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

0 22228 29725 3

The Calhoun Chronicle and The Grantsville News

$1.50

Serving Calhoun County Since June 12, 1883

"Good Government, Pure Homes and Godly Hearts"

Whole Number 7243 | Grantsville, West Virginia 26147 | Thursday, October 22, 2026

Avalon Secures Grant For Healthcare Workforce Training in Grantsville

By Stephen Smoot

"For I will into the vale of Avilion to heal me of my grievous wound; and if thou never hear more of me, pray for my soul." Sir Thomas Mallory – L' Mort D'Arthur

Many years after the closure of the former Calhoun County High School came the Fall Festival tour that reunited hundreds of former students with one of the facilities that shaped their childhood and future at once. They reminisced about friendships, the impact of former teachers, and the high quality of education one could receive from dedicated teachers who cared about their community. Many toured on the same day as the grand opening of Avalon, the community development and education hub envisioned by Crystal Mersh and her team at the 1982 Foundation.

Appropriately, some English mythology represents the mystical island of Avalon as a place of healing and comfort for the soul.

At Avalon, using a United States Department of Labor grant, a new group of different students can learn how to make their mark in Calhoun County and across the region.

The grant is called Workforce Opportunity for Rural Communities and funding came from Round Seven of distribution. In West Virginia, the Department of Labor partnered with the Appalachian Regional Commission



A fun pumpkin patch for kids just a few weeks ago, Avalon will soon play a part in educating the next generation of healthcare workers

to "address the critical workforce needs of employers in high-growth and emerging industries." The 1982 Foundation qualified for more than $5.7 million in aid out of a total of more than $81 million in the round. Calhoun County will be the only West Virginia community receiving grants from this round.

A release noted that "participants in grant-funded training programs will receive training and education opportunities that lead to employment and wage growth and stimulate economic mobility, self-sufficiency, and increased labor force participation."

Avalon will use the grant funding to host the Onward

AVALON cont. on page 5

Both Hobbyists and Entrepreneurs Can Stitch Together Fun and Opportunity With Quilting Club



Many came to enjoy quilts in competition and on display at Avalon during Fall Fest



Stitched Together provided a display of traditional quilt making equipment.

By Stephen Smoot

Last January, former teacher Kate Whytsell and some of her colleagues had a brainstorm to create a local club for quilting, but with a significant mission and purpose. It would at the same time provide a forum for established and aspiring quilting hobbyists and competitors while also serving as a launch pad of sorts for those who wish to put their work on the market as a business.

"We kind of went back and forth on how to do it. We talked to a lot of people," she stated. These discussions led to the founding of Stitched Together, a club for quilting.

Members envisioned more than a simple quilting society. "We came to the conclusion that we needed to work with a 501 © 3" non profit. Sheila Burch at Little Kanawha Area Development Corporation worked to create a partnership through which the club could apply for grant funding and then the adventure commenced.

Meetings originally took place at Pleasant Hill Church, but now welcome new and old to the basement of the former DHHR building. They meet on the third Thursday of the month with the next being Thursday this week.

Part of the mission and vision lies in making quilting more accessible. Traditional practice utilizes hours of hand crafting with simple manual tools. "We use sewing

QUILTING cont. on page 3

Valley Link Announces Community Meetings to Engage Public on Transmission Line Project as PJM Navigates Another Load Burden Strain

By Stephen Smoot

In the wake of another Maximum Generation Alert and Load Management Alert from PJM Interconnection, Valley Link has announced a new round of community engagement meetings for its planned transmission line. The proposed line system would connect the John Amos power plant near Charleston to expanding markets for West Virginia-generated energy in the mid Atlantic.

Its Valley North project helps to fulfill the need of expanding both power generation and transmission line capacity to the grid that 13 states and the District of Columbia rely upon for consistent and uninterrupted service. From October 12 through 14, the onset of Indian Summer type temperature increases created load management strains on the system.

Maximum generation alerts request that production and transmission work or testing be canceled if possible to keep the maximum amount of power generation and distribution capacity available. Load management alerts inform those who have voluntarily agreed to reduce or cut power during times of strain that they should do so.

The United States Department of Energy also provided a temporary waiver from Oct 13 through 16 for PJM related generation stations from certain environmental regulations to ensure more efficient generation.

Additionally, data centers and other "Large Load customers" were authorized and encouraged to switch to their in-house backup generator sources.

These measures help to prevent PJM Interconnection from having to reduce service to customers to maintain grid effectiveness overall. They have warned in recent years that without increased power generation and transmission line expansion capacity, that brownouts or blackouts could become necessary during times of strain on the grid.

This normally occurs during extremes of heat and cold weather, also times when vulnerable residents can least afford to lose their electric power at all.

Valley Link's Valley North project will upon completion serve as an important artery of power connecting, in this instance, West Virginia coal and power production to markets that need more power. It also solidifies the PJM grid that West Virginia relies upon for power.

In terms of power production, West Virginia Governor Patrick Morrisey's 50 GW by 2050 plan to step up production will be a major foundation for future grid stability. Exporting power, just like the export of manufactured products, brings back significant revenues that both boost the state economy and expand state and local tax revenues.

Valley Link in its original slate of meetings contacted anyone who might be considered for hosting a transmission tower on their land. This was far more people than will actually be asked to host, which raised the level of community concern. Social media translated concern into organized opposition with the assistance of both in and out of state groups.

Despite some opposition, the response played an important role in shaping the map. "The questions and feedback we received this summer helped shape not only the project but also the information we'll be sharing at these upcoming open houses," said Isaac Rhoades, President of Valley Link in a news release.

The second round of meetings "is focused on gathering additional feedback from landowners and communities within the potential route areas before route recommendations are finalized." he added.

Some local governments in West Virginia have taken sides on the issue. The Town of Wardensville, for instance, has through a resolution registered its opposition to both the line and also House Bill 2014 that precluded county commissions from regulating or preventing such projects on their own.

On the other hand, the Pendleton County Commission declined to pass a resolution that would oppose transmission lines, data centers, or wind and solar production in their county or across the state. Commission President Carl Hevener shared that two of the commissioners had been lifelong farmers and the third worked for the Farm Service Agency for many years.

Then speaking for the Commission, he said "our ancestors had to put in power lines through here once upon a time" and that "power lines have to go through somewhere." Hevener added "are we setting ourselves up for trouble down the road by opposing needed infrastruc-

VALLEY LINK cont. on page 3

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

Squash. Just listen to that word one more time. Squash … one of the English language's most painful words, along with maim and trauma and rend and okra and Liberace. Why would anyone want to eat something that sounds as though someone sat on it?

The bottom-line truth is, cooks all over the place love a challenge, and they have tried valiantly to turn squash into an edible dish. To do this, they take one tenth of a portion of squash, boil as much of the squashiness as they can out of it, then immerse it in nine-tenths something that tastes good and hope no one will notice. You know, stuff like chile, mutton, edible vegetables, nuclear waste, cottonwood bark and even chocolate. Then, when you can't taste the squash in it, and most of the slime has settled to the bottom, they smile and say,

"How do you like my 'Squash Canneloni ala Hershey con Brio?"

Let's face it; squash is an unwanted growth on an otherwise perfectly good vine. It starts with a pretty little blossom that inspires Navajo jewelry and attracts bees. Then it begins its insidious malignancy into something that should probably be surgically removed.

"I'm sorry Mr. and Mrs. Smith," says the surgeon, "your squash is in an area that is impossible to reach without endangering the life of the vine. Your vine is pretty much doomed to produce something that – when cooked properly – will still gag a sick dog off a gut truck."

They even try to fool people who might consider buying squash into thinking it tastes like something else. Something like butter. Or acorns. Or crooked necks. Makes you wonder what crime against mankind Mr. Zucchini committed to be forever more squash-damned in the history books.

But it's fall now. Autumn, that time of year when children play in the lazy sunshine and squash vines go belly up. And when we enjoy our pumpkin pie and jack o'lanterns, we'll smile quietly, knowing we'll once again be squash free for a few blessed months.

xxxxx

Brought to you by the Savor Your Flavor Society, whose members never question why you don't like squash.

Obituary



Avie Vance

Avie Irene Vance, 95, of Indore, WV, departed this world and went to her Lord and Saviour on October 15, 2026. Irene was born on March 25, 1931, to the late William "Bill" Icenhower and Nancy Blackwell Samuels. Irene married her sweetheart, Jesse "Bube" Vance in 1954. Nearly 40 years after his passing, she now joins him again. Irene was always full of life with a beautiful smile and a vibrant personality. Her greatest joys in life were her boys and her family. Nothing meant more to Irene than being with her family and friends. Irene loved her family, her flowers, her bright colors which reflected the vibrant spirit she carried throughout her life. These simple joys and her unmistakable personality made her one of a kind. She leaves behind countless memories and a love that will continue to live on in the hearts of all who knew her. Irene was preceded in death by: Her parents, William Icenhower and Nancy Blackwell Samuels, her stepfather, Roy Samuels. Her husband, Jesse "Bube" Vance. Siblings, Belva Holcomb, Doy Icenhower, Betty Moore, and Arnold Samuels. Her grandson, Jon Cody Phillips. Irene is survived by: Her children, Rodney (Connie) Vance and Thomas Vance Her siblings, David (Heather) Samuels and Sue (Dallas) Young Her grandchildren, Trinity (Kelli) Vance, April Mullins, Harry (Jeanie) Miller, James (Junie) Miller, Aaron (Myriah) Vance and Jese (Christa) Vance. And many great-grandchildren, great-great grandchildren and nieces and nephews who she loved dearly. The family would like to extend their deepest gratitude to the staff at Montogomery Nursing and Rehabilitation Center for the kindness, compassion, love and care they showed Irene throughout her final months.

Services were held at 1:00 pm on Monday, October 19, 2026, at Wilson Smith Funeral Home, Clay, WV with Gene Truman officiating. Visitation was one hour prior to the service from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm at the funeral home. Burial followed in the Sunrise Cemetery, Beechy Ridge, Indore, WV.

"Love you baby"

Online condolences may be sent to the family at wwwcarlwilsonfuneralhome.com

Wilson Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Vance family.

Letter to the Editor

Well it's happening again the self proclaimed powers at be are all patting themselves on the back.

Let's see what is going on behind the love fest amongst themselves.

The majority of the people still struggle to have access to a clean and abundant water supply.

For almost thirty years we have been promised broadband Internet have we seen it? Nope!

We are now being threatened by the biggest transmission line in the whole country… which this line threatens property values, safety and the pristine nature and life style of the people in its path.. with all of the benefits going too Virginia and nothing for the people of West Virginia that it directly affects along with all the people of Central West Virginia.

Letters going out telling us that we are possibly going to lose are telephone Land lines.

While they are patting themselves on the back about so called progress that most of us will never see the rest of us are moving backwards in Calhoun and surrounding counties.

Most of us will not benefit from these feel good projects while the real needs for the country are not being addressed in a productive way.

Reed Krack
7490 Nicut Road
Orma West Virginia
25268

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.

The Beautiful Mysteries of Quantum Physics and Saint Pio

By Stephen Smoot

As the 19th century closed and the 20th century opened, a group of European scientists completely revolutionized the way science and humanity in general looks at the world. Isaac Newton over two centuries prior crafted an elegant set of explanations for the physical universe that he could observe.

Newton based his laws of nature on observations of how big things interacted with each other. The laws had also the happy benefit of making complete sense even to someone unschooled in science or math. It does not take an advanced mind to understand, for example, "for every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction."

At the opening of the 20th century through World War II, theoreticians such as Albert Einstein, Warner Heisenburg (yes, **that** Heisenburg, "Breaking Bad" fans), and others noted that as one observed and experimented with extraordinarily small objects and concepts of small objects, that those elegant explanations foundered on rocks of growing uncertainty. Observations of the behavior of particles, as well as mathematical equations relating to those, indicated "fuzziness" in how those particles moved about and interacted.

Buried deep inside Newton's crystal clear clockwork universe, however, was entropy. For much of the latter half of his life, Einstein tried and failed to reconcile the comforting clarity of Newton with the unsettling implications of having a foundation of reality based on sheer randomness.

Einstein and Erwin Schrodinger created a thought experiment to explain the problem that went to the heart of two basic states, particle and wave. They had determined that light has both the properties of a wave and a particle, but at different times.

The experiment was this. A cat was placed in a completely contained box with a mechanism that would cause its death if tripped. The mechanism would either work or not work with the cat being either dead or alive.

Those who love their kitties may want to imagine a vial of supercharged catnip instead of poison. It's far more pleasant to think of a cat being either high or sober rather than dead or alive.

The cat's box mechanism is connected to a contained space entirely of inside mirrors. A light wave is introduced. The act of human observation and action on the box forces the wave to revert to the status of a particle. This is called "collapsing the wave." Introduce a barrier in the middle and the particle will either be on the right or left side of the barrier. Even the mere act of looking into the box will collapse the wave into a particle, but the scientists were trying to imagine a quantum action having an impact on the observable world and its functions.

One side means life, the other means death (or sober versus high, if you prefer) and there is no rule determining whether it happens on one side or the other. Thus, randomness exists at the very foundation of reality.

Quantum physics focuses on the mysterious behavior of these subatomic particles, photons, electrons, neutrons, neutrinos, and other similar things. Scientists between the world wars worked to try to make sense of these new discoveries through observation, mathematical calculation, and experimentation.

Classical physics has a foundation in tangibility. An object can be either there or not there. It cannot operate in two places at once. Physical objects are confined to the space they inhabit, even as they move about.

Einstein's theory of special relativity, though not classical physics, also applies. Two objects cannot occupy the same space, or the same perspective. Even if one person hugs another, the distance that light travels from object to eye puts that observation in the past. One can never experience anything in true simultaneous fashion because what we see is always the past from our perspective, no matter how close we are to it.

Only the individual can experience his or her own true "now." Everything else one sees is the past to them, even though it is microseconds of time. Yet if the act of observation itself collapses a light wave, something else must be at work. Such incongruities frustrated the greatest mind of the modern age.

From some of those scientists came what became known as the Copenhagen interpretation. Long story short, much of it translates to scientists throwing up their hands and saying that humans have no ability to actually observe the quantum realm, so any conclusions must be reached by observing the smallest of microscopic effects on macroscopic materials.

After World War II, more work led to six postulates that tried to define the wave collapse function, attempting to categorize and make sense of what happens and why, as well as trying to predict effects.

Tim Maudlin, an academic working on the convergence of quantum physics and philosophy, called the effort into question. He stated that the six postulates did not represent a theory, because a theory has to meet some standard in explaining something. Maudlin demoted the theory to what he called a "recipe," explaining that these were concepts thrown together that happened to make sense and work, but do not actually explain the "why" or "how."

Similarly, science has no idea how gravity works. It can discuss everything about the effects of gravity between objects and how gravity can bend light without slowing it down, but no scientist can tell anyone what gravity actually is or how it operates.

Says Maudlin, "A physical theory should clearly and forthrightly address two fundamental questions: what there is, and what it does. The answer to the first question is provided by the ontology of the theory, and the answer to the second by its dynamics. The ontology should have a sharp mathematical description, and the dynamics should be implemented by precise equations describing how the ontology will, or might, evolve."

He criticizes the Copenhagen interpretation directly, saying "Nowadays, the term is often used as shorthand for a general instrumentalism that treats the mathematical apparatus of the theory as merely a predictive device, uncommitted to any ontology or dynamics at all."

Of course one would be correct in stating that Maudlin moved the goalposts on his 20s era colleagues with the question being, is that fair or appropriate? Maudlin's philosophical inquiries, however, stop at that level. He never opened the door to asking about the broader implications of what these scientists had revealed.

The most dangerous philosophical question is this. How does the presence of a sentient human mind create such a dramatic effect? Also, why does the act of observing create such a fundamental change in the observed? Does this mean that at some level, the mind is truly over that of matter? If true, what does that mean in terms of the connection of the human mind to the physical universe itself?

Does the act of observing change the observed in everyday life, just at such a small and incremental level as to not be noticed by the observer? Does the accumulation of these random interactions between minds and matter add up to creating a different direction at the quantum level that has an impact on broader parts of reality?

And what does this mean for free will? The Schroedinger's Cat experiment never considers what happens if no one ever looks in the box, which is certainly a choice of free will. What also does this mean in terms of what we understand as "cause and effect?"

One mind could have walked through that door. Martin Heidegger, a German philosopher prominent in the 1930s, spent much time exploring the concept of "now." Existence in the "now," Heidegger referred to as "beying" as opposed to "being." All else but the "now," he said, could never be proven as real and never be accepted as objective truth.

With that starting point, unfortunately Heidegger endeavored to use these concepts to prove what he considered as the superior dynamics of National Socialism and that there was no objective truth or morality to restrain pursuit of power and change, overthrowing the classical liberal world (most of whose concepts are called "conservative" now.) His work, instead of exploring reality's depths, became the foundation of postmodernism and all the Fascist, Socialist, and Communist ills that have come from that ignoble set of ideals.

There is another possibility explaining the wave collapse function, its unpredictable behavior, and its broader impact. Perhaps in this gray area lies the hand of God in the physical realm.

Francesco Forgione was born on May 25, 1887 in Pietreclina, Italy to a family of peasant farmers living in poverty. By the age of five, he decided to dedicate his life to God, taking the path that led him to

MYSTERIES cont. on page 5

The Calhoun Chronicle

and

The Grantsville News

"Good Government, Pure Homes and Godly Hearts"

Serving Calhoun County Since June 12, 1883

USPS 083200 -- ISSN: 1040-399X
INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATIC NEWSPAPER
ESTABLISHED JUNE 12, 1883
Published by Mountain Media, LLC

Published weekly as a periodical postage paid at the Post Office in Grantsville, WV 26147, under the act of March 3, 1979. Subscription price in Calhoun County is $41; other West Virginia residents, $48; and Out-of-State, $50. Minimum subscription: 6 months. Bundle with online for $59 per year.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
THE CALHOUN CHRONICLE
c/o Mountain Media, LLC
P.O. Box 429
Lewisburg, WV 24901
Phone 304-647-5724 Fax 304-647-5767
email contact@calhounchronicle.com

PUBLISHER
Michael Showell

ADVERTISING
Debra Smith
debra@mountainmedianews.com

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** October 8, 2026, 5:00 pm, Mom's Place Too, 340 Main Street, Grantsville, WV 26147 **Monthly Tire Collection October 16**, 2026, 10 - 2

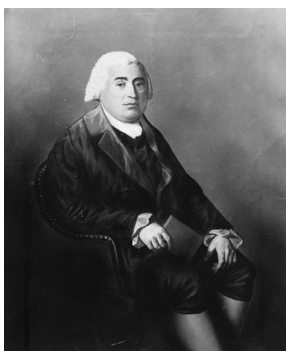
CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH 1710 NOBE ROAD HOMECOMING ON OCTOBER 4th 2026. REGULAR SERVICE IN THE MORNING AT 10AM AND 11AM, 12 NOON LUNCH and at 1PM SECOND STRING WiLL BE SINGING. EVERYONE WELCOME.

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

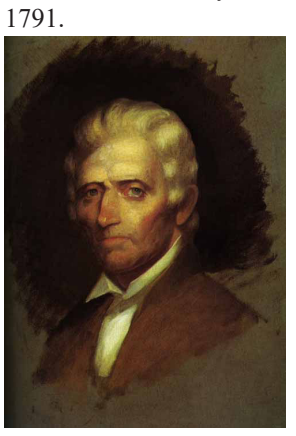
e-WV The West Virginia Encyclopedia

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

Oct. 22, 1693: Lord Thomas Fairfax was born in Kent, England. He inherited five million acres in Virginia, land that included much of present West Virginia's Eastern Panhandle.



Oct. 22, 1734: Frontiersman Daniel Boone was born in Pennsylvania. In 1788, Boone and his family settled near the mouth of the Kanawha River at Point Pleasant. He represented Kanawha County in the Virginia General Assembly in 1791.



Oct. 22, 1821: Collis P. Huntington was born in Connecticut. In 1869, he purchased the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway and set about extending its tracks from Richmond across southern West Virginia to the Ohio River. There, in 1871, he established a new city bearing his name.

Oct. 22, 1922: Fiddler Wilson Douglas was born in Clay County. Influenced by fellow old-time musician French Carpenter, Douglas developed a unique style of playing that continues to inspire younger generations. In 1992, he received the Vandalia Award, West Virginia's highest folklife honor.

Oct. 22, 1977: Construction of the New River Gorge Bridge was completed after three years of work. The Fayette County bridge is one of West Virginia's best-known landmarks. It is the third-highest bridge in the United States and has the longest steel span in the Western Hemisphere.

Oct. 23, 1890: The *Fast Flying Virginian* passenger train wrecked due to a rockslide near Hinton, killing engineer George Alley. It became the source of a folk song known variously as "The Wreck on the C&O," "Engine 143," and "The FFV," among other titles.



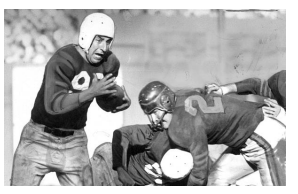
Oct. 23, 1908: Old-time musician Sylvia O'Brien was born in Clay County. She learned the clawhammer banjo style from her brother Jenes Cottrell and gained recognition during the late 20th-century folk revival. In 1989, she received the Vandalia Award, West Virginia's highest folklife honor.

Oct. 23, 1913: In 1975, newspaper journalist Jack Maurice became the first West Virginian to earn a Pulitzer Prize for Journalism for his coverage of the Kanawha County Textbook Controversy.



Oct. 23, 1943: German prisoners arrived at Camp Ashford in White Sulphur Springs. Built by the U.S. War Department, Camp Ashford was one of two camps in West Virginia that housed prisoners of war during World War II.

Oct. 24, 1929: Composer George Crumb was born in Charleston. In 1968, Crumb was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for *Echoes of Time and the River: Four Processionals for Orchestra*.



Oct. 25, 1918: Athlete Marshall "Biggie" Goldberg was born in Elkins. He led the Chicago Cardinals to the 1947 NFL championship (its last to date) and was elected to the College Football Hall of Fame in 1958 and the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame in 1980.

Oct. 25, 1926: Professor Roy B. Clarkson was born and raised in Cass. He was considered West Virginia's leading historian on the timber industry, particularly through his book *Tumult on the Mountains*. He also was one of the state's most prominent botanists.



Oct. 25, 1951: Writer Denise Giardina was born in Bluefield and raised in neighboring McDowell County. She is best known as a novelist and also has a long history of community activism, including a run for governor.

Oct. 26, 1801: Jefferson County was established from a portion of Berkeley County by the Virginia General Assembly and named for Thomas Jefferson.

Oct. 26, 1888: Baseball player Dick Hoblitzell was born in Waverly, Wood County. Despite earning two World Series rings outright, Hoblitzell is best known today for being "Babe" Ruth's roommate with the Boston Red Sox and also for his rare T-205 baseball card.

Oct. 26, 1934: Athlete Rodney Clark "Hot Rod" Hundley was born in Charleston. Hundley earned first team All-American recognition his senior year at West Virginia University. He averaged 24.5 points per game and scored 2,180 points over his college career, ranking second in WVU history.

Oct. 27, 1879: Howard B. Lee was born in Wirt County. He was elected state attorney general in 1924 and served for eight challenging years. His term saw the impeachment of a state auditor, the lawlessness of Prohibition and labor troubles in the coalfields.

Oct. 28, 1929: Painter Charles Lewis "Chuck" Ripper was born in Pittsburgh and later moved to Huntington. He was one of the country's best-known wildlife artists, with paintings appearing on nearly 100 magazine covers and 80 U.S. postage stamps.

Oct. 28, 1972: Singer, musician and songwriter Brad Paisley was born in Glen Dale, Marshall County. Paisley has won three Grammys, 14 Academy of Country Music Awards, 14 Country Music Association Awards and two American Music Awards.



West Virginia Statewide Classified Network

Featured in WVPA Newspapers Across West Virginia

HEALTH/MEDICAL

AUDIEN HEARING. The world's first hearing aid with touchscreen controls. No tiny buttons, apps or prescriptions. 45-day risk free trial. Free shipping. Lifetime support. More than 1.5 million happy customers. Call Audien 1-866-327-9323

DONT LET THE STAIRS LIMIT YOUR MOBILITY! Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call AmeriGlide today! 1-844-592-5113

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-405-3412 www.dental50plus.com/press #6258

INTERNET/TV

GET DISH SATELLITE TV + INTERNET! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To $600 In Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-855-736-4350

CONSUMER CELLULAR - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just $20/month. For more information, call 1-855-615-6411

MISCELLANEOUS

DONATE YOUR CAR, TRUCK, BOAT, RV AND MORE TO SUPPORT OUR VETERANS! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-888-964-4167 today

REPAIRING OR REPLACING APPLIANCES AND HOME SYSTEMS LIKE HEATING AND COOLING CAN BE COSTLY. A home warranty plan can help. Start saving and get 30% off any plan today. Workmanship Guarantee included. Terms apply. Call Cinch Home Services 1-855-968-0741

JACUZZI BATH REMODEL can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waiving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. (Offer ends 12/27/26.)

ACCULEVEL. YOUR FOUNDATION REPAIR AND BASEMENT WATERPROOFING EXPERTS. Whether basement, crawl space or concrete slab we'll guide you on the right path to a healthy home. Act now! Up to $600 off. Restrictions apply. Call for a free consultation. 1-833-974-2676

PREPARE FOR POWER OUTAGES TODAY with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-844-901-2301 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

UP TO $15,000.00 OF GUARANTEED LIFE INSURANCE! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral and other final expenses. Call Physicians Life Insurance Company- 888-217-5559 or visit www.Life55plus.info/wv

SAFE STEP. NORTH AMERICAS #1 WALK-IN TUB. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and $1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-844-803-1282

NO MORE CLEANING OUT GUTTERS. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-844-295-2840 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Get 15% off your entire order. Plus, Military & Seniors get an additional 10% off. Limited time only. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details.

TRAVEL

YMT VACATIONS. Over 50 guided tours available. Affordable, social and stress-free travel designed for mature travelers. Our tours include accommodations, transportation, baggage handling, sightseeing, entrance fees, a professional Tour Director and select meals. For a limited time SAVE $250 on all tours. Call YMT today. 1-833-649-1532

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

WEST VIRGINIA Press
ASSOCIATION • SERVICES • FOUNDATION

VALLEY LINK

Continued from Page 1

ture upgrades?"

Valley Link shared that "the open houses are an opportunity for community members and landowners to learn about the project, review potential route options, ask questions and share feedback directly with the project team."

Those who live within 1,000 feet of new proposed routes have been notified, as have those whose properties are no longer on or within the 1,000 foot range. Valley Link stated that they heard from more than 6,500 on the project.

QUILTING

Continued from Page 1

machines in our own rooms or offer them to borrow," said Whytsell. She added "the ultimate goal is taking away barriers of people not being able to sew." That could include those who never learned the skill, or through arthritis or some other condition cannot manipulate tools in the traditional ways.

A grant came from the Parkersburg Area Foundation to help purchase a long arm machine to help quilters create even more efficiently. A blog called Lady Bug Threads calls this device "a very 'grown up' sewing machine." It often comes on a set of wheels called a carriage, as well as a very large table containing a frame of poles for mounting the quilt to assemble with batting and backing fabric. They can extend up to 12 feet in size.

Long arm machines come at a cost range of between $10 and $40,000. Many who purchase them ern money back by helping to finish quilts at about $100 to $350 a job, which is "very cost prohibitive" to the hobbyist or commercial craftsperson. The plan lay in securing funds to obtain the machine, then holding classes to teach how to use it. They wish to get "one that is upgradable, but it's about $15,000

Whytsell wants to encourage quilting no matter the reason, "if they want to learn to do it as a business, they can do that." She wishes "to give people that opportunity if they want." With the market for quilts locally described as "saturated," sales attempts may have to go further afield. The less expense involved in making the quilt, the more customer-friendly the pricing. Having the long arm machine alone will potentially cut hundreds from the price of the quilt.

Quilters in business need to look at the numbers because they have to set price a certain percentage above cost to earn enough profit to make the business worthwhile.

The first class took place last Saturday and hosted 11 enthusiasts at all levels of ability. They learned the basics of assembling a quilt, as well as tools used in the process.

One direction that some might go is looking at stitching local Civil War heritage into the quilts that "interpret the history of West Virginia, especially the role played in the Civil War." That includes the use of quilt designs as Underground Railroad markers directing escaped slaves to freedom in the North or Canada. They also wish to encourage young people who might have an interest in taking up the art.

APPENDIX B
Page 1 of 2

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF WEST VIRGINIA
CHARLESTON

CASE NO. 26-0801-PWD-19A

PLEASANT HILL PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT,
Rule 19-A application to increase rates and charges

NOTICE OF EMERGENCY INTERIM RATE INCREASE

On September 8, 2026, Pleasant Hill Public Service District (Pleasant Hill) applied for revised rates for providing potable water service under the Commission process applicable to small utilities.

On the recommendation of Commission Staff, the Commission approved an emergency interim rate increase of 6.50 percent for Pleasant Hill water bills rendered on or after the effective date of the Order. The specific rates approved are as follows:

RATES (Customers with metered water supply)

First	3,000 gallons water used per month	$18.85 per 1,000 gallons
Next	3,000 gallons water used per month	$18.85 per 1,000 gallons
Next	4,000 gallons water used per month	$16.10 per 1,000 gallons
Next	10,000 gallons water used per month	$14.78 per 1,000 gallons
All Over	20,000 gallons water used per month	$11.46 per 1,000 gallons

MINIMUM CHARGE

No bill will be rendered for less than the following amounts, according to the size of the meter installed.

5/8	inch meter	$ 33.48 per month
3/4	inch meter	$ 50.22 per month
1	inch meter	$ 83.71 per month
1-1/4	inch meter	$ 122.22 per month
1-1/2	inch meter	$ 167.41 per month
2	inch meter	$ 267.86 per month
3	inch meter	$ 535.72 per month
4	inch meter	$ 837.06 per month
6	inch meter	$1,674.12 per month

The above minimum charge is subject to an additional $ 2.11 per 1,000 gallons of water used per month.

Public Service Commission
of West Virginia
Charleston

APPENDIX B
Page 2 of 2

PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE

Where connections, hydrants, sprinklers, etc., on private property are maintained by consumer:

4-inch	Service Line with hydrants, sprinklers and/or hose connections:	$16.33 per month
6-inch	Service Line with hydrants, sprinklers and/or hose connections:	$19.91 per month
8-inch	Service Line with hydrants, sprinklers and/or hose connections:	$24.44 per month

Where connections and hydrants on private property are maintained by Utility:

Each fire hydrant	$15.91 per month

These items are payable monthly in advance.

LEAK ADJUSTMENT

$10.48 per 1,000 gallons is to be used when the bill reflects unusual water consumption which can be attributed to eligible leakage on the customer's side of the meter. This rate shall be applied to all such consumption above 200% of the customer's historical average usage.

This emergency interim rate increase is applicable to all Pleasant Hill water customers. The rates are subject to refund if not justified by an ongoing Staff audit and final decision in this matter and may be increased, decreased or left unchanged at the conclusion of this proceeding. Customers may review the specific emergency interim rate changes at the Pleasant Hill office or on the Commission website. During the course of this proceeding, the Staff of the Commission will recommend final rates for Pleasant Hill water customers. Those rates will be published at a later date and will be subject to protest at that time.

PLEASANT HILL PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT

Public Service Commission
of West Virginia
Charleston

Treasurer Pack Releases Data Center Impact Report for Two Mason County Projects

Report Shows More Than $150 Million Annually for Local Governments

Data Center/Microgrid Property Tax-Mason County

County	Cents/$100 Mason	Increment Share of Total		Allocation
State Regular Levy	0.000	0%	$	-
County Regular Levy	0.000	0%	$	-
County Excess	7.280	3%	$	7,165,835
School Regular Levy	0.000	0%	$	-
School Bonds	0.000	0%	$	-
School Excess	91.800	39%	$	90,360,392
State PIT Reduction Fund	67.900	29%	$	66,835,192
County Commission	40.740	17%	$	40,101,115
All County	13.580	6%	$	13,367,038
Economic Grant Fund	6.790	3%	$	6,683,519
Electric Grid Fund	6.790	3%	$	6,683,519
Total All	234.880	100%	$	231,196,612
Total County Commission	48.213	21%	$	47,456,625
Total County School Board	91.800	39%	$	90,360,392
Share from All County	0.193		$	189,675

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – State Treasurer Larry Pack today released a tax analysis report on two prominent data center projects in Mason County: The Nscale Monarch project and the Starwood Tamarack project. Following the passage of the Power Generation and Consumption Act of 2025 (HB2014), taxable property income was redirected away from standard allocations for high-impact data centers. The two projects are estimated to generate more than $231 million annually in property tax revenue.

"It is crucial that citizens and policymakers understand the impact these projects have on their communities. That is why we continue to put our best estimates out as these projects are announced across the state," Treasurer Pack said. "Once these projects are completed, there will be a huge increase in local revenues for schools, the Mason County Commission, and local EMS. These projections underscore the importance of transparency and thoughtful discussions about how these revenues can be used to strengthen these communities for generations to come."

The report looked at two announced projects in Mason County: Nscale Monarch, with an estimated taxable appraised value of $12.48 billion1, and Starwood Tamarack, with an estimated taxable appraised value of $3.925 billion, after accounting for applicable tax treatment of certain high-tech tangible personal property. Nscale Monarch also includes an associated power plant, increasing the project's taxable value and projected tax revenue generated by the development.

The companies' announced planned investments total $64.9 billion for Nscale Phase One and $12 billion for Tamarack.

The expected government revenue gained is $47.5 million for the Mason County Commission and $90.3 million for Mason County Schools, annually. The Personal Income Tax (PIT) Reduction Fund would receive more than $66.8 million. An extra $7.2 million goes to the County Commission's Fire and EMS Program, a nearly 9.5-fold increase in such funding. Other counties would share approximately $13.3 million, averaging roughly $240,000 per county.

"As state and local governments consider adding more data centers, we must ensure the benefits outweigh the drawbacks. West Virginia citizens and their needs must stay front and center in these discussions," Treasurer Pack said. "Economic growth and diversification must be our top priority if we are to move our state forward. Careful analysis and pro-growth policies can help ensure these investments creating lasting opportunities for West Virginians."

The report findings can be attributed to Mark Muchow, West Virginia Treasury Strategic Analyst and former state Deputy Revenue Secretary.

FY 2027 TANF State Plan Available for Public Comment

CHARLESTON, W.Va. - The West Virginia Department of Human Services, Bureau for Family Assistance Division of Family Support, will accept comments on the Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) State Plan from October 16, 2026 – November 29, 2026.

The TANF State Plan is a required document that outlines how West Virginia administers and operates its TANF program, including program policies, structure, eligibility requirements, benefit levels, and administrative procedures.

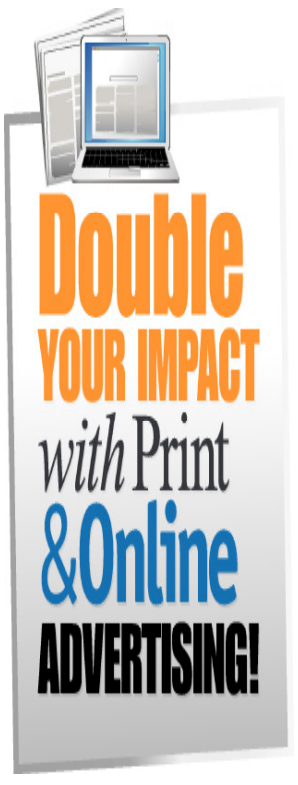
The FY 2027 TANF State Plan will be available for review at local DoHS offices, the West Virginia Secretary of State's Office, and online at bfa.wv.gov/state-plans. A list of county office locations is available at dohs.wv.gov/field-offices.

Written comments regarding the TANF plan design and services may be submitted to:

West Virginia Department of Human Services
Bureau for Family Assistance
Division of Family Support
350 Capitol St., Room B-18
Charleston, WV 25301-3705

Comments may also be submitted by email to dohspubliccomments@wv.gov or by phone at (304) 352-4431.

STOP STOP
Don't buy your Fall rifle, shotgun or pistol until you have been to the
Glenville Gun Show!
October 31st & November 1st
9 am to 5 pm Saturday
9 am to 4 pm Sunday
Gilmer County Recreation Center
Buy, Sell or Trade
For information call Phil Cunningham
304-483-2087



AVALON

Continued from Page 1

Upward Healthcare Workforce Accelerator that will provide training and job matching in regional opportunities. It will work to serve workforce needs of 14 counties in north central West Virginia, as well as those close to home.

As Minnie Hamilton Health System Chief Executive Officer Stephen Whited told WOWK, "healthcare organizations across our region continue to face significant workforce challenges, and building a stronger pipeline of trained professionals is critical to the future of rural healthcare." The training grant comes at a critical time as Governor Patrick Morrisey's Rural Healthcare Transformation program is pushing for added access and capacity for rural clinics and other healthcare facilities.

Mersh shared during the opening ceremony how she had never wished to leave her hometown, but moved away for her husband. Then she found healthcare opportunities out of state that provided her the resources to give back to the community to which she never thought she would be able to return. Bringing healthcare training opportunities to Grantsville brings that dynamic full circle. As she told WOWK, "it means a lot to come home and be able to see this happen and really to work with kids. My interest here is really to help children see that they can do whatever they want to with their lives."

Courses will prepare future workers in nursing, EMT, medical assistance, and allied health.

And as Mersh stated in Fall Fest "the old girl is coming back to life." Not only that, but the old girl is giving back a bounty of education and opportunity as well.

MYSTERIES

Continued from Page 1

the name "Brother Pio" when he joined the Franciscans, then "Padre Pio" and finally, eventually, Saint Pio.

His entire life and ministry was defined by dedication to the model and example of Saint Francis of Assisi.

He lived well into the 20th century, rarely physically leaving the monastery, but at times bearing the painful mark of the Stigmata. Doctors had no explanation of the coming and going of these wounds that caused him much suffering. His wounds lasted for 50 years and, as EWTN describes, "emitted a heavenly fragrance" similar to roses.

He did not seek either the suffering or the attention from it and wrote "will Jesus, who is so good, grant me this grace? Will he at least free me from the embarrassment caused by these outward signs . . . which cause me such embarrassment and physical pain?"

Saint Pio became famous for the confession experience of believers. It was said that he could read their hearts and see deceit if it was there, or if they forgot the commission of a serious sin.

That said, Saint Pio has a relevance to his inclusion in this piece on science. Elevation to sainthood means that the individual has satisfied Vatican investigators that at least two confirmed miracles took place related to the figure.

One took place with the most unlikely of witnesses. In 1943, United States Army Air Force bombers targeted the town of San Giovanni Rotondo. Earlier in the conflict, Padre Pio promised the residents of the town that they would be spared the violence of war.

As EWTN explains "when they (the bombers) appeared over the city and prepared to unload their munitions, a brown-robed friar appeared before their aircraft. All attempts to unload the bombs failed." Several pilots reported that they witnessed a brilliant white cloud containing three figures, a bearded monk raising his hand, a woman holding a child, and a young man carrying a sword stained with blood. During the apparition, no bombs would leave the plane.

The pilots, extraordinarily affected by the experience, were taken to the monastery of Santa Maria delle Grazie. There they found to their surprise, "the little friar he had seen in the air that day over San Giovanni." Others whispered "that's him. That's the monk we saw in the cloud." The image of the woman and child was replicated in art in the monastery. The pilots found the sword-bearing man in the shrine of Saint Michael the Archangel at Monet Sant'Angelo.

It was the statue of the Archangel they saw in the sky.

One must understand that the Roman Catholic Church, especially in the 20th century, was wary about miracles in the face of a more scientific and skeptical time. Investigators assumed that reports of miracles in sainthood investigations were false, either by fraud or misplaced belief.

None of the reports of his "bilocation," the official name for one of his miracles, came from the Padre himself, but from other observers. In Friar Gordon McRae's essay "'I am a Mystery to Myself' The Last Days of Padre Pio", he quotes Saint Pio revealing "I don't know how it is or the nature of this phenomenon - and I certainly don't give it much thought - but it did happen to me to be in that presence of this or that person, to be in this or that place; but I do not know whether I was there with my body or without it . . . Usually this has happened while I was praying . . . This is the first time I talk about this,"

The saint had no desire for what others called special spiritual gifts, preferring to be a humble servant of God and God's children rather than a figure of attention. Saint John Paul II the Great, whose own miracles involved unexplained healing, officiated over his canonization.

Bilocation is a possibility in quantum physics through a concept called quantum entanglement in which subatomic particles can wink in and out of existence in two locations at once through some kind of connection. Quantum entanglement has become a tangible reality in the world of technology. American (mostly IBM), Japanese, and Chinese scientists are developing computer systems based on quantum entanglement whose processes could even exceed the speed of light, which Einstein believed was an impenetrable barrier to human ambitions.

Taking us back to the cat experiment, some quantum entanglement between the observer mind and the wave/particle must take place for one to affect the other, given the constraints of the Theory of Special Relativity. Again, how does this happen, what does this mean, and what are the broader ramifications in theology, philosophy, and science?

Interestingly, some initial studies on an observed effect seem to show that some people's brain waves synchronize together somewhat over time, creating possibly deeper connections between the individual minds that would appear to violate both classical physics and Special Relativity. Couples who, as some do, finish each other's sentences could be objective examples of this

Speculation can lead to entire other theories. Some have proposed that the either/or bilateralism of the Schroedinger's Cat box is wrong, that a new dimension or universe hives off when the wave collapses and an infinite number of very similar universes exist somehow simultaneously, diverging in different directions. One could imagine the existence of angels, ghosts, demons, or other religious or supernatural entities with the ability to hop from one realm to another or exist in more than one at once.

Science can become science fiction fairly quickly, but one must remember that the imaginations of science fiction writers have often prefaced real world discoveries of the same things. For example, Gene Roddenberry's fictional creation of a warp drive propelling a spaceship past the speed of light is increasingly today seen as a possibility (though needing unimaginable amounts of power) in the most advanced frontiers of science.

All that said, don't get too crazy in seeing quantum physics as the explanation for all of life's mysteries. Lazy archaeologists when studying early mankind attributed every unexplainable behavior to religion, which may or may not be true, but is certainly not provable in any form and is highly unlikely anyway.

The universe, fortunately or unfortunately, is still largely a mysterious place to us and both the frustration and the joy inherent in exploring theology, science, and philosophy lies in helping reality to reveal itself..

Red Devils felled by Lumberjacks

The Calhoun County Red Devils, attempting to bounce back from a tough loss against Wahama the week before, journeyed to Pine Grove last Friday night to take on the Valley Lumberjacks. The Red Devils were winless in three previous trips to Thomas C. West Stadium, and that streak continued as the Red Devils dropped a 46-16 decision.

The game was played in a constant drizzle that soaked the playing surface. Surprisingly, neither team lost a fumble, but the wet conditions nullified the passing game for both sides.

The Lumberjacks were 1-4 coming in to the game and seemed like easy prey for the 4-2 Red Devils. Calhoun's offense struggled early before springing to life in the second quarter. But the team fell apart in all phases of the game in the third quarter, dooming Calhoun County to its third loss of the season.

Valley won the toss and elected to receive. The Lumberjacks went three-and-out and punted to Calhoun. The Red Devils' first possession went the same as the home teams, and Calhoun punted the ball back after gaining only two yards.

The home team scored the first touchdown of the game on a long drive, then added two points to take an 8-0 lead. Calhoun County turned the ball over on downs on its next possession, and Valley scored again to make the score 16-0.

Calhoun County's next possession ended with an interception on the first play, but the defense stiffened and forced a turnover on downs. It was at this point that the Red Devils' offense and defense began clicking.

The Red Devils moved the ball quickly into Lumberjack territory via a series of rushing plays, and scored their first touchdown on a 12-yard halfback pass from Chase Schoolcraft to Lance Grogg. Trevor Mayle ran for the extra points and cut Valley's lead to 16-8.

With only 2:21 remaining in the half, it didn't seem likely that Calhoun County would get the ball again before halftime. But Calhoun's defense stifled Valley and regained possession on Valley's 34-yard line with 1:23 to go. Unfortunately, the Red Devils gained nothing on the subsequent drive. The half ended with the score standing at 16-8, but Calhoun was set to receive the kickoff and had all the momentum.

Momentum is a fickle mistress, however, and it abandoned the Red Devils quickly in a disastrous third quarter. On the second half kickoff, Calhoun's return man slipped on the wet turf, pinning the Red Devils on their own 24-yard line. Forced to punt after losing 11 yards on third down, an errant snap resulted in a safety.

From that point on, everything went the Lumberjacks' way. The home team scored 22 points on three touchdowns, and intercepted two Calhoun County passes. The numbers tell the tale: the Red Devils ran only 10 plays in the quarter, none of which went for positive yards. The team lost 25 yards, surrendered a safety and two interceptions.

Calhoun County rebounded somewhat in the fourth, scoring a touchdown midway through the quarter but surrendering another. When the clock wound down, the scoreboard read Lumberjacks 46, Red Devils 16.

The Red Devils will try to get back on the winning path this Friday by hosting the Saint Marys Blue Devils. Kickoff is scheduled for 7:00 at Mount Zion.

Calhoun	0	8	0	8	- 16
Valley	8	8	22	8	- 46

V - Koleton Kincaid, 1 run (Ryder Gravette run) 2:52 1st

V - Gaige Wichterman, 29 pass from Wyatt Rogers (Gravette run) 8:55 2nd

C - Lance Grogg, 12 pass from Chase Schoolcraft (Trevor Mayle run) 2:21 2nd

V - Safety, punter tackled in end zone, 10:01 3rd

V - Wichterman, 13 run (run failed) 7:11 3rd

V - Gravette, 9 run (Everett Fluharty pass from Wichterman) 3:24 3rd

V - Wichterman, 9 run (pass failed) 0:15 3rd

C - Schoolcraft, 21 pass from Mayle (Schoolcraft pass from Mayle) 5:42 4th

V - Kincaid, 3 run (Wichterman run) 2:18 4th

TEAM STATISTICS

Calhoun		Valley
8	First Downs	14
29-94	Rushes-Yardage	56-293
33	Passing Yardage	33
3-13-3	PC-PA-Int.	2-4-0
6	Return Yardage	23
2-40.0	Punts-Avg.	1-32.0
3-0	Fumbles-Lost	2-0
2-30	Penalties-Yards	2-25

OFFENSE

Calhoun rushing – Ezra Anderson (8-47), Rome Riddel 9-32, Trevor Mayle 7-31, Chase Schoolcraft 4(-5), Reese Schoolcraft 1(-11). Total 29-94.

Calhoun passing – Trevor Mayle 2-12-3, 21 yards; Chase Schoolcraft 1-1, 12 yards. Total 3-13-3, 33 yards.

Calhoun receiving – Chase Schoolcraft 1-21, Lance Grogg 1-12, Rome Riddel 1-0.

DEFENSE

Calhoun tackles (solo-assists-total) – Chase Schoolcraft (8-8-16), Reese Schoolcraft (3-3-6), Rome Riddel (2-9-11), Kristian Frederick (2-5-7), Ezra Anderson (1-9-10), Nic Butler (1-9-10), Lance Grogg (1-6-7), Dayvon Mitchell (1-1-2), Chase Toney (1-13-14), Trevor Mayle (1-6-7), Cohen Blankenship (1-2-3), Eli Bailey (1-5-6), Robert Davis (0-2-2), Sam Bailey (0-1-1). Total 23-79-102.

Protection your loved ones deserve ...
GUARANTEED Life Insurance up to $30,000.00
Modified Whole Life Insurance from Physicians Life Insurance Company
• Guaranteed acceptance for ages 45 to 85*
• No medical exam, no health questions
• Lock in your rate for life
Call for your FREE Information Kit
1-888-217-5559
Life55plus.info/WV
▸ Plus – you'll also get a FREE Final Wishes Planner just for calling!
*Ages may vary by state. Guaranteed for one of these life insurance policies. Benefits reduced first two years. Insurance Policy L770 (ID: L770ID; OK: L7700K; TN: L770TN).
6236-0625

CLONCH industries
EST. 1925
PO BOX 283
222 CLONCH MILL ROAD
DIXIE, WV 25059
304/632-2641
WWW.CLONCHINDUSTRIESINC.COM
CLONCH INDUSTRIES
IN DIXIE, WV IS HIRING FOR ALL POSITIONS AT OUR SAWMILL AND DRY KILNS.
PLEASE STOP BY THE OFFICE FOR AN APPLICATION AND HAVE AN IMMEDIATE INTERVIEW OR GIVE US A CALL AND WE WILL MAIL ONE.

Local Business Directory Information

To place your Legals

Call us at (304)-647-5724

LEGAL

Annual Public Notice

The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act requires public notice at least once annually informing the public of the means to access information about hazardous substances that are manufactured, stored, and used within their community.

The Calhoun-Roane Local Emergency Planning Committee is hereby giving notice that any members of the public who wish to review the Emergency Response Plan, material safety data sheets, hazardous chemicals inventory forms, and/or information concerning meetings, including notices, agendas, and minutes may do so at the Roane County 911 Office of Emergency Services located at 205 East Main Street, Spencer, West Virginia 25276 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 24, 2026. For more information, call (304) 927- 0918.

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CALHOUN COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

IN RE: PETITION OF:
Randy Allen Proctor — Case No. CC-07-2026-P-29
FOR A NAME CHANGE TO:
Randy Allen Starcher

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE OF AN ADULT

Notice is hereby given that on the 5th day of November, 2026, at the hour of 11;00 AM, or as soon thereafter as this matter may be heard, before the Circuit Court as Calhoun County, located at 363 Main St., Grantsville, the Petitioner, Randy Allen Proctor will request an Order from the Court for a name change to: Randy Allen Starcher.

Any person who has objection to the name change for any reason may appear at the date, time and place set forth above and shall be heard in opposition to such change. The hearing may be rescheduled without further notice or publication. Any person who has objection may contact the Circuit Clerk's office at (304) 354-6910 to verify the date and time of the hearing.

Dated this 28th day of September, 2026.

PETITIONER

WITNESS my hand and seal this 28th day of September, 2026.

Clerk of the Court

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Audien Hearing

The World's First Hearing Aids With Touchscreen Controls.

No tiny buttons. No apps. No prescriptions.

Call 866-327-9323 to get your 45-day risk free trial.

- Revolutionary technology with touchscreen control.
- Hearing modes for any environment.
- Multiple models to choose from.
- Portable charging case.
- 48-hour battery life.
- UV cleaning.
- Background noise cancellation.
- 45-day risk free trial.
- Proudly located in the U.S.A.
- Free shipping direct to your door.
- 1.5 million+ happy customers.
- Lifetime support.

Atom X





Donate Your Vehicle

Call (888) 964-4167 to donate your car, truck, boat, RV, and more today!

How it Works:

1. Contact Us — Call (888) 964-4167
2. Schedule Pickup — We'll pick up your vehicle for FREE - at a time and place convenient for you.
3. Receive Top Tax Deduction — You may qualify for a tax deduction.



- Support Veteran Nonprofits.
- Free Pickup & Towing.
- Top Tax Deduction.

Donate Your Vehicle Today

888-964-4167

www.veterancardonations.org/dnt36

Veteran Car Donations

While we appreciate every donation, in some cases, we find that we are unable to accept certain vehicles, watercraft, and/or recreational vehicles due to the prohibitive costs of acquisition. If you have any questions, please give us a call at (888) 964-4167.

ACCULEVEL FOUNDATION EXPERTS

EASY FINANCING OPTIONS AVAILABLE!

CALL 833-974-2676

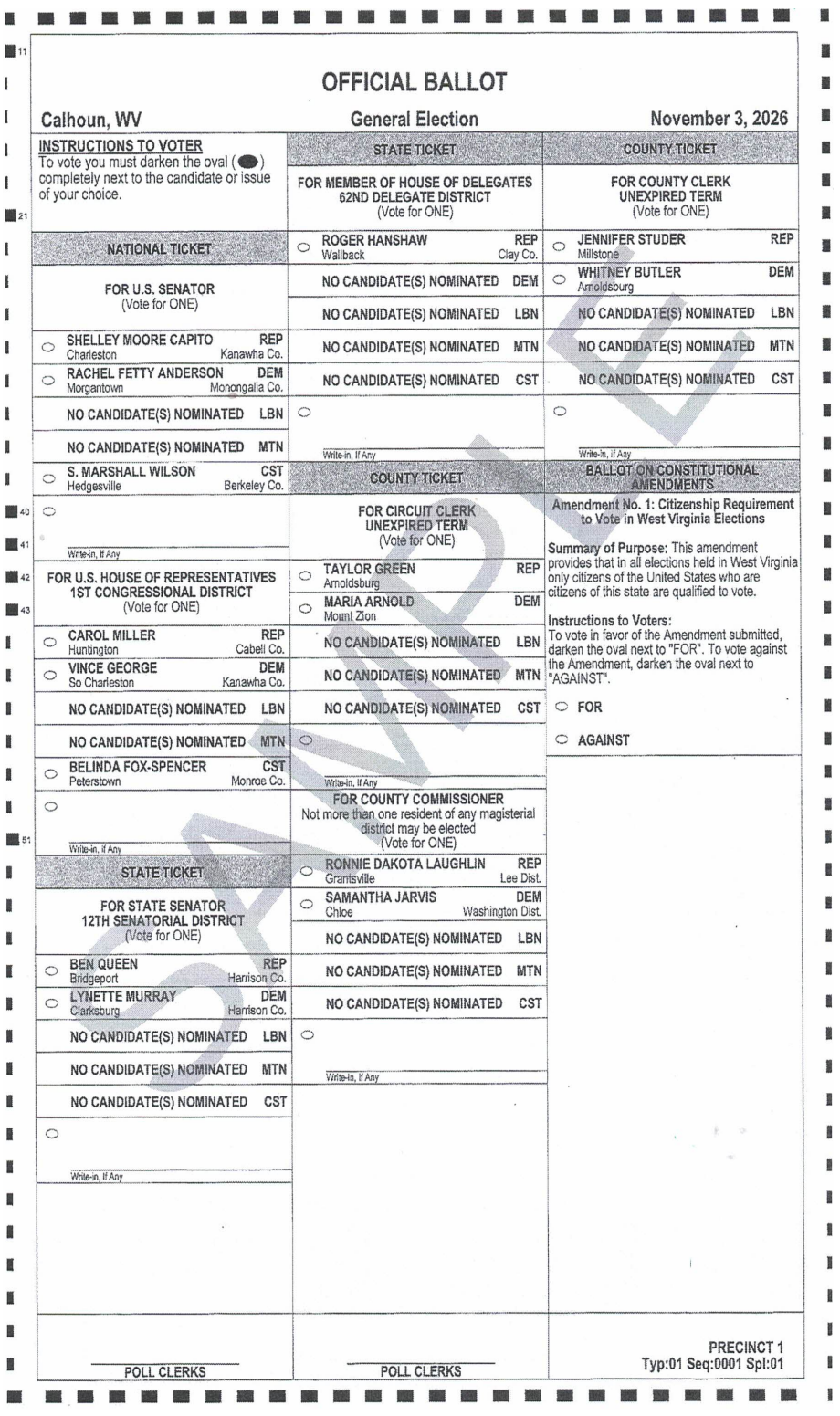
WE CAN HELP WITH

- BASEMENT WATERPROOFING
- FOUNDATION REPAIR
- SUMP PUMP INSTALLATION
- HOME INSPECTIONS
- CRAWL SPACE ENCAPSULATION
- CONCRETE LEVELING



CRACKS IN THE BASEMENT?

LEGAL



OFFICIAL BALLOT

Calhoun, WV — General Election — November 3, 2026

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER
To vote you must darken the oval ( ) completely next to the candidate or issue of your choice.

NATIONAL TICKET

FOR U.S. SENATOR (Vote for ONE)
- SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO — REP — Charleston — Kanawha Co.
- RACHEL FETTY ANDERSON — DEM — Morgantown — Monongalia Co.
- NO CANDIDATE(S) NOMINATED — LBN
- NO CANDIDATE(S) NOMINATED — MTN
- S. MARSHALL WILSON — CST — Hedgesville — Berkeley Co.
- Write-in, If Any

FOR U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 1ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT (Vote for ONE)
- CAROL MILLER — REP — Huntington — Cabell Co.
- VINCE GEORGE — DEM — So Charleston — Kanawha Co.
- NO CANDIDATE(S) NOMINATED — LBN
- NO CANDIDATE(S) NOMINATED — MTN
- BELINDA FOX-SPENCER — CST — Peterstown — Monroe Co.
- Write-in, If Any

STATE TICKET

FOR STATE SENATOR 12TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT (Vote for ONE)
- BEN QUEEN — REP — Bridgeport — Harrison Co.
- LYNETTE MURRAY — DEM — Clarksburg — Harrison Co.
- NO CANDIDATE(S) NOMINATED — LBN
- NO CANDIDATE(S) NOMINATED — MTN
- NO CANDIDATE(S) NOMINATED — CST
- Write-in, If Any

STATE TICKET

FOR MEMBER OF HOUSE OF DELEGATES 62ND DELEGATE DISTRICT (Vote for ONE)
- ROGER HANSHAW — REP — Wallback — Clay Co.
- NO CANDIDATE(S) NOMINATED — DEM
- NO CANDIDATE(S) NOMINATED — LBN
- NO CANDIDATE(S) NOMINATED — MTN
- NO CANDIDATE(S) NOMINATED — CST
- Write-in, If Any

COUNTY TICKET

FOR CIRCUIT CLERK UNEXPIRED TERM (Vote for ONE)
- TAYLOR GREEN — REP — Arnoldsburg
- MARIA ARNOLD — DEM — Mount Zion
- NO CANDIDATE(S) NOMINATED — LBN
- NO CANDIDATE(S) NOMINATED — MTN
- NO CANDIDATE(S) NOMINATED — CST
- Write-in, If Any

FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER Not more than one resident of any magisterial district may be elected (Vote for ONE)
- RONNIE DAKOTA LAUGHLIN — REP — Grantsville — Lee Dist.
- SAMANTHA JARVIS — DEM — Chloe — Washington Dist.
- NO CANDIDATE(S) NOMINATED — LBN
- NO CANDIDATE(S) NOMINATED — MTN
- NO CANDIDATE(S) NOMINATED — CST
- Write-in, If Any

COUNTY TICKET

FOR COUNTY CLERK UNEXPIRED TERM (Vote for ONE)
- JENNIFER STUDER — REP — Millstone
- WHITNEY BUTLER — DEM — Arnoldsburg
- NO CANDIDATE(S) NOMINATED — LBN
- NO CANDIDATE(S) NOMINATED — MTN
- NO CANDIDATE(S) NOMINATED — CST
- Write-in, If Any

BALLOT ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Amendment No. 1: Citizenship Requirement to Vote in West Virginia Elections

Summary of Purpose: This amendment provides that in all elections held in West Virginia only citizens of the United States who are citizens of this state are qualified to vote.

Instructions to Voters: To vote in favor of the Amendment submitted, darken the oval next to "FOR". To vote against the Amendment, darken the oval next to "AGAINST".

- FOR
- AGAINST

POLL CLERKS — POLL CLERKS — PRECINCT 1 Typ:01 Seq:0001 Spl:01

SAMPLE

LEGAL

The Calhoun County Sheriff's Office is seeking certified Deputy Sheriffs. Please send any questions or resumes to calhounsheriffknight@gmail.com

Western Auto

OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT SALES, PARTS & SERVICE for

Husqvarna, Stihl, Briggs & Stratton

Western Auto is also your home and garden store.

315 Main St., Glenville
304-462-5631

LEGAL

150CSR02
Tariff Fom No. 8-A
(Tariff Rule 8.1.a. et seq.)

PUBLIC NOIICE OF CHANGE IN RATES UPON APPLICATION WITHOUT PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATES

NOTICE is hereby given that Allied Waste Sycamore Landfill, LLC, a public utility, has on October 15, 2026, filed with the PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA, an application containing increased rates, and charges for furnishing solid waste disposal services to customers at the Sycamore Landfill in the County of Putnam.

The proposed increased rates and charges will produce approximately $417,774.38 annually in additional revenue, an increase of 1.52%. The purpose of Sycamore's rate case filing is to increase rates and charges for increased operation and maintenance costs relating to Sycamore Landfill's compliant and continued operations. The proposed increased rates and charges will not become effective until approved by the Commission. Sycamore Landfill's current and proposed rates, on a per-ton basis, are as follows:

	Resent Rate	Proposed Rate	$$$ Increase	Percent Increase
In-shed disposers of normal household and commercial solid waste, white goods, appliances and bulky items. This charge is inclusive of solid waste assessment fees.	$51.25	$55.16	$3.91	1.52%
Out-of-shed disposers of normal household and commercial solid waste, white goods, appliances and bulky items negotiated with a minimum of This charge is inclusive of solid waste assessment fees.	$51.26	$55.16	$3.91	1.52%
The minimum charge to commercial haulers	$14.17	$15.47	$1.30	1.52%
The minimum charge to the general public	$14.17	$15.47	$1.30	1.52%

Sycamore Landfill has no resale customers.

The increases shown are based on the averages of all customers in the indicated class. Individual customers may receive increases that are greater or less than average. Furthermore, the rates and charges are only a proposal and are subject to change (increases or decreases) by the Public Service Commission in its review of this filing. Any increase in rates and charges will not become effective until authorized and approved by the Commission. (If a hearing is scheduled, notice will be given of the time and place of hearing.)

Anyone desiring to protest or intervene should file a written protest or notice of intervention within thirty days unless otherwise modified by Commission order. Failure to timely protest or intervene can affect your rights to protest any rate increases or to participate in future proceedings. All protests or requests to intervene should briefly state the reason for the protest or intervention. Requests to intervene must comply with the Commission's rule on intervention set forth in the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. All interventions may be mailed and be addressed to Executive Secretary, Public Service Commission of West Virgima, P.O. Box 812, 201 Brooks St., Charleston, West Virginia 25323 or hand delivered. Protests may be filed online through the Commission website using the "Submit a Comment" link or may be mailed or hand-defivered to the Executive Secretary at the address above.

A complete copy of this tariff, as well as a representative of Sycamore Landfill to provide any information requested concerning it, is available to all customers, prospective customers, or their agents at the offices of the Company: 50 Industrial Lane, Huntington, WV 25702.

A copy of the proposed rates is available for public inspection at the office of the Executive Secretary of the PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION at 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia.

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Under and by virtue of the terms of than certain Security Agreement bearing the 14th day of May 2025, Calhoun County Bank, Inc., now being the legal holder of the same will sell at public auction on 10/30/2026 at 10 AM.

2007 CHEVROLET TAHOE
VIN# 1GNFK13087J139035

Property can be inspected at the location of sale, prior to sale.
Place of Sale: Calhoun Banks Garage, 253 High Street, Grantsville, WV 26147
Terms of Sale: Cash in hand on day of sale. The bank reserves the right to bid or to reject any or all bids. We will be accepting sealed bids to be opened at the public sale.
Calhoun County Bank, Inc.
P.O. Box 430
Grantsville, WV 26147
304-354-6116

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Under and by virtue of the terms of than certain Security Agreement bearing the 14th day of May 2025, Calhoun County Bank, Inc., now being the legal holder of the same will sell at public auction on 10/30/2026 at 10 AM.

2007 GMC YUKON XL
VIN# 1GKFK66837J365379

Property can be inspected at the location of sale, prior to sale.
Place of Sale: Calhoun Banks Garage, 253 High Street, Grantsville, WV 26147
Terms of Sale: Cash in hand on day of sale. The bank reserves the right to bid or to reject any or all bids. We will be accepting sealed bids to be opened at the public sale.
Calhoun County Bank, Inc.
P.O. Box 430
Grantsville, WV 26147
304-354-6116

LEGAL

HELP WANTED

The **Calhoun County Commission/County Park Board** is looking for a County Park Attendant.

We are looking for an enthusiastic, dependable, safety-conscience with time-management, public service and general maintenance skills.

This full-time employee will perform custodial, groundskeeping, general maintenance, facility preparation and visitor service duties necessary for the daily operation and upkeep of the Calhoun County Park. This will include managing the online reservation system and ensuring the facilities are ready for each guest. An official job description and application is available at the County Commission office, or by emailing calcom26147@gmail.com.

Compensation will be based on experience. Applicant must submit to background check and drug testing. Application and current resume (optional) must be received by 4 p.m., November 16, 2026 to be considered. Hand deliver or mail to Calhoun County Commission, PO Box 230, Grantsville, WV 26147. Calhoun County is an equal opportunity employer.

Open House Schedule
Valley North Transmission Project

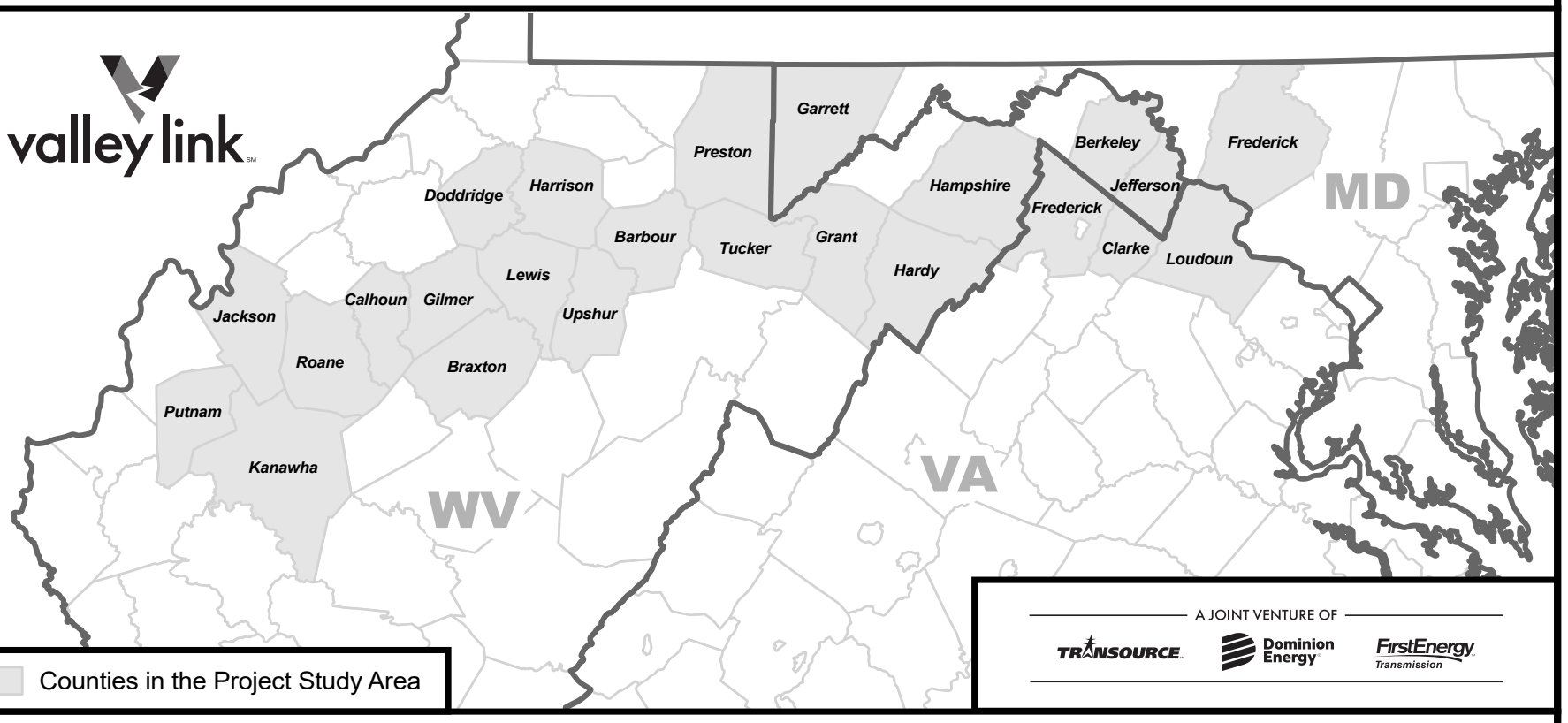
PJM Interconnection LLC, the federally regulated regional transmission operator, selected the Valley North Transmission Project to strengthen the region's electric transmission backbone, support long-term reliability and help meet growing energy needs across the Mid-Atlantic region. Valley Link Transmission LLC - a joint venture of Dominion Energy, FirstEnergy Transmission and Transource Energy - plans to build approximately 260 miles of new 765kV electric transmission line between Putnam County, West Virginia, and Frederick County, Maryland, along with two new substations in Hardy County, West Virginia, and Frederick County, Maryland.

We invite landowners and community members to attend a new series of open houses before a final route is selected for the proposed Valley North Project. The project team will share potential routes developed using feedback received during the summer open houses. Input from landowners and the community can help identify property-specific considerations as the route evaluation process moves forward.

During our summer open houses, landowners and community members shared information about homes, farms, businesses, local resources and other considerations. The project team used that input to develop potential routes for additional review. If you have not yet connected with the project team, please use this opportunity to review the updated information and share details about your property or community.

Please attend the open house that works best for you. Each open house will include project information, updated potential routes and opportunities to speak one-on-one with project team members. The open house format does not include a formal presentation, so you may arrive at any time between the scheduled hours, move through the information stations at your own pace and have one-on-one conversations with project team members.

There is an open house near you. Please join us!



Please stop by anytime between the scheduled hours listed below - there is no formal presentation. You are welcome to attend any of the open houses that are most convenient for you.

Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2026 **4 - 7 p.m.** Misty Mountain Event Barn 430 Misty Mountain Road Fisher, WV 26818	**Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2026** **5 - 8 p.m.** Tucker County High School 116 Mountain Lion Way Hambleton, WV 26269	**Thursday, Nov. 5, 2026** **5 - 8 p.m.** Frederick County Middle School Cafeteria 4661 North Frederick Pike Winchester, VA 22603
Thursday, Nov. 5, 2026 **5 - 8 p.m.** Sissonville Middle School 100 Middle School Lane Charleston, WV 25312	**Thursday, Nov. 12, 2026** **4 - 7 p.m.** Lovettsville Game Protective Association 16 South Berlin Pike Lovettsville, VA 20180	**Thursday, Nov. 12, 2026** **4 - 7 p.m.** The Event Center at Brushy Fork 929 Brushy Fork Road Buckhannon, WV 26201
Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2026 **4 - 7 p.m.** Spencer Armory 206 East Main Street Spencer, WV 25276	**Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2026** **4 - 7 p.m.** Old Capon Bridge Middle School (Capon Bridge Community Complex) 195 Capon School Street Capon Bridge, WV 26711	**Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2026** **4 - 7 p.m.** Stonewall Resort - Roanoke Event Center 940 Resort Drive Roanoke, WV 26447
Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2026 **4 - 7 p.m.** Ranson Civic Center 432 West 2nd Avenue Ranson, WV 25438	**Thursday, Nov. 19, 2026** **4 - 7 p.m.** Gilmer County Recreation Center 1365 Sycamore Run Glenville, WV 26351	**Thursday, Nov. 19, 2026** **4 - 7 p.m.** Brunswick Fire Hall 1500 Volunteer Drive Brunswick, MD 21716

Can't attend in person? Participate through the virtual open house.

Visit ***vltransmission.com/valley-north*** for project materials, schedule updates and virtual open house information.

Your Input Can Help Inform the Next Steps

Please review the updated potential routes and share information about your property, planned development, access needs, agricultural operations, natural or cultural resources, or other local considerations. **Submit comments by December 18, 2026.**

Learn More and Stay Connected:

vltransmission.com/valley-north

(304) 207-0120

vlnorth@vltransmission.com

PO Box 5155 Vienna, WV 26105
p. (304) 782-6180
e. foundation@CampKootaga.org
www.CampKootagaFoundation.org

Contact: Christopher Burk,
Director of the Camp Kootaga Foundation
christopher@cbbmm.com
304-615-5648

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local Non-Profit Purchases Historic Scout Camp

Parkersburg, WV — Camp Kootaga Foundation President James Bennon is pleased to announce the addition of Christopher Burk as the Director of Camp Kootaga Foundation. As Director, Christopher will will serve as an important ambassador for both Camp Kootaga and the Camp Kootaga Foundation. He will work closely with the Executive Board, volunteers, community organizations, youth-serving organizations, businesses, schools, and other partners to expand Camp Kootaga's programs, strengthen community relationships, event coordination, volunteer engagement, communications and outreach, camp development and stewardship, fundraising and grant support and promote the camp as a vibrant and welcoming community resource.

"I'm excited and honored to have this opportunity," commented Christopher. "While Camp Kootaga has evolved over the years, its spirit remains unchanged. Obtaining camp was just the first step. The Foundation now has the opportunity to enhance the camp's natural beauty and make it the perfect setting for family reunions, weddings, and other gatherings while still promoting traditional outdoor activities for youth and adults alike."

Join us in celebrating Christopher and his commitment to our community, the Foundation and Camp Kootaga.

About the Camp Kootaga Foundation

The Camp Kootaga Foundation, Inc was founded with the mission of protecting and sustaining Camp Kootaga as a vital resource for local youth groups and the broader community. Recognized as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization by the State of West Virginia and the Federal Government, the Foundation is dedicated to ensuring that generations of campers continue to experience the adventure, camaraderie, and personal growth that Camp Kootaga has fostered for over one hundred years.

###





LOCAL STORIES.
LOCAL PEOPLE.
LOCAL CONNECTIONS.

More Than Just Paper and Ink.
We don't just report the news; we live it alongside you. By sharing local stories told by local people, we create the local connections that turn a zip code into a home. When you read The Calhoun Chronicle, you aren't just staying informed—you're keeping our community's heart beating strong.

WEST VIRGINIA Press
ASSOCIATION • SERVICES • FOUNDATION
In print and online, your community's stories live here.



Courtesy USDA Office of Communications

Trump Administration Announces $8 Billion Harvest Fuel Relief Program

(Washington, D.C., October 19, 2026) – Today, President Donald J. Trump, alongside U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins, announced the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will make $8 billion available for one-time payments to American farmers this harvest season to provide relief during temporary market disruptions and increased input costs.

"President Trump is the most pro-farmer president of my lifetime and he is continuing to put Farmers First every day," said Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins. "Today, I am proud to announce alongside President Trump more targeted relief is coming to our farmers through the Harvest Fuel Relief program. This $8 billion dollar investment will help bring certainty to our farmers during this harvest so they can continue to feed our nation."

Similar to the Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) program, the Harvest Fuel Relief (HFR) program will provide simple, proportional support to producers using a uniform formula to cover a portion of modeled losses during the 2026 crop year. This national loss average will be based on FSA reported planted acres, Economic Research Service cost of production estimates, and World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates yields and prices.

The $8 billion in payments provided through the Harvest Fuel Relief program are authorized under the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Charter Act and will be administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA).

Commodity-specific payment rates for Title I commodities will be released in November. Payment methodology for other eligible commodities will be announced at a later date. Crop insurance linkage will not be required for participation in the Harvest Fuel Relief program; however, USDA strongly urges producers to take advantage of the enhanced risk management tools included in the Working Families Tax Cuts Act to best protect against price risk and volatility in the future.

Producers of non-Title I commodities, including specialty crop growers and fishermen, are encouraged to provide data related to increased fuel costs to HarvestFuel@usda.gov for USDA's consideration when determining payment rates.

Eligible producers are encouraged to create a Login.gov account in advance of the application period announcement. Pre-filled applications will be available online to producers with a Login.gov account linked to USDA.

The Harvest Fuel Relief program builds upon the Trump administration's unprecedented support for America's farmers. Earlier this year, the Farmer Bridge Assistance program delivered $12 billion in one-time bridge payments over 560,000 farmers across the country. Just two weeks ago, nearly $14 billion in gross payments were provided to producers through the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs through The Working Families Tax Cuts Act – an approximate $8 billion increase over what farmers would have received without the historic bill.

To see more of how the Trump Administration putting farmers first please visit: https://www.usda.gov/farmers-first

Contact:
Holly Morgan, Executive Director, West Virginia Farmers Market Association
304-398-5214
executivedirector@wvfarmers.org

West Virginia Farmers Market Association Receives $25,000 from Appalachian Regional Commission to Strengthen Organizational Capacity

Award funds will help WVFMA improve the management and long-term sustainability of shared agricultural infrastructure across West Virginia.

CHARLESTON, WV, October 12, 2026 – The West Virginia Farmers Market Association (WVFMA) received a $25,000 grant through the Appalachian Regional Commission's (ARC) READY Nonprofits program, which helps nonprofit organizations strengthen operations and better serve their communities.

WVFMA will use the funding to develop and implement a formal asset management and governance framework for shared agricultural infrastructure, including poultry processing trailers, educational equipment, and partner-managed resources. The project will establish standardized procedures for equipment tracking, maintenance, scheduling, and long-term stewardship while strengthening organizational operations and board oversight.

WVFMA qualified for the funding after completing 10 weeks of virtual training in nonprofit operations, strategic planning, board development, human resources, marketing, and communications. Holly Morgan, WVFMA Executive Director, and Kacey Gantzer, WVFMA Vice President, represented WVFMA in the virtual training alongside a cohort of nonprofit organizations from across the Appalachian Region.

"Our capacity to grow our shared agriculture infrastructure is dependent on keeping detailed records and maintenance logs on and usage data on equipment based all over our state to support producers. We want to be a one-stop shop for producers to get their rental or sometimes free use of shared infrastructure from poultry processing trailers to honey extractors with ease. This grant from ARC gives us the opportunity to streamline internal processes," says Morgan.

About the West Virginia Farmers Market Association

The West Virginia Farmers Market Association works to strengthen the capacity of farmers markets and positively impact the communities they serve by providing education, advocacy, and access to healthy, locally grown food. Through educational programming, technical assistance, shared resources, and statewide partnerships, WVFMA supports farmers markets, local producers, and the communities they serve.

About the Appalachian Regional Commission

The Appalachian Regional Commission is an economic development entity of the federal government and 13 state governments focusing on 423 counties across the Appalachian Region. ARC's mission is to invest and partner to strengthen economic development in Appalachia to help the region reach its full economic potential.

900 Virginia St. E Flr 3
Charleston, WV 25301
304-398-5214
executivedirector@wvfarmers.org