERS ASSISTANCE FOR FLOODING AND GRAZING LOSSES

If you've suffered livestock feed or grazing losses due to recent flooding, you could be eligible for assistance through the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP).

ELAP covers physically damaged or destroyed livestock feed that was purchased, or mechanically harvested forage or feedstuffs intended for use as feed for **your** eligible livestock. In order to be considered eligible, harvested forage must be baled. Forage that is only cut, raked or windrowed is not eligible. You must file a notice of loss to your local

FSA office no later than the annual program payment application date, which is March 1, 2027, for calendar year 2026 losses.

ELAP also covers up to 150 lost grazing days in instances when you've been forced to remove livestock from a grazing pasture due to wildfire.

You should maintain records and receipts documenting that livestock were removed from the grazing pasture due to flood, costs of transporting livestock feed to eligible livestock, receipts for equipment rental fees for hay lifts, feed purchase receipts and the number of gallons of water transported to livestock due to water shortages.

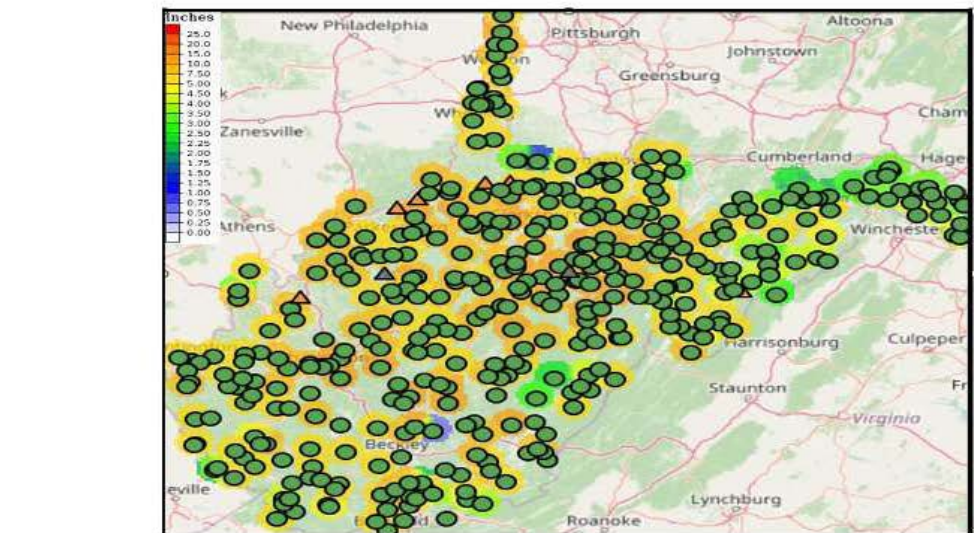
For beekeepers, ELAP covers colony losses, honeybee hive losses (the physical structure) and honeybee feed losses in instances where the colony, hive or feed has been destroyed by a natural disaster including floods. Colony losses must be in excess of normal mortality. The Working Families Tax Cuts Act establishes a normal mortality rate of 15% for honeybee colony losses, starting with the 2026 program year.

For more information regarding ELAP, contact your County USDA Service Center or visit fsa.usda.gov/disaster.

PRECIPITATION MAP

The WVEMD (West Virginia Emergency Management Division) IFLOWS (Integrated Flood Observation and Warning System) consists of 4 base stations, and 256 monitored meteorological gauges, all of which contain rain monitoring sensors. Over half of these also measure additional weather data, such as wind, temperature, and humidity. Through a coordinated effort with other State and Private entities, WVEMD IFLOWS funds the West Virginia Stream Gauge Network, which is serviced by the US Geological Survey (USGS). The West Virginia Stream Gauge Network consists of over 160 monitored stream gauges. The purpose of the WVEMD IFLOWS website is to provide access to meteorological and stream stage information during storm events. We are continuously coordinating with relevant Agencies, to ensure the effective utilization of this information, in flood forecasting, early warning systems and emergency response planning.

Below is the map showing West Virginia rainfall over the last 30 days (June 18 - July 17, 2026). Please visit <https://wvdhsem.onerain.com/> for more information.



To look for West Virginia Statistics, visit our webpage:
[USDA - National Agricultural Statistics Service - West Virginia](https://nass.usda.gov/)

988
Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

Congressman Riley M. Moore Presents Check for \$1 Million for Pennsboro and Ritchie County Water Project

August 21, 2026
Washington, D.C. – Today, Congressman Riley M. Moore presented a check worth \$1,000,000 to [insert the officials that received the money] to complete the Bonds Creek Water Project in Ritchie County. These federal Community Project Funds that Congressman Moore secured through his work on the House Committee on Appropriations are a major investment in Pennsboro and Ritchie County intended to address serious water quality and supply issues while also strengthening access to reliable water service.

Congressman Riley M. Moore released the following statement:

“No one living in America in the 21st century should be dealing with arsenic in their water. I was proud to secure \$1 million in Community Project Funding for the Bonds Creek Water Project in Pennsboro and Ritchie County through my position on the House Appropriations Committee to help address serious water quality and supply issues, including removing arsenic from the water and strengthening critical infrastructure. I will continue fighting to bring federal resources back to West Virginia to deliver clean water for our communities.”

The Bonds Creek Water Project will help address critical water infrastructure needs in Pennsboro and Ritchie County, remove toxins like arsenic from the water, improve overall water quality and supply, and provide a more reliable water system for residents and communities served by the project.

This investment represents a long-term commitment to strengthening West Virginia’s water infrastructure and ensuring families in Pennsboro and Ritchie County have access to safe, reliable water.

Please direct all media inquiries to Lauren Ridinger (Lauren.Ridinger@mail.house.gov).

West Virginia Chamber Foundation Continues Longstanding Flood Relief Support for Small Businesses

Charleston, W.Va. – The West Virginia Chamber Foundation is continuing its longstanding commitment to helping West Virginia communities recover from devastating floods by opening an application cycle for small business flood relief mini-grants.

For a number of years, the Chamber Foundation has provided direct assistance to small businesses impacted by flooding across the state, helping business owners recover, reopen and continue serving their communities. Through previous flood relief efforts, the Chamber Foundation has supported small businesses in communities throughout Clay, Greenbrier, Kanawha, McDowell, Nicholas, Ohio, Pocahontas, Roane and Webster counties, among others.

This year, the Chamber Foundation is once again making mini-grants available to small businesses impacted by recent flooding. The grants are designed to provide flexible assistance with immediate recovery and rebuilding needs as businesses work to reopen and resume operations.

The Chamber Foundation extends its particular thanks to the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh (FHLBank Pittsburgh), whose generous support is providing the funding necessary to make this round of small business flood relief grants possible.

Small businesses are at the heart of West Virginia’s communities, and supporting their recovery is an important part of rebuilding after a natural disaster. Through the support of partners such as FHLBank Pittsburgh, the Chamber Foundation is able to put resources directly into the hands of business owners and communities when they are needed most.

Small businesses interested in applying for a flood relief mini-grant are encouraged to visit www.wvchamber.com for additional information and application details.

Additional contributions to support the Foundation’s flood relief efforts are welcome and will help extend assistance to more West Virginia small businesses and communities. Donations may be made by sending a check payable to the West Virginia Chamber Foundation to P.O. Box 2789, Charleston, WV 25330.

Electronic transfers can be arranged by contacting Elizabeth House at ehouse@wvchamber.com, and credit card donations may be made by calling (304) 342-1115.