Opinion..... Page 2
Calhoun/West Virginia History..... Page 3
Sports..... Page 5
Business Directory/Classified Ads..... Page 6

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County Commission Shares Update on Norman Ridge Water Project

By Stephen Smoot

On Monday, the Calhoun County Commission held their second regular meeting for the month of September. Commissioner Craig Arthur led attendees in the customary invocation. He spoke of blessings, stating ", I know, I, for one, don't deserve it, but you give them to this freely, other than that, you, or, no matter what we go through, that you're always there beside us, going through with us . . . But you'll never leave us for more for a second." Next attendees joined in the Pledge of Allegiance and the business of the day commenced.

All commissioners wore purple T-shirts in honor of the "West Virginia Goes Purple" anti-drug awareness campaign and September as National Recovery Month.

First up, Walter Wilson came to speak on behalf of personnel at the 911 center. Two County Clerk office mistakes, one of human error, one by software used in the office, had missed benefits deductions. Wilson made the case that someone in the clerk's office should have directly examined the pay stubs to confirm all information was on there. County Clerk Jean Simers explained the issues behind the errors and Wilson shared the frustration of affected employees. Simers had given four options for employees to handle paying the deductions. She wished to avoid the simplest remedy, which would have been to double charge the deductions on the subsequent paychecks. County Commission President Eric Lupardus weighed in during their discussion to help find a positive outcome and solution.

Simers also urged any county employees to reach out to her office as soon as they notice an error. No one will lose coverage as a result of the errors.

Chief Deputy Charles Stevens next rose to speak on behalf of the Sheriff. He first brought forward discussion on obtaining tasers for courthouse security, pointing out that they "have no less than lethal" weapon options. He added that he wished to see the Commission approve a deal for tasers and training prior to October 1, explaining that prices would go up after the end of this

COMMISSION cont. on page 4

Student and Artificial Intelligence Converge



Next Gen technology lab students at Calhoun -Gilmer CTC discuss the ethics use of artificial intelligence in schools

How a Prehistoric Staple Became a Calhoun County Festival

By Stephen Smoot

Before Egypt built their pyramids, their people were relying on sorghum as one of their key food staples. Since then, sometime at or before 5,600 BC, the history of this versatile and hardy crop has marched across the globe.

Eaten in many ways and used for a number of other purposes, sorghum didn't become a sweetener until it got to America.

Sorghum comes originally from northern Africa and best resembles corn, which is native to the Western Hemisphere. According to Brent Bean, who writes for a sorghum trade journal, as a young professional agronomist "I could not readily tell if a field was planted in corn or sorghum" because "there are a lot of similarities" when both first sprout from the ground.

Farmers can also plant sorghum twice as close as corn plants because the former evolved in the arid conditions on the boundary of the Sahara Desert. Sorghum plants also mature much more quickly than corn and potentially provide three crops per year. Almost no plants extract energy from the sun more efficiently. Its ability to grow in extreme areas has helped it to become the fifth most relied-upon food staple in the world after potatoes, corn, wheat, and rice.

Sorghum resembles corn closely enough that one can use it in similar ways, making porridge, fashioning flatbreads, drying and popping the kernels, and fermenting sorghum carrying liquids into beers.

The grain spread across most of Africa and Asia over the millennia. Slaves captured by their fellow Africans, then sold to transatlantic slave traders hid away sorghum kernels and started their cultivation in America. By 1757, the crop had attracted the attention of Benjamin Franklin. He called it "broomcorn" and suggested that its stalks and leaves could form excellent brooms.

At Mount Vernon George Washington embarked on his favorite pastime, farming. Like his successor president John Adams, Washington had almost a mystical bond with the soil and how to induce it to grow what he wished.

Yet he could not grow the crop that almost every other Virginia gentleman took pride in offering. That was tobacco. Washington thus plunged into the cultivation of crops practical for both crops and small-scale manufacturing. He experimented with dozens of crops between the French and Indian War and the War of Independence. One was sorghum, which he like Franklin both saw as ideal for crafting brooms and also called it "broomcorn."

Not for another few decades after American independence did the transformation of the grain into a sweet, sticky, syrup come into favor.

The Appalachian frontier served as one of the first areas in the 8,000 or more year old history of the grain that saw its potential as a sweetener. This application may have followed German chemist Gottlieb Kirchhoff's discovery of the process to turn corn into sweet syrup in 1811. This was not the high fructose corn syrup in today's colas and other foods; that was created in 1957.

On the frontier, molasses making resembled that of apple butter. Large caldrons, open fires, hours of careful stirring and watching to make sure it does not burn.

Just as with apple butter, the fall season of cooking down sorghum into molasses turned into an occasion to socialize and celebrate life. Otis Rice in "The Allegheny Frontier" shared that "in the fall, too, the making of sorghum molasses brought people together." He added that "the operation provided work for everyone in the family, either in the cane field, in feeding fresh stalks to the mill . . . or stirring the boiling juice."

Children brought sticks and small logs to keep fires stoked while a mule or some other beast of burden turned the mill.

FESTIVAL cont. on page 4

Trap-Neuter-Return Program Focusing on Two Calhoun County Communities Next Week

By Stephen Smoot

On Monday September 21, the Welfare of Animals Group will conduct a trap, neuter, and return project in Mount Zion and Orma. Residents cat owners are asked to either put collars on their pets or keep them inside to prevent mistaken identification of feral cats.

Statewide, these programs help to reduce the expansion of feral cat colonies A single female can give birth to between 12 and 18 kittens per year. Even considering the much worse life expectancy and much more dismal quality of life for cats in these colonies, their populations can still expand exponentially.

"So far we have spayed and neutered 1,189 community cats (637 females and 552 males)." said Linda Buchanan from the Welfare of Animals Group. If one does the math of how many kittens a female can have per year multiplied by the number of female cats neutered, the potential growth and impact of a feral cat colony on anyone nearby becomes more clear.

Feral cat colonies can threaten the health and welfare of humans and animals living nearby. They leave concentrated areas of droppings and urine which can pose a health hazard to humans and animals alike. They will also tear through gardens.

More significant, they can spread disease quickly among themselves and spread it to pets as well. This includes a rabies threat to humans, pets, and any other mammals.

Cats within colonies living in the wild compete viciously with each other for limited sources of food and mates. Their lives are, as Thomas Hobbes stated about the human state of nature, "nasty, brutish, and short." Those who do not die quickly can carry chronic diseases or painful injuries that cause great suffering.

Whether through concern for the impact on humans, or to reduce the number of suffering cats, dedicated volunteers come out to help with the TNR project.

Volunteers will trap cats in the wild, take them into a safe and healthy facility, and provide professional neutering by a veterinarian. After a recovery period, they will be released back into the area from which they were taken.

Sometimes, they will also treat sick or injured cats that they find in the colonies and release them later.

Buchanan advised "We would appreciate if you would not put food out for them (feral cat colonies) on Sunday, September 20, as we will be trapping on Monday morning. Once the cats have recovered from anesthesia (at least 24 to 48 hours) we will return them to their exact location. They will be healthier, happier, and not reproducing and fighting."

The Grantsville Town Council meets the first Monday of every month in the city building on Main Street at 6 p.m.

The Calhoun County Commission meets the second Monday of every month in the Calhoun Courthouse meeting room at 9 a.m.

The Calhoun County School Board meets the second Monday of every month at 5:50 p.m. in the school board office at Mt. Zion.

Home Country

Slim Randles

Every once in a blue moon, I learn something from the computer. Not often, of course, because they change the rules on how to use it about three times a day, and I never was that fast.

But I love that YouTube channel. Oh man. And I believe, after watching 'way more episodes than my eyes and brain could handle, that I've stumbled on a hidden truth.

How to mess around in dirt and rocks and get filthy, and create something that the headline assured me would be worth millions. And in my spare time!

So I'm sharing this with all of you. First of all, you have to move to southeast Asia … somewhere. Shrieking monkey calls are optional, but still a good idea.

Then you look in the house or the trash bin or the county dump until you find a container of some sort. You know, an old flat tire or a Remington noiseless typewriter, or maybe a wastebasket that you want to change into a million bucks.

Then you dig a hole near your jungle home and pour water in it. A lot of water and a lot of that gray stuff that comes in a paper bag with Cambodian writing on it so you can't guess what it says. But boy, does it work! You get some window screen that no one wants, line the wastebasket with it, and pour in the concrete.

While it's still setting up, you take a railroad spike and use it to carve million-dollar symbols on the wastebasket. When it dries, you flip it upside down and plant flowers in it.

I can't wait to start. All I really need is a southeast Asian kid about 12 years old who doesn't mind getting his hands dirty. Why didn't they tell us these things earlier, so it wouldn't take so long to make that million bucks.

Oh well …

Brought to you by "Whimsy Castle," Slim's most recent novel. Available online at Amazon.com.



Dear Recycle Lady,

I just heard that topping off the gas tank when putting in gas is bad for the environment. How can that be true? I thought added gas meant added mileage.

Doubting Thomas

Dear Doubting Thomas,

Topping off the gas tank is bad not only for the environment, it is also bad for your car and you. According to John Ibbotson, Consumer Reports' chief mechanic, "Fuel systems have become more sophisticated over time to keep up with increasingly stricter emission laws." That extra bit of fuel could damage the Onboard Refueling Vapor Recovery (ORVR) system that helps reduce hydrocarbon emissions by about 95 percent during refueling" and could ruin the engine that would be expensive to repair. Not only is topping off harmful to the fuel system, it is also harmful to humans as gasoline fumes are toxic. They can cause both respiratory and neurological problems. According to https://www.healthline.com/, gasoline exposure can cause problems with your lungs, mouth, and stomach. It can get gasoline on your hands or clothing and burn your skin depending on the length of time and amount of exposure. Gasoline fumes are also toxic to the ozone layer as they release air pollutants that are toxic, flammable, and carcinogenic. Additionally, when you hear the gas pump click indicating the tank is full, some of the gas you pump after that is going into the hose for the next customer, not in your gas tank. Thus, topping off actually costs you money! For additional information check out: https://www.consumerreports.org/cars/car-maintenance/should-you-top-off-your-cars-gas-tank-a1176503026/

Dear Recycle Lady,

Today I washed a container and its top to prepare it for recycling. The bottom of the container had a "1" inside the recycle triangle, so I knew it was recyclable. However, I could not find any number or recycle symbol for the top part. If the bottom of a container is recyclable, does that mean that the top of the container is also recyclable?

Puzzled

Dear Puzzled,

Plastics with a recycle triangle that have a "1" or a "2" inside the recycle symbol may or may not be recyclable at your recycling center. Our local Greenbrier Recycling Center only accepts #1 and #2 plastic bottles and jugs. Other #1 and #2 containers may be recyclable at larger facilities. Before adding any container to a recycling bin, be sure to check both the top and bottom as they may be made of different types of plastic. Thanks for washing out your container. It is extremely important that all recycled items are clean and dry. Unclean items put in a recycle bin can contaminate an entire load of recycle items resulting in a load of recyclables that must be discarded.

Dear Recycle Lady,

Last week you said that tree-corridors exist in fragmented forests. My understanding is that there can also be corridors that connect any isolated green spaces.

Also Loves Trees

Dear Also Loves Trees,

Thanks for writing. You are correct in saying that corridors can connect any isolated spaces. However, these corridors are more commonly called green corridors. Green corridors are strategically planned networks that connect any green spaces or perhaps are links in landscaping. They may also be called biodiversity or ecological corridors which are corridors designed to protect the biological diversity of large portions of land. Pathways may be found in cities, roads, crops or logging activities as they help mitigate urban development's impact on the environment. Corridors of all kinds serve as pathways for wildlife and allow the free movement of animals, facilitate seed dispersal and expand vegetation cover.

Interesting Info: Turtles have existed for about 230 million years. Today there are about 330 different species of turtles ranging from those that will fit in the palm of your hand to ones that weigh up to 1,800 pounds!

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

Letter from the Editor

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

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

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

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

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

Thank You, Mr. Keefer

By Stephen Smoot

David Lee Keefer passed away in 2022, but his legacy was forged long before. This gentleman, Mr. Keefer as my friends and I knew him, taught economics at Ripley High School to generations of students.

I will say that I took economics classes at three different institutions of higher learning as both an undergraduate and a graduate student. No one taught the fundamentals of the "dismal science" quite like him.

An aside, a pro slavery advocate coined the phrase "dismal science" in reference to economists such as Britain's Adam Smith and France's Frederic Bastiat who both defined free market economics and also campaigned against slavery wherever it existed in their times.

This teacher instructed classes in basic economics and advanced economics. In the first class, we learned about the relationship between supply and demand. We drew seemingly endless supply and demand charts and were expected to grasp what the chart specifically stated. At Ripley, students learned the difference between elastic and inelastic demand, the differences between supply side and demand side economics, as well as the relationship between money supply and inflation.

We learned precisely how the "invisible hand" of the market operates and why it works better than managed or planned economies.

Advanced economics introduced us to one of the greatest economics works ever composed, "Free to Choose" by Milton and Rose Freeman. It advocated strong enough economic freedoms to reduce as much as possible barriers to market entry and eliminate to the greatest extent possible "rent seeking." Rent seeking is an economic term referring to large companies advocating for legal or regulatory changes that will help them and create a disadvantage for their competition.

For example, large corporations support raises in the minimum wage because their "mom and pop" competitors cannot afford to pay the same rates of salaries. They can spread the higher wage costs along a larger area without having to lay people off or hike prices enough to notice.

The Friedmans, however, are not economic libertarians. They support a strong enough framework to protect businesses from unfair practice and responsible management of the money supply and how it relates to the availability of products the nation needs to work and function daily. Inflation is, essentially "too many dollars chasing too few goods." Either the government creates the problem by putting too much money for general circulation or the market cannot produce enough supply to meet demand so prices rise to prevent shortages.

With a declining number of cattle farmers and the rising cost of inputs into beef production, the amount of beef available for market has declined, leading to a rise in prices. If consumers purchase less beef at a higher price, the "invisible hand" concept states that surpluses of beef will rise and prices fall as a result. Or, the lure of higher profits will pull more into cattle production and expand supply enough to pull down prices.

That is how the invisible hand operates unless something interferes. More regulations and interference from the government make it difficult to maintain an operation or to break in as a new entrepreneur.

And this is what the crux of high school education should be, to prepare a student to understand how the world truly works.

WAG Trap-Neuter-Return on September 21

On Monday, September 21, the Welfare of Animals Group (WAG) will be humanely trapping feral cats in the Orma and Mt. Zion areas to have them spayed/neutered, vaccinated, and ear tipped (the universal sign that a cat has been part of a Trap-Neuter-Return program). We would appreciate if you would not put food out for them on Sunday, September 20, as we will be trapping on Monday morning. Once the cats have recovered from anesthesia (at least 24 to 48 hours) we will return them to their exact location. They will be healthier, happier, and not reproducing and fighting. Thank you for your cooperation. So far we have spayed and neutered 1,189 community cats (637 females and 552 males).

Please keep your personal cats indoors or put a collar on them on Monday the 21st. If you have any questions, please call Linda at 304-354-7506.

If you are aware of a feral cat colony in your area, please let us know. Female kittens can begin breeding at four months old, so the best time to spay/neuter a colony is when there are only 5 or 6 cats. Trap-Neuter-Return is provided to Calhoun County residents at no cost to the caretaker.

Partial funding for Trap-Neuter-Return is provided by The Oakland Foundation, The Bernard McDonough Foundation, the West Virginia Department of Agriculture, and the Calhoun County Commission.

DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Were you affected by the July 21-22 severe storms in West Virginia? You may qualify for assistance. Deadline is October 3. **Register today!**

4 Ways to Apply

IN PERSON
Get one-on-one help at a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC)
fema.gov/drc

CALL
Get answers to your questions and apply.
800-621-3362 *Video Relay Service (VRS) available

REGISTER ONLINE
DisasterAssistance.gov

FEMA APP
Download the FEMA app for Android or iOS
fema.gov/app

Please have the following available when you register:

- Your address and zip code
- Condition of your damaged home
- Insurance information, if available
- Social Security number
- Phone number where you can be contacted
- Address where you can get mail OR email

Stay in touch with FEMA
When you apply, you will receive a FEMA registration number. Save it! You will need the number whenever you contact FEMA.

Learn more at **fema.gov/disaster/4932**

Disaster assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, English proficiency, or economic status.

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Fairmont State Celebrates First High School Graduates of Groundbreaking Middle College Program for Foster Youth

Fairmont State University had much to celebrate on August 21 as the first three students in the Middle College at Fairmont State University program earned their high school diplomas. During a ceremony in the Falcon Center Conference Rooms, Rowin Wheeler, Cyrus Frame, and Jonathan Shirkey were recognized for this achievement. The graduates will remain in the program as they work toward earning their associate degrees.

"I am incredibly proud of these students and all they have accomplished," said Fairmont State University President Mike Davis. "Their achievement is a powerful example of what can happen when we invest in people and provide them with the support they need to thrive. They have embraced every opportunity available to them, made tremendous progress in their educational journeys, and demonstrated remarkable determination along the way. I am excited to see what the future holds for each of them, and I look forward to celebrating another major milestone when they complete their associate degrees and walk across the commencement stage this December. They all have very bright futures!"

Middle College allows students to complete the requirements for a high school diploma while simultaneously earning college credit toward an associate degree. Coursework includes English, mathematics, science, social studies, physical education, health, the arts, and electives. Among the graduates, favorite subjects ranged from psychology and mathematics to the arts.

"Art is my favorite subject," Frame said. "The art classes feel a lot more close-knit than my other classes."

Fairmont State established the Middle College in partnership with KVC West Virginia and the West Virginia Schools of Diversion and Transition to serve youth who have experienced foster care. The program is the first of its kind in West Virginia and the first in the nation dedicated exclusively to supporting foster youth through a college-based educational model. Open to 11th and 12th grade students, the program fulfills state high school graduation requirements while providing a pathway to an associate degree.

Students in the Middle College program benefit from off-campus housing, meal services, transportation assistance, individualized academic support, flexible scheduling, and other resources designed to promote student success. Participants also have access to KVC West Virginia services, including mental health counseling, life skills workshops, and social-emotional learning opportunities.

"Middle College is about more than providing students with access to higher education. It is about ensuring they have the support, resources, and encouragement they need to succeed," said Emily Swain, Director of Middle College. "Our students are navigating the transition to adulthood while often managing the unique challenges associated with foster care and other out-of-home experiences."

Swain emphasized that the program's comprehensive support network helps students build the skills and confidence needed to thrive both in college and beyond.

"Through consistent mentorship, academic guidance, access to critical resources, and a community that believes in them, we help students build confidence, develop independence, and recognize their potential," Swain said. "That support can make the difference between simply enrolling in college and truly feeling a sense of belonging, believing in their ability to succeed, and creating a future they can be proud of."

In addition to regular Middle College programming, participants are encouraged to engage in campus life through clubs, inamural sports, theater, and other extracurricular activities that support personal growth and a well-rounded college experience.

"Fairmont State inspired me to do theater, which taught me to show up when it mattered most and how to show up even when I don't want to," Shirkey said.

By earning their high school diplomas through the program, the students have also completed substantial college coursework toward an associate degree. Wheeler, Frame, and Shirkey are expected to complete their associate degrees and participate in Fairmont State's December commencement ceremony.

"I am excited to get my associate's degree in December and prepare for my future," Wheeler said. "I didn't want to go to college before this, so this helped set a path for me. I feel like it helped me get out of trouble and start a new path."

As the first graduates of the Middle College at Fairmont State University program, Wheeler, Frame, and Shirkey have helped demonstrate the transformative impact of expanding access to education and support services for foster youth. To learn more about Middle College at Fairmont State University, visit www.fairmontstate.edu/middle-college/default.aspx.

Out of the Past



The 3 and 0 start by the Red Devils in football may remind some of this fearsome squad from yesteryear. Photo courtesy of WVU History Online

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

County Farmer's Markets

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 Cemetery 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 September 23, 2026, 5:00 pm, Mom's Place Too, 340 Main Street, Grantsville, WV 26147
Monthly Tire Collection September 18, 2026, 10 - 2

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

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Governor Morrisey Announces Major Declines in Crime, Overdose Deaths Across West Virginia

Violent crime down 5.6 percent, property crime down 13.5 percent as law enforcement steps up operations statewide

CHARLESTON, W.Va. - Governor Patrick Morrisey today announced significant declines in violent crime, property crime, and drug overdose deaths across West Virginia as his administration continues an aggressive approach to public safety and the drug crisis.

"Nothing matters more to me than you and your family's safety," said Governor Morrisey. "In West Virginia, we're taking an aggressive approach to protect your loved ones: crime down, enforcement up. We're fighting the drug crisis on every front, and we're seeing real results."

In 2025, reported violent crime fell 5.6 percent statewide, from 4,310 offenses to 4,070, putting West Virginia's rate 31 percent below the national average. Reported property crime fell 13.5 percent, from 19,289 offenses to 16,685. Drug overdose deaths dropped 12 percent, representing 99 fewer deaths.

Governor Morrisey has paired prevention and recovery efforts with stronger laws and aggressive enforcement aimed at taking deadly drugs and violent criminals off West Virginia streets. In April 2025, Governor Morrisey signed Lauren's Law, establishing mandatory minimum sentences for transporting fentanyl, heroin, methamphetamine, and cocaine into West Virginia, creating new drug kingpin and delivery-resulting-in-death offenses, and increasing penalties for serious drug crimes.

The West Virginia First Foundation, created following the historic opioid settlement secured during Governor Morrisey's tenure as Attorney General, has committed nearly $40 million to 171 community projects across the state through the end of 2025.

State, federal, and local law enforcement agencies have also carried out major operations targeting drug trafficking and violent crime across West Virginia:

Mercer County Fentanyl Seizure: West Virginia State Police, the Southern Regional Drug Task Force, and Appalachia HIDTA seized 54 pounds of suspected fentanyl, 70 pounds of crystal methamphetamine, 15 firearms, and three brick presses in one of the largest fentanyl seizures in state history.

Operation Down The Road: State Police and the McDowell County prosecutor executed eight search warrants across Mercer, McDowell, and Cabell counties, seizing 12 pounds of fentanyl, crystal methamphetamine, brick presses, firearms, and approximately $300,000 in narcotics.

Charleston-Area Drug Trafficking Takedown: A federal investigation targeting a major drug trafficking organization resulted in 16 indictments for fentanyl and methamphetamine distribution, with 11 guilty pleas secured to date.

Operation Monarch: State, county, and local law enforcement conducted a month-long violent-crime warrant roundup in the Eastern Panhandle, arresting 34 individuals wanted for offenses including armed robbery and malicious wounding and recovering illegal firearms.

Operation Spring Sweep: State Police and the U.S. Marshals CUFFED Task Force arrested 72 violent fugitives and noncompliant sex offenders across Kanawha, Putnam, and surrounding counties, conducted more than 200 compliance checks, and recovered two missing children.

"Our troopers, deputies, and officers are making it clear that crime has no safe haven in our state," said Governor Morrisey. "We will never stop giving them the backing they need to enforce our laws and protect our families. We are saving lives, securing our future, and building a stronger West Virginia every single day."

FESTIVAL

Continued from Page 1

As the work ended and the syrup ready to try came the "lasses lickin'" where "each person was provided with a small wooden paddle to scrape the leavings from the boiling pan." Newly cooked molasses was not the only item with a warm glow at such events. Rice explained that "it was said 'as everybody knows and expects, they's a sight o' courtin' ben did at lasses lickin's."

Games, singing, storytelling, and other revelry by campfire extended into the night after the hard and tedious labors ended.

Disruptions in trade and economics during the Civil War cut off West Virginia from access to sugar from cane grown in islands of the Caribbean Sea. Between the end of that conflict and the 1930s, many in remote parts of the state fell back on their own ingenuity and ability to work.

In the higher mountains, many farms turned to both making and bartering sugar made from maple. Production requires long periods of cold nights, making that product perfect for higher elevations. Others braved angry bees to harvest honey from hives.

Calhoun County and other areas, however, turned to sorghum and molasses derived from it to make delicious sweet treats. That said, the ideal molasses product produced from a "cane patch" did not resemble the commercial products at the store today. Store-bought molasses regrettably includes high fructose corn syrup, dyes, and artificial flavorings.

Traditional molasses is not as sweet as refined sugar, or even honey. Like traditionally produced maple, however, it has different taste notes. The West Virginia Encyclopedia says that generally "the flavor lies between black strap molasses and light caramel syrup."

Sorghum also offered those working the land an easier process. Maple requires producers of its sugars and syrups to go up the mountain to attach a tap, then lay hundreds of feet of tubing to bring the sap via gravity to the sugar shack.

A half-acre of sorghum planted close at hand can produce between 50 and 100 gallons of syrup. Not unlike maple, slow cooking evaporates moisture and thickens sap into syrup.

Refined sugar available cheaply at the store provided an alluringly convenient alternative to hand crafted syrups. After the 1930s, the old fashioned practices declined sharply with older farmers in different areas holding on to the old traditions.

In 1967 came an effort to not only hang on to those traditions, but also celebrate them. Calhoun County established the state's sole Molasses Festival. Like the multiple apple butter festivals in the eastern counties, the Molasses Festival honors the process established by tradition while also bringing back the celebrative atmosphere and revelry of 'lasses makin'.

Sorghum grains have been eaten and used for thousands of years, but it took intelligent mountain ingenuity to turn it into a sweet deal for everyone.

COMMISSION

Continued from Page 1

month. He shared that the sales representative had been vague, "I realized the reason, every quarter, their prices change, and that quarter ends October 1st."

Since the cost of the five-year contract, $6,266, was not covered under the department budget and exceeds the $1,000 limit on minor purchases, the department had to seek Commission approval., which it did.

He next shared results of recruitment of a new deputy. Three individuals passed the civil service test, but only one of those passed physical fitness requirements. The three person panel reviewing applications and experience made a conditional offer of employment to the one individual.

Commission President Lupardus shared "amazing" news that the Norman Ridge water project was going out to bid. He shared "This is very exciting for Calhoun County, the first time in multiple years that there has been a water project go out to bid, and we're going to start seeing some expansion." He then expressed "concern" over a discussion of rate increases on the Mount Zion Public Service District meeting agenda. After expressing that he did not know the details behind that agenda item, Commission President Lupardus stated that "the commission did approve ARPA funds to help them reduce debt, repair leaks, and purchase needed pumps. And that should lower some cost."

Furthermore, he explained that Mark Sarver, director of the West Virginia Water Development Authority, will "actually come to the county to look at the Upper West Fork Station Project. He and I are going to take a trip, and we do have a preliminary engineer report for that project that will connect the southern ends of the county to play county water system. And that's very exciting. Um, you know, I'm very excited to have the director, you know, for a water development, come out and send a day to focus on that project. That's a big deal. That's a huge deal."

The Commission President also encouraged those in attendance and viewing online to support the 1982 Foundation's grand opening of Avalon at the former Calhoun County High School in early October. Next, he announced the upcoming Molasses Festival and said Everything we can do to support these festivals, these small businesses, just helps our county."

West Virginia Squirrel Season Opens Sept. 12

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. - West Virginia's regular squirrel season will open statewide Sept. 12, offering new and experienced hunters an opportunity to refine their hunting skills. The season runs through Feb. 28, 2027.

"Squirrel hunting is a long-standing tradition in West Virginia and is how many hunters are introduced to the sport," said Brett McMillion, director of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources. "We encourage folks to give squirrel hunting a try or use it as practice for an upcoming season. It's a great time to be outdoors in West Virginia."

Beyond recreational benefits, squirrel hunting plays a role in wildlife management. By managing squirrel populations, hunters help maintain ecosystem balance to ensure adequate resources remain available for other wildlife.

Hunters should review current hunting regulations and safety guidelines before heading out. Regulations are available for download at WVdnr.gov/hunting-regulations.

Key season rules include:

Daily bag limit: 6 squirrels

Possession limit: 24 squirrels

Season limit: None

All general state hunting regulations and licensing requirements apply.

The WVDNR offers durable physical license cards, which hunters can purchase as an upgrade to an existing license or add during renewal. Hunting licenses can be purchased online at WVhunt.com.







CCHS Football



The huge crowd helped the Red Devils celebrate a huge win over Wirt.

September 11, 2026. WV MetroNews Class A Game of the Week. Wirt County hosting Calhoun County. The Calhoun County Red Devils football program hasn't attracted much statewide attention in recent years. How would it handle being in the spotlight during week 3?

The answer: The Red Devils handled it just fine. The visitors thoroughly dominated the home team and left Wilson-Eismon Field with a convincing 26-7 victory.

Wirt County had a handful of chances to score, but with one exception Calhoun County shut the Tigers down. There were a number of pivotal moments in the game, but perhaps the one that deflated the Tigers most occurred in the closing seconds of the first half.

Calhoun County scored with 1:23 remaining in the half to take a 14-0 lead. The Red Devils would receive the second half kickoff, so the next 83 seconds were important for both teams. A Red Devil stop would mean they'd have a chance to take a three-score lead before the Tigers touched the ball again. A Wirt County score would help the home team close the gap and remain within striking distance.

A short kickoff gave Wirt County the ball at their own 32-yard line. To the Tigers' credit, they ran a 2-minute drill in only half the time and managed to get the ball down to the Red Devils' 10-yard line, mostly on long passes. With 15 seconds remaining, the Tigers had four chances to dent the scoreboard and keep the game close. On first down, the Wirt quarterback dropped back to pass, but Kristian Frederick burst through the defensive line and dropped the Tiger signal caller for a nine-yard loss, forcing the home team to burn a timeout. On the next two plays, Calhoun's secondary left no receiver open, and two Tiger passes fell incomplete. With 0.5 seconds remaining in the half, Wirt's quarterback tried to sneak a ball to a receiver in the end zone, but Lance Grogg snared the pass, ending the Tigers scoring threat and the half.

There were other critical moments in the game, but that sequence was a statement by a Red Devil team on the rise.

The game as a whole was just as thrilling as the last few seconds of the first half.

Wirt elected to receive and started strong on its first possession. The Tigers earned three first downs in only four plays and moved the ball to the Red Devils' 33-yard line. On the fifth play of the drive, Kristian Frederick stripped the ball from Wirt's running back and Nic Butler fell on the loose ball to end the Tiger scoring threat and give the Red Devils their first possession of the game.

Moving methodically, Calhoun County pushed to midfield on a series of plays that never covered more than five yards at a time. The highlight of the drive was a halfback pass from Chase Schoolcraft to Lance Grogg. The drive ended when a Wirt defender intercepted a short Calhoun pass, zipped through the Red Devil players and raced toward the goal line for what seemed a sure touchdown.

Fortunately, the Red Devils never gave up on the play. Chase Schoolcraft ran down the Wirt player from behind and ripped the ball loose before the Tiger could cross the goal line. Butler pounced on the ball at the four, returning possession to the visitors and stifling another Tiger scoring opportunity.

From that point on, Calhoun County settled down to business. In much the same manner as they had on their previous possession, the Red Devils pushed down the field a few yards at a time. Most of the damage was done on the ground, with two very timely passes mixed in. The Red Devils also drew the Tigers offsides twice to aid in their march. The drive drained the final 6:32 off the clock in the first quarter. Five seconds into the second quarter, Trevor Mayle carried the ball across from the nine to score the first points of the game. Mayle kicked the extra point, staking the Red Devils to a 7-0 lead.

Calhoun County smothered Wirt County on the next possession. Two Tiger rushes netted them only two yards. Needing eight yards to move the chains, Wirt's quarterback looked downfield but found no one open, and had to complete a pass behind the line of scrimmage. The receiver fell down immediately for a six-yard loss, forcing the Tigers to punt.

The Red Devils' next drive was even more impressive than the last. It covered 74 yards, consisted of 17 plays and took exactly eight minutes and 40 seconds off the clock. 69 yards came on the ground, the only pass of the drive resulted in no gain, and the Tigers contributed five yards by jumping offsides.

The drive began with a 17-yard run by Mayle. He, Rome Riddel, Ezra Anderson and Chase Schoolcraft took turns carrying the ball from then on. The Red Devils earned three fourth-down conversions during the possession. Mayle ran for four yards at midfield for the first. Needing three yards four plays later, Mayle was stopped just past the line of scrimmage, but the Red Devils' powerful offensive line pushed Wirt's defense back just enough for Mayle to gain the necessary yards. Later, facing a fourth-and-one at the 14, Calhoun drew Wirt offsides to earn a fresh set of downs. The Red Devils scored two plays later thanks to the alert play of Chase Schoolcraft. A mishandled snap put the ball on the ground behind center, but Schoolcraft snatched up the loose ball, skirted the left end and scored the visitors' second touchdown of the game. Mayle again converted the extra point, and increased the Red Devils' lead to 14-0 with just 1:23 remaining in the half.

Following the excellent defensive stop that closed the first half, the Red Devils accepted the second half kickoff. The visitors picked up right where they left off, scoring on an 11-play, 6:45 drive. This possession also featured two impressive conversions. A pair of rare losses found Calhoun facing a 3rd-and-18 at midfield. Undaunted, Trevor Mayle found Rome Riddel downfield for a 21-yard gain to keep the drive alive. The team also had yet another fourth down conversion, this time from the Tiger one-yard line that resulted in the third Red Devil touchdown of the game. Trouble with the snap meant that the extra point conversion was no good, but the score stood 20-0 in Calhoun's favor.

At that point, the game seemed firmly in the Red Devils' control, but the remainder of the quarter was disastrous for them. Wirt scored quickly on a 6-play drive, aided greatly by a personal foul by Calhoun, the team's first flag of the night. The Red Devils' subsequent possession was derailed by yet another personal foul, and ended with a lost fumble at midfield.

However, the Red Devils settled down after that and retook control of the game. The defense forced a punt on Wirt's next possession – highlighted by another Kristian Frederick sack – giving Calhoun the ball at their own 39-yard line.

What followed was the lengthiest drive of the night, lasting more than 9 minutes effectively ending any chance Wirt had of getting back into the game. The possession was a master class of ball control and clock management. Under the excellent guidance of Coach Jeff Goodrich, the Red Devils waited until the play clock hit single digits before running each play, then ran short, effective runs to move the ball slowly but surely and keep the ball out of the hands of Wirt County. On the fifteenth play of the drive, Trevor Mayle ran three yards to the end zone to set the final score at 26-7.

Regaining the ball with only 2:17 remaining, Wirt moved into Calhoun territory with a decent return and two plays of 10+ yards. It was too late for the Tigers to tie or win the game, but a late score would at least make the final score look more respectable. But the Red Devils liked the score just the way it was. On the third play, Nic Butler snared a Tiger pass in the middle of the field to kill the drive, and the final bell sounded after the Red Devils took a pair of knees.

In an era when at least half a dozen teams per week score 60-70 points, Friday's 26-7 victory may not appear impressive. But the team didn't score a ton of points because it didn't have to. Instead, Calhoun County employed a brilliant strategy of ball control and thoroughly dominated a very good opponent. The Red Devils ran 73 plays to the Tigers' 31 and possessed the ball for 38 minutes and 35 seconds, leaving Wirt County only 9:25 to work with. This was possible because of effective play calling and clutch plays. The offense faced five fourth-down situations and earned first downs on all of them. The team had few big yardage plays – Riddel's 21-yard catch was the longest during the game – but consistently gained exactly what was needed to keep the drive alive.

The Red Devils weren't perfect, and one of their rare penalties aided a Tiger touchdown drive. Yet the team didn't allow a single point after either of its turnovers, and except for that one instance recovered from their mistakes nicely.

The Red Devils set no team records during the game, but altogether it was a remarkable performance. The seven points allowed by the defense were the fewest since a shutout of Paden City in 2022. The team's 65 rushing attempts are tied for third most in Calhoun history, the record of 69 coming against Ritchie County in 2002. Trevor Mayle's 39 individual rushing attempts stands second all-time behind Charlie Carpenter's 43 carries against Williamstown in 1981.

In terms of season stats to date, Mayle has scored 87 points, already the most in a season for any Calhoun player since Randy Fluharty's 110 in 2009. Chase Schoolcraft is also on pace for 100 points this season, having scored 26 points in three games. Mayle has rushed for 540 yards thus far, and seems a lock for 1000 for the year. On the defensive side of the ball, Ezra Anderson leads the team with 28 total tackles, Kristian Frederick has sacked the opponents' quarterback 3 times, Nic Butler has recovered 2 fumbles and both Mayle and Lance Gross have picked off a pair of opponents' passes.

The 3-0 Red Devils will travel to Van this Friday to take on the Bulldogs. This is the football team's first game against the Boone County opponent. Kickoff is set for 7:30 at Herschel Jarrell Field.

Calhoun	0	14	6	6	- 26
Wirt	0	0	7	0	- 7

C - Trevor Mayle, 9 run (Mayle kick) 11:55 2nd
C - Chase Schoolcraft, 4 run (Mayle kick) 1:23 2nd
C - Mayle, 1 run (bad snap) 5:15 3rd
W - Adryon Hartford, 6 run (Asher Kerns kick) 3:35 3rd
C - Mayle, 3 run (kick blocked) 2:17 4th

TEAM STATISTICS

Calhoun		Wirt
22	First Downs	12
65-243	Rushes-Yardage	16-67
63	Passing Yardage	100
7-8-1	PC-PA-Int.	9-15-2
8	Return Yardage	59
0-0.0	Punts-Avg.	2-25.0
5-1	Fumbles-Lost	3-2
4-40	Penalties-Yards	5-35

OFFENSE

Calhoun rushing – Trevor Mayle 39-171, Ezra Anderson 4-41, Rome Riddel 13-40, Chase Schoolcraft 6-4, team 3(-13). Total 65-243.

Calhoun passing – Trevor Mayle 6-7-1, 58 yards; Chase Schoolcraft 1-1 5 yards. Total 7-8-1, 63 yards.

Calhoun receiving – Chase Schoolcraft 3-27, Rome Riddel 1-21, Gavin Hicks 1-10, Lance Grogg 1-5, Ezra Anderson 1-0.

DEFENSE

Calhoun tackles (solo-assists-total) – Kristian Frederick (3-5-8), Ezra Anderson (1-5-6), Trevor Mayle (3-2-5), Chase Schoolcraft (3-1-4), Nic Butler (1-3-4), Reese Schoolcraft (2-1-3), Gavin Hicks (1-2-3), Rome Riddel (0-3-3), Dayvon Mitchell (0-2-2), Sam Bailey (0-2-2), Lance Grogg (1-0-1), Hoyt Helmick (0-1-1), Chase Toney (0-1-1). Total 15-28-43. Interceptions: Nick Butler, Lance Grogg. Fumble Recoveries: Nic Butler (2). Sacks: Kristian Frederick (2).

Local Business Directory Information

Western Auto

OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT SALES, PARTS & SERVICE for

Husqvarna, Stihl, Briggs & Stratton

Western Auto is also your home and garden store.

315 Main St., Glenville
304-462-5631

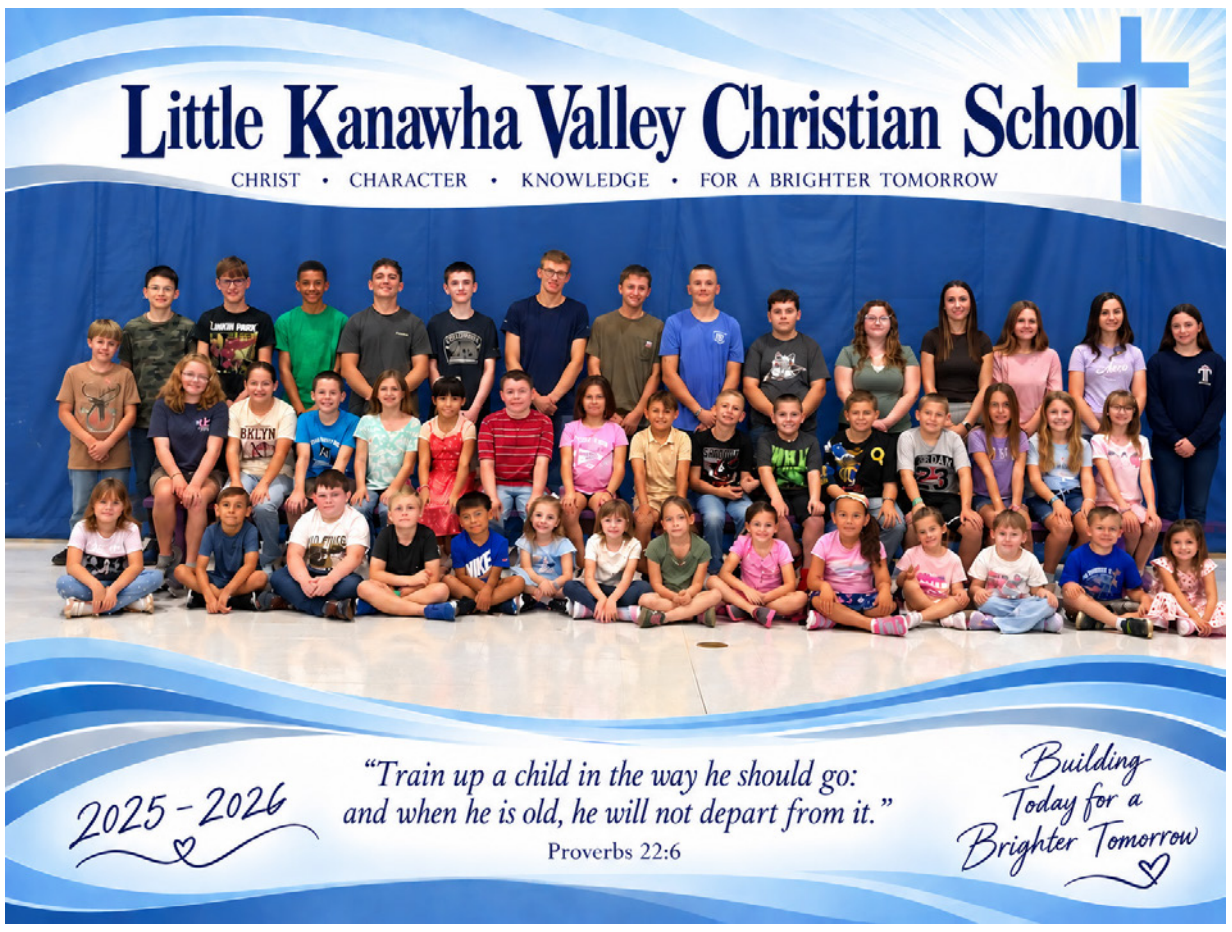
Walnut Grove Community Church

9/20 AM Homecoming Service - Cousins For Christ singing with lunch following Refreshing Service - 9/21 Tim Bell preaching, Dave & Shelia Bowen singing. 9/22 Ron Shamblin

Walnut Grove Community Church
6030 Barnes Run Rd
Arnoldsburg, WV 25234

Little Kanawha Valley Christian School Has a Blessed Start to Its 11th Year

Parents and staff unite in faith to prepare students for lives of knowledge, responsibility, compassion, and Christian service



LITTLE KANAWHA VALLEY CHRISTIAN—Little Kanawha Valley Christian School has begun its 11th year with thankful hearts, renewed purpose, and a shared commitment to provide every student with a Christ-centered education. The opening of the school year has been marked by prayer, encouragement, and a strong spirit of cooperation among families, faculty, and staff.

For more than a decade, the school has sought to nurture students academically and spiritually. As the new year begins, that mission remains clear: to help young people grow into knowledgeable, responsible, caring servants who are prepared to honor Christ in their homes, churches, communities, and future callings.

"For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building." — 1 Corinthians 3:9

This verse offers a fitting theme for the school community. Parents bring their God-given knowledge of their children, while teachers and staff provide faithful instruction, guidance, and encouragement. Working together under the Lord's direction, they help cultivate strong minds, sound character, compassionate hearts, and a willingness to serve others.

Classroom lessons are only one part of that preparation. Through daily example, biblical teaching, personal responsibility, and opportunities to care for others, students are encouraged to see learning as a way to glorify God. The goal is not simply academic achievement, but the development of young people who use their knowledge wisely, fulfill their responsibilities faithfully, and serve with humility.

The beginning of this 11th year is also a reminder of God's faithfulness through every season of the school's ministry. Each lesson taught, each prayer offered, and each act of encouragement contributes to the foundation being laid in the lives of the students. The school gives thanks for the families and supporters whose prayers, trust, and service make that work possible.

As Little Kanawha Valley Christian School moves forward, parents and staff will remain united in purpose and steadfast in prayer. With Christ as the foundation and Scripture as the guide, the school looks ahead with confidence that its students can be equipped not only for the classroom, but for a lifetime of faithful, knowledgeable, responsible, and caring service.



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Clarksburg, West Virginia chosen for Inaugural "Ruck for Recovery" Veteran - 50 State 5K in November

Clarksburg's Veteran Memorial Park was chosen as the first stop for Sgt. Melvin Gatewood Ruck/Walk/Fun Run - 50 State 5K campaign on Saturday, November 7, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

This event is to honor SGT Melvin Gatewood (Ret.), U.S. Army veteran and co-founder of Operation Continue Service from Tennessee. Event hosts include: 90Marketing, Harrison County Parks & Recreation, and City Parks of Clarksburg.

This meaningful community event was created to continue spreading hope and unity among veterans and communities across the country while honoring his mission and legacy.

For the past two years, 90Marketing of Bridgeport has had the pleasure of helping Sgt. Gatewood host his tristate ruck campaigns in the South. During a recent phone call, he stated that he aspires to take them nationwide.

"I literally told him to 'come on down' to West Virginia", added April Lanham, owner, 90Marketing. "We will give you the best Mountaineer spirit and support possible."

WV Rucking the Trails | Ruck for Recovery - Veteran 5K at the Veterans Memorial Park will be the FIRST in this 50-state campaign.

Participants will take part in a 5K ruck, walk, or fun run through the beautiful, scenic VA Park and South Harrison Rails to Trails, symbolizing the burdens veterans and individuals carry and the support OCS offers to the community.

The event serves not only as a tribute to SGT Gatewood's service and vision but also as a fundraiser to support Operation Continue Services' mission: To remember the fallen and motivate those who still stand.

"I came home from Iraq and had to learn how to keep going" is the key quote found on Sgt. Gatewood's website.

After joining the Army, he deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. After he was wounded, he returned home with a Purple Heart. Since that moment, he has his drive in everything he does, whether on a stage, on a road with a weighted pack, or sitting across a table from one person having a hard week.

Sgt. Melvin Gatewood is a combat veteran and Purple Heart recipient, a Certified Peer Recovery Specialist, and the founder of Operation Continue Service. He lives now to honor the ones who did not come home, stand with the people still here, make asking for help normal, and leave communities able to do it without him.

"Operation Continue Service is here to honor service members who did not come home and stands with the people still here through community gatherings, outreach, and peer support", added Sgt. Gatewood. "I was raised to show up for people. Keep showing up and not wait to be asked twice."

With over 15 years of federal service, Sgt. Gatewood spent the majority of his career as a Certified Peer Support Specialist with the Department of Veterans Affairs in Nashville, Tennessee, where he worked in the Primary Care Mental Health Integration Clinic. Gatewood was recently selected to assist with the rollout of the new State of Tennessee Certified Peer Recovery Specialist training for Veterans.

His nonprofit, Operation Continue Service, was founded in April 2021. Since its inception, he and his team have secured funding for a fully equipped Outreach Van that serves veterans in rural areas with pop-up social gatherings, suicide prevention resources, and homebound outreach.

The RuckWV team is looking for 5K participants, vendors, food trucks, donations, sponsors, and moral support. Visit RuckWV.com to RSVP your spot. For more information, contact April Lanham, 90Marketing, at 304 677-6545.

Flu shots now available

PARKERSBURG – The Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department announces the start of the flu vaccine program.

"Appointments are available now," said Christi Merrill, clinical director for the MOVHD. "Call the (local) office number and ask for a flu shot appointment."

In addition to office appointments, MOVHD has two pop-up flu vaccine clinics in September. The first will be a drive-thru clinic from 9-11 a.m. Sept. 29 at The Center on Market, located at 9328 2nd Street in Parkersburg. The second is a walk-in clinic from 9-11 a.m. Sept. 30 at the Waverly Activity Center, located at 422 Virginia Street in Waverly. Those attending the clinics need to bring a photo ID as well as their insurance card, if applicable.

The MOVHD takes most major insurances, and a fee will be charged to those who do not have insurance coverage.

To make an in-office appointment in Wood County, call 304-485-7374. To schedule in Wirt County, call 304-275-3131. To schedule in Roane County, call 304-927-1480. To schedule in Ritchie County, call 304-643-2917. To schedule in Pleasants County, call 304-684-2461. And to schedule in Calhoun County, call 304-354-6101.

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The Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department serves Wood, Wirt, Calhoun, Pleasants, Ritchie and Roane Counties. It is located at St. Joseph's Landing in Parkersburg. Call 304-485-7374 or visit the website, movhd.com for more information.

Treasurer Pack Announces 98% Parent Satisfaction with Hope Scholarship Program

Survey Finds Families Value Educational Choice, Customer Service, Ease of Application Process

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – State Treasurer Larry Pack, who serves as Chairman of the Hope Scholarship Board, today announced the results of the Hope Scholarship Parent Satisfaction Survey for the 2025-2026 school year, which found 98 percent of participating families are satisfied with the program. Nearly 900 parents responded to the survey, which was designed to better understand families' experiences with the program and to identify the educational opportunities and services they value most. The survey was conducted from May 26 to June 30 and sent to over 10,000 Hope participants, including one survey to be completed per household.

"The results of this survey reinforce what we hear every day from our Hope Scholarship families across West Virginia – parents value having the freedom to choose an education that best meets the individual needs of their children," Treasurer Pack said. "A 98 percent satisfaction rate is an incredible reflection of the positive impact the Hope Scholarship is having on families, and it also speaks to the outstanding work of our team as they continue to provide exceptional service to participants. We would love to see another government program that is as beloved as the Hope Scholarship."

The Hope Scholarship Parent Satisfaction Survey, which is required by state law, found 95 percent of parents who sought assistance were satisfied with customer service provided through the program. Four out of five parents also reported no difficultly with the application process.

When asked to identify the primary reason families chose to participate in the Hope Scholarship Program, the top response was the ability to provide a religious-based education, followed by concerns about the public school curriculum and a desire for greater flexibility in their child's education.

"The Hope Scholarship was created to put parents in the driver's seat when it comes to their child's education, and these responses show families are using that freedom in many different ways," Treasurer Pack said. "When you have such an open marketplace unique to the rest of the country, it is vital that we know whether it is working well. Clearly, our TheoPay system, which provides an additional layer of flexibility, is a big hit with families based on their feedback."

Among additional findings:

Parents identified curriculum as the most important Hope Scholarship qualifying expense, followed by nonpublic school tuition, technology and digital courses or subscriptions. Curriculum was selected 694 times among parents' top three expenses, while nonpublic school tuition was selected 560 times and technology was selected 483 times.

More than 95 percent of respondents said they were satisfied or very satisfied with communications from the Hope Scholarship Program regarding Board updates, important deadlines and general reminders.

Among parents whose children attended a nonpublic school or microschool, the overwhelming majority described the process of selecting a school and paying tuition through the Hope online portal as easy.

Parents cited smaller classes sizes, access to additional services or support, bullying concerns and school safety concerns, among other reasons for choosing the program.

The survey included 12 multiple-choice questions and one open-ended question. Data from the survey will be included in the 2025-2026 Hope Scholarship Annual Report, which will be completed by the end of the calendar year.

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9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor: Publisher (Name and complete mailing address): Michael Shotwell, PO Box 428, Lewisburg, WV 24901-0429			
Editor (Name and complete mailing address): Stephen Skeens, PO Box 428, Lewisburg, WV 24901-0429			
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address):			
10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)			
Full Name: Mountain Media, LLC	Complete Mailing Address: PO Box 428, Lewisburg, WV 24901-0429		
Michael Shotwell	PO Box 428, Lewisburg, WV 24901-0429		
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box → None			
Full Name	Complete Mailing Address		

PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 1) — PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com

13. Publication Title: CALHOUN CHRONICLE/CALHOUN CHRONICLE/GRANTSVILLE NEWS (THE)		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: 09/03/2026	
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		1053	1050
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	201	198
	(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	294	197
	(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®	449	554
	(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail)®	0	0
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), (4))		1004	1004
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies included on PS Form 3541	1	1
	(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies included on PS Form 3541	3	3
	(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail)	0	0
	(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	0	0
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) (4))		4	4
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		1016	1012
g. Copies not Distributed		36	37
h. Total (Sum of 15f and 15g)		1052	1049
i. Percent Paid (15c / 15f times 100)		98.82 %	99.21 %
16. If total circulation includes electronic copies, report that circulation on lines below.			
a. Paid Electronic Copies		50	100
b. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies		1054	1104
c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies		1116	1112
d. Percent Paid (Both Print and Electronic Copies)		99.55 %	99.28 %
17. I certify that 50% of all my distributed copies (Electronic and Print) are paid above a nominal price.			
17. Publication of Statement of Ownership			
18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: Michael Shotwell	Title: Publisher	Date: 09/30/2025 11:32:33 PM	

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including penalties).

PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 2) — PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com

LEGAL

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE

The undersigned Substitute Trustee, by virtue of the authority vested in him by that certain Deed of Trust, dated January 31, 2024, and duly recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Calhoun County, West Virginia, in Document No. 1982432, in Book No. 189, at Page 232, Austin D Metheney did convey unto Robert H. Skeens, Jr., Trustee(s), certain real property described in said Deed of Trust; and the beneficiary has elected to appoint Seneca Trustees, Inc., as Substitute Trustee; and default having been made under the aforementioned Deed of Trust, and the undersigned Substitute Trustee having been instructed by MidFirst Bank to foreclose thereunder, will offer for sale at public auction at the front door of the Calhoun County Courthouse in Grantsville, West Virginia, on

September 30, 2026 at 12:00 PM

the following described real estate, together with its improvements, easements and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate in 06 - Washington District, Calhoun County, West Virginia, and more particularly described as follows:

A tract of land situated on the waters of Beech Fork in Washington District of Calhoun County, West Virginia, more particularly bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at the intersection of Meadow Run. Road and the easterly edge of a private driveway to the subject parcel; thence leaving Meadow Run Road and with the driveway approximately 396 feet to an iron pin, being the TRUE PLACE OF BEGINNING; thence in an easterly/southeasterly direction along the fence line approximately 803 feet to an iron pin, which iron pin is approximately 25 feet from the property line of J. D. and Inga Brewster; thence in a southerly/southwesterly direction, approximately 25 feet to an iron pin; thence in a westerly, direction approximately 492 feet to an iron pin; thence in a southwesterly direction approximately 610 feet to an iron pin; thence in a westerly direction approximately 45 feet to an iron pin in the easterly edge of the driveway; thence with the edge of the driveway in a northerly/northeasterly direction approximately 765 feet to the place of beginning, containing 5 acres, more or less.

There is included in this conveyance the benefit of an easement along an existing driveway between. Meadow Run Road and the above-described property, for purposes of ingress and egress, as well the installation, maintenance, repair and removal of all utility services; and also an easement for a septic tank, leach field and pipeline on adjacent property now or previously owned by Jerry Sanger and Loretta Sanger; all as described in the prior deed in the chain of title.

This deed is made and accepted subject to the reservation by the grantors in the previous deed described above of an easement across this property for ingress and egress, and also an easement for access to a spring and water source for a trough located on adjacent land now or previously owned by the adjacent landowners.

This deed is also made subject to the grantee's liability for the costs of any fencing they may install, with the understanding that the grantors in the prior deed in the chain of title own the existing fencing and are solely liable for the costs to repair and maintain their fence.

LSOT: Deed Book 258, Page 286, dated February 29, 2016.

At the time of the execution of the Deed of Trust, this property was reported to have an address of: 2575 Meadow Run Road, Orma, WV 25268.

The referenced real estate will be conveyed with no covenants of warranty, and subject to all covenants, restrictions, easements, rights of way and reservations which may be a matter of record in the aforesaid Clerk's Office or visible upon the ground, all prior liens and encumbrances, including, without limitation, liens for real estate taxes, incinerator, sanitary and sewer charges. The purchasers at the sale shall be responsible for paying the recording costs and also the tax on the privilege of transferring real property (the cost of the tax stamp to be affixed to the deed). The purchasers shall be responsible for payment of all real estate taxes.

The subject property will be sold in "AS IS" condition. The Substitute Trustee shall be under no duty to cause any existing tenant or person occupying the subject property to vacate said property.

TERMS: $9000.00 in cash and/or certified funds as deposit at the time of sale with the balance due and payable within 30 days of the day of sale.

FEDERAL TAX LIEN: In the event that there are Federal Tax Liens against the property, the United States would have the right to redeem the property within a period of 120 days from the date of such sale or the period allowable for redemption under local law, whichever is longer.

Pursuant to the Deed of Trust, the Trustee may postpone the sale by public announcement at the time and place designated or by posting a notice of the same, and act by agent in the execution of the sale. The parties secured by the Deed of Trust reserve the right to purchase the property at such sale.

SENECA TRUSTEES, INC.
5000 Coombs Farm Drive, Suite 104
Morgantown, WV 26508
(304) 413-0044
(304) 292-2918
Toll free: (888) 534-3132
Reference File No. 96567

LEGAL

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER DEED OF TRUST

Default having been made in the payment of that certain note and debt secured by that certain **deed of trust**, executed by **Richard F. Starcher**, which deed of trust is **dated April 17, 2019**, and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of **Calhoun County, West Virginia**, in **Trust Deed Book 178 page 217**, and demand for sale having been made by the beneficiary and holder of the note and debt secured thereby, to-wit: **Calhoun County Bank, Inc.**; notice is hereby given that on **the 6th day of October, 2026, at 11:30 o'clock AM, the undersigned, Substitute Trustee, Terry D. Reed, will offer for sale at public auction** to the highest bidder thereof, at the front door of the Courthouse at Calhoun County, West Virginia, subject to the reservations, exceptions and provisions hereinafter mentioned, described or referred to, the following described real estate, together with the improvements thereon and the appurtenances thereunto belonging, being more particularly described as follows:

All that certain land, subject to the reservations, exceptions and provisions hereinafter mentioned, described or referred to, together with the buildings and improvements thereon and the appurtenances thereunto belonging, including any manufactured structures, mobile homes, double wide or modular homes, situate in the Oral C. Hathway Addition to the town of Grantsville, the Center District, Calhoun County, West Virginia, and being part of Lot No. 7 on plat of said addition, which plat is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Calhoun County, West Virginia, in Deed Book No. 65 at Page 1, and being more particularly bounded and described as follows, to-wit:

Beginning at Hathaway Street on a line of Lot Nos. 7 and 6; thence with the line of Lot No. 6 and Lot No. 7, 90 feet to a stake, thence running across Lot No. 7 to the line of Lot Nos. 7 and 8 to a stake; thence with a line of Lot Nos. 7 and 8, 90 feet to Hathaway Street; and thence at Hathaway Street to the place of beginning.

The property herein conveyed is the same tract conveyed unto Richard F. Starcher by Frederick J. Tanner by deed dated April 17, 2019 of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Calhoun County, West Virginia in Deed Book 277 at page 278.

This conveyance is made subject to all existing reservations, restrictions, exceptions, conditions, easements, rights of way or other servitudes, if any, made, reserved or created in prior deeds of record in said Clerk's office, or which would be disclosed by a visual inspection of the premises.

This sale is further made subject to any and all terms of any other deeds constituting the chain of title. The aforesaid tract, and sale thereof, are subject to rights of way or easements and all prior reservations, exceptions, restrictions and agreements affecting the premises which are of record in said Clerk's Office or which would be disclosed by a careful inspection of the premises **and any unpaid real estate taxes**.

Said sale is further made subject to any prior reservations of coal, oil or gas, minerals, and mining, drilling and production rights pertinent thereto. No representation or warranty as to the status of title to the aforesaid property, nor the status of any appurtenances or rights pertaining thereto is given.

TERMS OF SALE

Ten (10%) Percent cash in hand on day of sale, remaining balance within thirty (30) days, and subject to any and all unpaid or unassessed property taxes against said real estate.

The undersigned Trustee reserves the right to continue, cancel, or postpone the sale of said real estate and property from time to time, and to reject all bids if deemed inadequate as he may determine necessary, without notice other than oral proclamation of said postponement, continuation or cancellation at the advertised time and place of said sale.

Dated at Buckhannon, West Virginia this 19th day of August, 2026.

Terry D. Reed, Substitute Trustee
State Bar No.: 3046
P.O. Box 310
Buckhannon, West Virginia 26201
304-472-1565

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
PLEASANT HILL PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT
CALHOUN COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA
WATER SYSTEM EXTENSION

General Notice

Pleasant Hill PSD (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Project:

WATER SYSTEM EXTENSION
UDC PROJECT NO. 2018W-1746

Bids for the construction of the Project will be received by the **Pleasant Hill Public Service District, 122 Nobe Road, Big Bend, WV 26136 (mailing address)** at the office of the District, **250 Industrial Park Drive, Grantsville, WV 26147**, until **October 22, 2026** at **1:30 p.m.** local time. At that time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read.

The Project includes the following Work:

Contract No. 1: Water Distribution System including the furnishing and installation of approximately 4,950 l.f. of 8-inch waterline, 15,000 l.f. of 6-inch waterline, 26,500 l.f. of 4-inch waterline, 19,600 l.f. of 2-inch waterline and miscellaneous appurtenances.

Contract No. 2: Storage Tank Repainting including the repainting of a nominal 27' diameter x 24' high, 100,000-gallon water storage tank and miscellaneous appurtenances.

Obtaining the Bidding Documents

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is:
Boyles and Hildreth, Consulting Engineers
108 Court Street
Spencer, West Virginia

Prospective Bidders may obtain or examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Monday through Friday between the hours of **9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**, online at McGraw-Hill Dodge Information Services, Dodge Construction Network / Construction Projects and Bidding, and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below.

Printed copies of the bidding documents may be obtained from the Issuing Office by paying the amount of each listed below. **In order to be considered a valid and responsible Bidder, the Bidder must obtain a copy of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office prior to the Bid opening date**.

Bidding Documents may be purchased from the Issuing Office during the hours indicated above. Cost does not include shipping charges. Upon Issuing Office's receipt of payment, printed Bidding Documents or electronic documents will be transmitted to the prospective Bidder. The shipping charge amount will depend on the shipping method chosen. Bidding documents are available for purchase in the following formats:

Bidding Documents issued as hard copy full-size drawings and hard copy specifications, are available for $150.00 per set.

Bidding Documents purchased as digital drawings and digital specifications, are available for $50.00 per set by being downloaded from a source designated by the Issuing Office.

Amounts paid are not subject to refund.

Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office.

Bidding Documents may also be examined at:

Pleasant Hill PSD	Boyles and Hildreth, Consulting Engineers
250 Industrial Park Drive	108 Court Street
Grantsville, WV 26147	Spencer, WV 25276

Pre-bid Conference

A pre-bid conference for the Project will be held on **October 8, 2026** at **10:00 a.m.** at the **Pleasant Hill Public Service District situated at 250 Industrial Park Drive Grantsville WV 26147**. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is encouraged but not required.

Instructions to Bidders.

For all further requirements regarding bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents. **No Bid security shall be waived or returned because the Bidder failed to or cannot comply with any requirements as set forth in the Bidding Documents or any applicable statutes of the United States, the State of West Virginia and/or all local ordinances.**

The Pleasant Hill PSD reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, including without limitation, nonconforming, non-responsive, unbalanced, or conditional Bids. Owner further reserves the right to reject the Bid of any Bidder whom it finds, after reasonable inquiry and evaluation, to be nonresponsible. Owner may also reject the Bid of any Bidder if Owner believes that it would not be in the best interest of the Project to make an award to that Bidder. Owner also reserves the right to negotiate Contract terms with successful Bidder and Owner reserves the right to waive all minor informalities not involving price, time, or changes in the Work.

Bidders must comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Anti-Kickback Act (Copeland Act), and Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act. The successful Bidder must comply with the provisions and minimum rates for wages for laborers and mechanics in accordance with the Davis Bacon Act and the West Virginia Division of Labor minimum wage requirements. The successful Bidder agrees to promptly provide all information and perform all work in accordance with the West Virginia Alcohol & Drug Free Workplace Act, §21-1D of the West Virginia Code.

This Project is to be financed in part or whole by a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) and administered by the West Virginia Community and Development Office. This Project shall be referred to as Norman Ridge and Bull River Water Extension Project (Project No. WV-20934-30222) for ARC purposes.

No Bid may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days after the time of the opening of the Bids.

Any Contractor submitting a Bid on this project hereby certifies, indicates, and acknowledges that he has a proper, current, valid license, in accordance with the requirements of West Virginia State Code §21-11-6 and §21-11-11, to perform the contemplated work and meets all the qualifications required by the statutes of the State and subdivision in which the work is to be performed.

All Bidders must also include their Contractor's license number on any Bid(s) submitted. A Subcontractor shall furnish such person's Contractor's license number to the Contractor prior to the award of the Contract as referenced to in the West Virginia State Code §21-11-11.

All Bidders shall understand that their Bid will not be read, and rejected immediately, if proper Bid surety does not accompany the Bid or if the Bid is found to be incomplete or non-responsive. A determination, which may be in certain instances considered contingent upon review and opinion of legal counsel, will be made by the Owner, or his agents or representatives, prior to reading the Bid or the announcement that the Bid will not be read. Bidder shall acknowledge all Addenda issued on the correct page in the Bid Form. All information requested on the Bid Form must be completed, including unit prices in words, in ink or typewritten and the Bid Form signed in ink. It shall be understood that it is the Bidder's responsibility to provide a complete, fully responsive in all aspects, valid Bid Bond or valid Bid surety.

American Iron and Steel

Section 746 of Title VII of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2017 (Division A - Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017) and subsequent statutes mandating domestic preference applies an American Iron and Steel requirement to this project. All iron and steel products used in this project must be produced in the United States. The term "iron and steel products" means the following products made primarily of iron or steel: lined or unlined pipes and fittings, manhole covers and other municipal castings, hydrants, tanks, flanges, pipe clamps and restraints, valves, structural steel, reinforced precast concrete, and Construction Materials. The successful Contractor shall be solely responsible for maintaining a contemporaneous listing of all de minimis and minor components items, and their location at the Site, that have been incorporated in the Work.

Domestic Preference

This Project is subject to the Build America, Buy America Act (BABAA) requirements under Title IX of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), Pub. L. 117-58, 55 70901-70953. Absent an approved waiver, all iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in this Project must be produced in the United States.

The following waivers apply to this Contract:
BABAA, AIS, *De Minimis*,
Minor Components,
Pig iron and direct reduced iron

This Advertisement is issued by:

Owner: Pleasant Hill Public Service District
By: Ira Arthur
Title: Chair
Date: September 16, 2026

LEGAL

(2025-C-000188 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCO MINERALS LLC)

To: BEATRICE DOBSON, c/o LARRY DOBSON, M HARDMAN, 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 SHERMAN **MAP** 9999 **PARCEL** 0000 3950 0000

You will take notice that EDCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2025-C-000188, located in SHERMAN District, 1/2 14 & 35 SQ RDS SYCAMORE, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of BARANKOVICH AMY 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 - 16589.	$	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 - 16652.	$	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.	$	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.	**$**	**564.55**

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-000196 - CALHOUN COUNTY - S & R GAS VENTURES LTD)

To: SUSAN D. HERRON, 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 SHERMAN **MAP** 9999 **PARCEL** 0001 1380 3015

You will take notice that S & R GAS VENTURES LTD, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2025-C-000196, located in SHERMAN District, 1/4 100 SYCAMORE L C HAMILTON L & #6 W-1000, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of HERRON SUSAN D, 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. S & R GAS VENTURES LTD requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2027 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2024 - 17563.	$	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 - 17613.	$	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.	$	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.	**$**	**564.55**

You may redeem at any time before January 31, 2027, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.

Given under my hand August 18, 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-000234 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCO MINERALS LLC)

To: JAMES E. CONLEY, c/o ALICIA WEBB, 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** 0000 7950 0000

You will take notice that EDCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2025-C-000234, located in WASHINGTON District, 1/2 53 W F OGM HW, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of CONLEY J E, 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 - 22459.	$	91.50
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 - 22490.	$	29.05
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 Fees with interest.	$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	**$**	**581.95**

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-000314 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCO MINERALS LLC)

To: RONALD SCOTT ROBINSON, 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 5080 3001

You will take notice that EDCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2025-C-000314, located in WASHINGTON District, 1/8 244 W F, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of ROBINSON RONALD, 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 - 26112.	$	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 - 26091.	$	23.30
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.	$	224.97
Additional Statutory Fees with interest.	$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	**$**	**469.07**

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-000316 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCO MINERALS LLC)

To: RONALD SCOTT ROBINSON, 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 5100 3001

You will take notice that EDCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2025-C-000316, located in WASHINGTON District, 1/8 82 W F, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of ROBINSON RONALD, 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 - 26113.	$	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 - 26092.	$	23.30
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.	$	224.97
Additional Statutory Fees with interest.	$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	**$**	**469.07**

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

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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-000324 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCO MINERALS LLC)

To: OLIVE TRUMAN, c/o PHYLLIS J COFFEY, MICHAEL WALLBROWN, 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 9710 0000

You will take notice that EDCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2025-C-000324, located in WASHINGTON District, 1/12 154 BEECH CURTIS WALL-BROWN LSE CRIHFIELD, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of TRUMAN OLIVE, 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 - 27238.	$	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 - 27220.	$	29.28
Additional taxes with interest.	$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	$	164.95
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	$	324.95
Additional Statutory Fees with interest.	$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	**$**	**605.03**

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-000328 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCO MINERALS LLC)

To: GRACE M. WHITE, c/o ELAH HUNTER, NELLE HOLT; ROBERT JOHNSON, 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** 0003 0590 0000

You will take notice that EDCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2025-C-000328, located in WASHINGTON District, 1/3 130 WALNUT #45405 A & B #36397-36398-36399, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of WHITE GRACE M, 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 - 27530.	$	87.51
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 - 27523.	$	23.30
Additional taxes with interest.	$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	$	194.95
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	$	393.20
Additional Statutory Fees with interest.	$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	**$**	**698.96**

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-000329 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCO MINERALS LLC)

To: GRACE M. WHITE c/o ELAH HUNTER, NELLE HOLT; ROBERT JOHNSON, 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** 0003 0600 0000

You will take notice that EDCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2025-C-000329, located in WASHINGTON District, 1/3 108 NICUT CNG #35648 M JOHNSON 6470, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of WHITE GRACE M, 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 - 27531.	$	86.22
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 - 27524.	$	23.30
Additional taxes with interest.	$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	$	179.95
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	$	393.20
Additional Statutory Fees with interest.	$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	**$**	**682.67**

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

(2024-C-000007 - CALHOUN COUNTY - STEPHANIE HARTSHORN OR KEVIN)

To: MICHAEL GAINER JR., 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 CENTER **MAP** 17 **PARCEL** 0035 0000 0000

You will take notice that STEPHANIE HARTSHORN OR KEVIN, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2024-C-000007, located in CENTER District, PHILLIPS SUR 1/4 AC 60X190, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of GAINER MICHAEL, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of CALHOUN County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 4, 2025. STEPHANIE HARTSHORN OR KEVIN requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after October 1, 2026, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before September 30, 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 2023 - 1285.	$	99.64
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 2024 - 1268.	$	33.77
Additional taxes with interest.	$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	$	125.20
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	$	613.33
Additional Statutory Fees with interest.	$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	**$**	**1,279.71**

You may redeem at any time before September 30, 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 31, 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-000124 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCO MINERALS LLC)

To: VICKIE LYNN BOWEN, JERRY STURM; C. D. STALNAKER, 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** 0002 7750 3001

You will take notice that EDCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2025-C-000124, located in LEE District, 1/2 INT 68 DANIELS OGM, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of BOWEN VICKIE LYNN, 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 - 5618.	$	92.50
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 - 5627.	$	30.08
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 Fees with interest.	$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	**$**	**583.98**

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-000330 - CALHOUN COUNTY - ELEMENTAL RESOURCES)

To: KHAMLA HUNTER, SUSAN SNOWBERGER, SALLY RYAN, NELLIE HOLT, R.L. HOLT, ROMEO HOLT, GRACE M. WHITE, ELAH LUCILLE HINTER, IRIS JOAN HOLT, SUSAN SNOWBERGER, DAN SNOWBERGER, DONNA MARIE HOLT, DAVID RYAN, DOUGLAS RYAN, LAURENCE HUNTER, GARY HUNTER, KHAMLA HUNTER, DIANA RYAN, 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** 0003 0610 0000

You will take notice that ELEMENTAL RESOURCES, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2025-C-000330, located in WASHINGTON District, 1/3 106 NICUT SAMPSON & HICKS W-540, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of WHITE GRACE M, 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. ELEMENTAL RESOURCES requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2027 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2024 - 27532.	$	88.16
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 - 27525.	$	33.26
Additional taxes with interest.	$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	$	104.68
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	$	792.76
Additional Statutory Fees with interest.	$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	**$**	**1,018.86**

You may redeem at any time before January 31, 2027, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.

Given under my hand August 24, 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-000013 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCO MINERALS LLC)

To: RYAN ANDREW AYERS, R M MARSHALL; A MORRIS MARSHALL, 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 CENTER **MAP** 9999 **PARCEL** 0000 0770 3032

You will take notice that EDCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2025-C-000013, located in CENTER District, 42-1/2 BIG ROOT .00173611 BUCKEYE MARSHALL, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of AYERS RYAN ANDREW, 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 - 87.	$	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 - 87.	$	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.	$	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.	**$**	**463.89**

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

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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-000183 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCO MINERALS LLC)

To: AMY L. BARANKOVICH, H. VAL BURT; EDNA B. BURT, 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 SHERMAN **MAP** 9999 **PARCEL** 0000 2760 3007

You will take notice that EDCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2025-C-000183, located in SHERMAN District, 1/16 50 LK, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of BARANKOVICH AMY 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 - 15546.	$	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 - 15626.	$	23.80
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 Fees with interest.	$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	**$**	**589.89**

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

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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-000073 - CALHOUN COUNTY - EDCO MINERALS LLC)

To: SANDRA FORTNER, 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** 0000 1240 0000

You will take notice that EDCO MINERALS LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2025-C-000073, located in LEE District, 67 LITTLE CREEK D BASSNETT #1, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of FORTNER SANDRA, 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 - 7114.	$	128.99
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 - 7101.	$	32.14
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 Fees with interest.	$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	**$**	**622.53**

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

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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-000020 - CALHOUN COUNTY - ARMSTRONG LAND MANAGEMENT)

To: HEIRS OF CASPER WHIPKEY AKA CASPAR WHIPKEY, KESTER WHIPKEY, KASPAR WHIPKEY, HEIRS OF CASPER WHIPKEY AKA CASPAR WHIPKEY, KESTER WHIPKEY, KASPAR WHIPKEY, KENNA SIERS, JR., BILL RHODES, CONNIE BARKER, JAMES DAVIS, BARBARA DAVIS, KATHY MCKINNIS, DEBRA HENDERSHOT, BARBARA SMITH, ROBERT ARBOGAST, WILLIS DALE STARCHER JR, ERIC STARCHER, CRAIG STARCHER, TAMMY SCHRECKENGOST, 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 CENTER **MAP** 9999 **PARCEL** 0001 1090 0000

You will take notice that ARMSTRONG LAND MANAGEMENT, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2025-C-000020, located in CENTER District, 1/2 25 LEAFBANK, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of WHIPKEY CASPER, 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. ARMSTRONG LAND MANAGEMENT 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 - 4022.	$	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 - 4053.	$	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.	$	973.50
Additional Statutory Fees with interest.	$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	**$**	**1,292.60**

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.

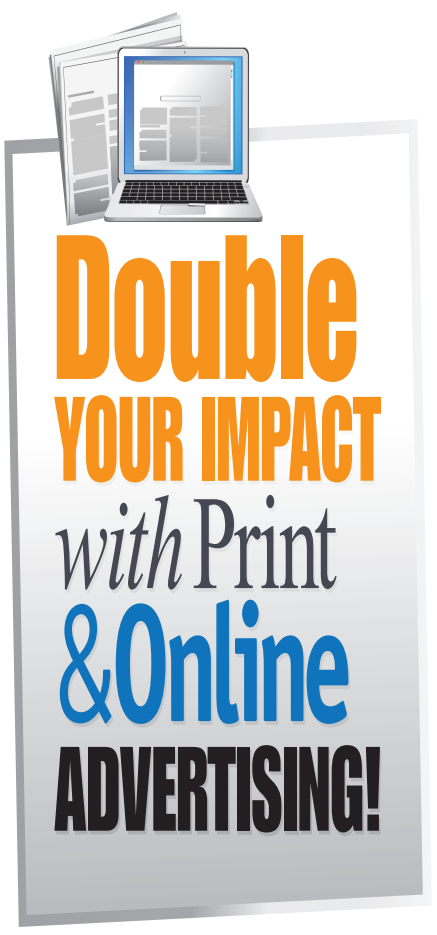
Given under my hand July 30, 2026

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
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Calhoun County Boys Claim Team Title at Buffalo Creek Invitational

CLAY COUNTY, W.Va. — The Calhoun County Middle High School cross country team turned in an impressive performance Wednesday at the Rail Explorers Buffalo Creek Invitational, highlighted by a first-place finish from the Red Devils boys team and several top individual performances across both the high school and middle school divisions.

The Calhoun County boys captured the overall team championship behind a dominant effort that saw the Red Devils sweep the top three individual places. Freshman Braidin Ferrell led the charge, crossing the finish line first in a time of 19:41.08. Teammates Mark Plumby and Jackson Clawson were close behind, finishing second and third with times of 19:55.36 and 19:59.21, respectively.

Eli Ferrell added a 12th-place finish in 22:16.82, while Zac Smith placed 15th in 22:45.81 to help secure the team title.

The Lady Red Devils also enjoyed a strong day on the course. Brooke Tingler paced Calhoun County with a runner-up finish, completing the race in 21:53.47. Carissa Sands placed 11th with a time of 28:03.71, and Gabi Smith finished 15th in 29:55.12.

In middle school competition, Calhoun County continued to show depth and promise for the future. Silas Cunningham earned a third-place finish in the boys race with a time of 11:08.78. On the girls side, Baeli Frum placed fifth in 15:15.02, while Mackenzie Tingler finished eighth in 16:38.78.

The meet showcased both the current strength and future potential of the Calhoun County cross country program, with athletes earning multiple top-10 finishes and the high school boys bringing home the team championship.

Calhoun County will look to build on Wednesday's success as the Red Devils continue their 2026 cross country season.









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UHC welcomes William Crystal, MD to Clarksburg Family Medicine

William Crystal, MD, has joined Clarksburg Family Medicine, where he practices Family Medicine alongside William G. Bowles, DO; Jo A. Longenecker, MD; and Lea Singzon, MD.

His medical journey began with a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry from the University of Santo Tomas, Espana, Manila, Philippines, followed with his Doctor of Medicine, also from the University of Santo Tomas.

He then completed his Family Medicine residency at WVU Medicine-United Hospital Center. Prior to his residency, he had professional experience at several locations in Hawaii providing pediatric and primary care.

Dr. Crystal focuses on caring for patients of all ages, from infants to seniors, offering preventive care, routine health maintenance, and treatment for common medical conditions. His clinical expertise includes managing urge incontinence, helping both male and female patients address bladder control concerns. He works closely with patients to develop treatment plans for these common but often undertreated conditions. Dr. Crystal's office is located at Clarksburg Family Medicine, 2673 Davisson Run Road, Suite 101, Clarksburg, WV. To schedule an appointment or learn more, call **681-342-3470**.



William Crystal, MD. Courtesy Clarksburg Family Medicine

About WVU Medicine United Hospital Center

United Hospital Center (UHC) is the result of a merger between St. Mary's and Union Protestant hospitals in 1970. This bold move provides North Central West Virginia with a regional community hospital that offers a vast array of services. The new UHC opened in 2010 and is located along I-79 in Bridgeport. The 736,403 square foot structure rises eight stories. It is designed around the environment with patients, family, employees, and community in mind, which includes enhanced patient privacy, a high level of technological integration, and improved access to care. The acute care facility has 292 private inpatient rooms and a medical staff that consists of more than 366 physicians, advanced practice providers, and allied health professionals. UHC has more than 2,613 employees and is a member of WVU Medicine (West Virginia United Health System). For more information about UHC, please visit uhcwv.org.