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Calhoun Family Resource Network Kicks Off Full Day of Family Fun For Halloween Saturday

By Stephen Smoot

Hallowe'en in Calhoun County will feature a whole slate of good family fun on Saturday October 31, starting with the Family Resource Network.

The fun starts at 10 o' clock in the morning. Inflatable fun will be on hand for both kids and also kids at heart! The event will also offer games and crafts as well.

Surrounded by the fun enjoyed by kids and families on Hallowe'en Day is the important work of those providing essential resources to families in need. That said, everyone is welcome to stop in and check it out.

"We'll have agencies that are either in Calhoun County or that serve Calhoun County," shared Tina Persinger of Calhoun Family Resource Network.

The FRN and its Family Support Center in Grantsville

HALLOWEEN cont. on page 4

Calhoun-Gilmer Students Gain College Knowledge from Glenville and Fairmont

By Stephen Smoot

Especially with Election Day hovering around the corner, it's tough to get bipartisan agreement on anything.

Not so with the trades. Elected officials of all stripes have come to understand that West Virginia and every community in it has vital needs for more with trades education and experience. Additionally, trades offer more lucrative pathways to solid job and business opportunities than traditional four-year college degrees.

The State's college and university system has been working with the public schools' career and technical education centers to develop the next generation of skilled workers and field leaders that will keep West Virginia going. Additionally, the West Virginia State Legislature authorized community and technical colleges to offer tuition-free access to education to those who qualify, including residency requirements and a drug screen.

On Oct 8, Calhoun-Gilmer students "had the opportunity to learn about future educational and career opportunities at Pierpont Community and Technical College.

Pierpont, which is located near Fairmont State University, has emerged as a respected leader in aeronautics career education. Says Dr. Brad Gilbert, Senior Professor and Director of Aviation Technology, shared that "a lot of people in the industry like me are retiring and the aviation technology job demand is tremendous nationwide." Added David Hinkle in 2023, a Harrison County Commissioner who also serves on Pierpont's Board of Governors, "the aviation industry in West Virginia expects to grow rapidly in the near future with hundreds of employees expected within the next five years." He added that Pierpont will "provide the education and training needed to continue building industry."

Aviation maintenance and research facilities near the North Central West Virginia Airport in Bridgeport are expected to have continual demand in all fields for the





Calhoun -Gilmer students learned about Pierpont offerings on their home campus and also traveled to Glenville to see trades and technology in action.

COLLEGE cont. on page 4



Though some counties received all-electric buses, much of the State's public school transportation fleet runs on diesel. The rising cost of fuel has added to the financial burdens of many school districts. Additionally, testing by entities such as the Potomac Valley Transit Authority confirm that electric buses are unsuitable in parts of the state with high elevations and colder winter temperatures. Photo courtesy of Calhoun County Schools

Federal and State Diesel Taxes Suspended to Provide Relief

By Stephen Smoot

At one time, diesel was the cheap byproduct of gasoline refining. Its allure lay in the facts that engines could get more gas mileage out of diesel and that it cost much less than gasoline.

Over time, regulators added burdens to the production of diesel, slowly pushing the price higher as it became more costly to refine. This year, diesel prices leapt higher than the cost of gasoline. Earlier this year, supply disruptions from the conflict with Iran pushed prices higher. Now as Gulf nations in conjunction with the United States establish bypass routes for the export of Middle East oil and energy products, Ukraine strikes on Russian oil production and export facilities have maintained the higher price points as the Iran conflict fades as a factor.

Regardless of the reason, diesel remains the fuel that America uses for work. Tractor-trailers, farm equipment, and other vital machine equipment driving the economy uses diesel. When the price of this fuel rises, it pushes everything else up as well.

On October 6, President Donald Trump signed an executive order allowing use of "tax-free dyed diesel and deferring the federal excise tax through the end of the year."

"Red-dyed diesel" is identical to the diesel used for highway driving, but is intended for off-road use. Taxes from diesel and other fuels are used for highway maintenance. Red-dyed diesel is used on farms and in off-road vehicles, construction equipment, home fuel, and other uses and saves those who use it about a quarter a gallon.

According to the Internal Revenue Service, at the federal level "ordinary procedures for collection and enforcement will be suspended" with personnel assigned to this work sent to other tasks. The IRS will also make President Trump's order retroactive to Oct 1.

A week ago, West Virginia Treasurer Larry Pack suggested that "state leaders . . . temporarily suspend state diesel fuel taxes to provide much needed relief to West Virginia farmers, loggers, and timber haulers struggling with rising fuel costs." He noted that several states, mostly in the South and Midwest, had done so already, following the President's lead.

Treasurer Pack noted the "enormous financial burden on the industries that keep this state moving."

Diesel fuel price surges also have added extra and unexpected costs to school systems for transportation as well as for many fire and EMS vehicles.

On Oct 20, Governor Patrick Morrisey declared a 60-day state of emergency that gives him the authority to match President Trump's declaration. He cited both rising prices and constricting supplies, as well as their ripple effects on prices of goods whose transport relies on diesel.

DIESEL cont. on page 4

Calhoun County Commission Proposes Regional Water Entity

By Stephen Smoot

"Show your love and mercy for each other . . . pray for each other . . . in Your name I pray," shared Commissioner Craig Arthur as part of the customary invocation.

Before the regular meeting of the Calhoun County Commission, Commission President Eric Lupardus shared a release under his signature on the body's Facebook page. In it, he stated that "recently, I have been receiving emails from individuals claiming to be constituents who support the proposed MARL transmission line project." He then shared concerns that "these emails appear to be part of an organized, possibly automated, email campaign rather than genuine, individually written messages from local citizens."

Commission President Lupardus then added that when he reached out to the names of those who purportedly sent the emails, some stated that "they did not send the emails." The text of the communications included similar language and evidence cited in favor of the MARL transmission line.

MARL, or the Mid Atlantic Resiliency Link, is planned to connect power generation stations in North Central West Virginia to Loudon County, Virginia. It will affect Monongalia, Preston, Mineral, and Hampshire counties. Valley North is the project slated for Calhoun County and many others across West Virginia. Calhoun County commissioners have studied the Valley North project and shared their concerns about its impact with state, federal, and other stakeholders.



Commission President Lupardus lauded the establishment of the new health care education center at Avalon in Grantsville. State Treasurer Larry Pack helped to dedicate the facility. Photo courtesy of WV Treasurer's Office

"I believe the public deserves transparency about who is attempting to influence elected officials and whether these messages represent actual constituents or an organized effort to manufacture the appearance of public support." Said Commission President Lupardus in the release.

The first item of business for the Commission in their meeting lay in welcoming new Calhoun County Sheriff's Department deputy Chris Jarvis. He completed firearms and other certifications last week and is waiting on

COMMISSION cont. on page 4

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.

Commissioner of Agriculture Kent Leonhardt Calls for Balance Between New Development and Farmland Protection

Charleston, W.Va. —As Commissioner of Agriculture, I recognize the importance of economic development and respect the rights of private landowners to make decisions about how their property is used. However, we must also recognize that West Virginia's productive farmland is a valuable and limited resource that will become increasingly important as we work to feed a growing population.

When it comes to data centers and other large-scale developments, I strongly encourage developers to consider land that is less suitable for agricultural production. We should not be cutting ourselves short on the prospect of agricultural economic development by taking farmland out of production.

That same consideration for our land must extend to proposed power transmission lines. I understand there are economic benefits for participating landowners. However, transparency throughout the entire process is essential. Landowners deserve clear, accurate information about how these projects will impact their property, farming operations and long-term land use.

Every effort should be made to protect farmland and minimize the disruption of agricultural operations. Whenever possible, new transmission lines should follow existing utility corridors or rights-of-way rather than cutting through productive farmland. Landowners whose properties are impacted should also receive fair and just compensation. That should include considering ongoing annual payments since the transmission lines will use their land for many years.

Balancing economic development with the preservation of our agricultural land is not always easy. But with open communication, thoughtful planning and a willingness to work together, I believe we can create opportunities for economic growth while protecting the farmland that remains so vital to West Virginia's future.

Kent A. Leonhardt

West Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture

Obituary



Dawn E. Marks

Jun 25, 1961 — Oct 25, 2026
Barberton

Dawn E. Marks, 65, of Barberton, Ohio passed away October 25, 2026. After a long hard-fought battle, cancer won.

Dawn was born in Akron on June 25, 1961 to the late Elsie King Metz and Bruce Metz. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother Bobby Vaughan; sisters Diane Stopher Vaughan and Denine Angles. Left to treasure her memory are her sisters Debbie Cook of Barberton with whom she lived, Denise (Dave) Keller of Wadsworth; brothers Steve Metz of Massillon and Darrin Vaughan of Williamson, WV; two sons Joshua Tanner of Ivydale, WV and Matthew Marks of Duck, WV; her grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

A special thank you to Davi Jo Collmar, her niece/caregiver and Post Acute Care for all their compassion, thoughtfulness and going above their job duties to make Dawn's last days as comfortable as possible. Also to Sharon Knicely Turner for her years of love and friendship.

Dawn considered West Virginia and Ohio both her homes. Dawn was a caring and passionate person with a big heart. She loved the elderly and less fortunate. She was never judgmental and no matter the choices in her life, right or wrong, she claimed them as her own. She loved to craft and always greeted you with a smile.

Per Dawn's wishes there will be no services. Her cremains will be laid to rest in the King Cemetery, Calhoun County, WV.

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.

Empathy For the Devil

By Stephen Smoot

Please allow New York City Mayor Zohran Mandami to introduce himself. He's a man of wealth and taste.

He is also the American face of a rising threat to the West from waves of Middle Easterners pouring into Western nations to try and submerge them in a tidal wave of chaos.

Likely the only reason why he and his ilk have not released their dogs of war onto the city streets of the United States is the fact that Americans own firearms to the rate of three times the population. The Founding Fathers wisely understood that one can invade a nation in ways outside divisions lining up at the border.

Most will protect their lives, families, and property. If only a jinn would inform hizzoner "Get thee gone, Pander. There are no Free Palestine crazies here for you to coin."

Mandami has recently tried to play nice with his city's Jewish population, likely because a quickly growing number will either sit on their hands in the coming election or vote for the Grand Old Party. Yet that will not save him from his regular encouragement of the so-called Palestinians or his utter lack of concern for hate crimes against Jewish people pretty much anywhere.

The push comes from a well-funded and technologically connected bloc linking Left wing political groups to Islamic radicals. Little similarity exists between the two groups except for totalitarianist ideals and aspirations, as well as hatred of Jewish people and Israel.

Larry David, who along with Jerry Seinfeld created the eponymous classic television program, has launched his own broadside against the combination Islamic radical and Marxist mayor. A political creature of the Left himself, he has watched Seinfeld fearlessly put himself before hostile crowds to do stand up comedy. Seinfeld gives brain dead hecklers better than he gets because he is well-read, well-cultured, and articulate, unlike most Islamic radicals or modern Marxists.

David regularly writes a column for a blog called Air Mail and penned a satire portraying himself as a convert to the Democratic Socialist cause who gave them even better ideas of radicalism.

The Jewish writer, comedian, and producer started first by launching a satire broadside against Socialism that will go over the heads of Socialists who tend to not know their history. He wrote "we have determined that all doors to private homes must remain unlocked at all times. Strangers may enter as they please to open your fridge, use your bathroom, floss, or just relax."

Absurd right? Wrong. This was the first major act passed by Vladimir Lenin's Bolshevik government in Russia after Socialism won. David knows history and knows that this will create an "aha" moment if readers ever figure out the reference.

He also "proposed" that the phrase "Chosen People" be banned for Jewish people, replaced by "bagel people." David then suggested that "the bagel people" and anyone else making trouble be shipped to Pitcairn Island, the final landing spot of the mutineers of the HMS Bounty in the South Pacific.

Young radical writers have attacked him for being old and out of touch, but likely they resent his reference to nouns they don't understand.

He has penned this as pogroms and violence have taken over streets in Central and Western Europe. Legions of Islamic radical immigrants and their menshevikesque fellow travelers are rising as one against the nations that welcomed them, fed them, housed them, but also dared to demand that they not put their hands on underage girls and overall respect individual rights and freedoms.

They echo "demands" of better treatment in France, a country that is going bankrupt providing "free" health care, education, child care, reduced work weeks, and more Leftist wishes. Of course none of these things are "free" and their lackluster performances prove that government provided services will often be inferior.

Pogroms are targeted attacks on mass populations of Jews. "Rioters" in France, described by a fawning media as "student protesters" carried lists of Jewish individual and business addresses. Presumably it was not to send flowers and a nice card.

Historic burnings are burned, Jewish shops and business owners ruthlessly targeted, and governments shown as paper kittens. The image of French President Emmanual Macron enjoying a Celine Dion concert as his people fight invaders at the very doorsteps of their homes to keep from being raped and robbed brings Nero comparisons.

Nero had an excuse of sorts. He was pathologically insane.

When I was at West Virginia University, I had a colleague named Mehmet Tepiyurt. He better resembled those immigrants from Germany, Italy, Greece, or elsewhere a century or more ago. They came to America to live, learn, and thrive. Yes, a few came to establish criminal careers, but even a man like the infamous Charles "Lucky" Luciano never spoke against his adopted nation. Luciano preached patriotism to America even in exile for his crimes committed in New York City.

Tepiyurt was a good practitioner of his Moslem faith. He steered clear of women so as to save himself for marriage. He agonized over whether his addictions to Coca Cola and cheap cigarettes were a violation of his faith. Eventually he concluded they were and stopped consuming both.

He also shared an insight, stating "Islam is the most beautiful thing" and professed his devotion to his faith, but added "the worst people in the world are Moslems." This came from his experience in sharing his love of America and West Virginia on social media, only to be uniformly dragged and threatened by his countrymen.

As a doctoral graduate of West Virginia University, he went home to Turkey to teach and never stopped professing his admiration for the West. Now he lives in exile in Europe, fearing his own country's secret police, because he dared to exercise the right to speak as a Westerner does without trepidation.

Gad Saad is a Lebanese-Canadian currently part of the faculty of the University of Mississippi, who also has held positions at Cornell. Dartmouth, and elsewhere. He has given the name "suicidal empathy" to the dangerous fetish of treating criminality and violence with gentleness rather than correction.

Saad's studies examine what he calls "idea pathogens" that undermine the health and welfare of a society. They generate in the intellectual incubators of college and university classrooms and propagate without going through the general "marketplace of ideas" because people continue to defer to academics.

These "idea pathogens" include postmodernism, invented by Martin Heidegger to bolster National Socialist ideology and philosophy. Its insistence on rejecting objective truths or standards has helped to create a world where truths and standards, even those with social need and utility, get categorically rejected.

"Suicidal empathy," Saad describes as a social tendency to not only assign blanket victimhood to almost all in the Third World, but then also to assert that such "victims" deserve full access to Western services and space, even though no Western government on Earth has enough for its own citizens.

This has caused housing crises throughout North America and Europe as authorities claim affordable housing for immigrants, pushing out citizens. The laws of economics mean that shortages lead to higher prices. Young citizens find it more difficult to find places to live as a result.

Even worse, suicidal empathy has led to the importation of millions of people from parts of the world whose cultural mores are diametrically opposed to the West. This has led to a rise in violent crimes, particularly rapes. Western Europe has experienced a rape epidemic in the past decade as the numbers of Middle Eastern immigrants have increased.

Even more disturbing, these immigrants bring violent opposition to groups that have found security in America and the West. Homosexuals are tortured and executed in their home countries. As their numbers have grown in European and Western cities, the safety and security of the Jewish population has become tenuous.

If such people ever come to power, know that non heterosexuals are not on their "good" list. Christians opposing homosexuality have been slammed for praying for those they consider are living sinfully, but few on the Left note that radical Islam calls for the execution of gays in the most horrific and medieval of ways.

Immigration should meet the needs of a nation, not the needs of other nations. Those coming to America should come with Western notions of coexistence, Western notions of how to live and thrive, and the drive to work hard and be productive for oneself and ones' new nation.

We need more Mehmet Tepiyurts. We need more people like Fred Joseph of Charleston whose family moved here from Syria. Joseph became a successful business owner and later served as Congressman Alex Mooney's district director in the Charleston office. Joseph served in the Marines and is as big an American patriot as you will find.

We need absolutely zero "Free Palestine" terrorists. We need no activists. We need no one here bent on changing or destroying what our country has built and bled for. We need no street marchers, no one trying to sound off calls to prayer at five in the morning, or anything else that culturally does not belong here.

We certainly need no immigrants who want to harass the Jewish community here that predates the United States itself.

Likewise, we need no Socialists in power. Were socialists to actually gain control of the United States government, that would trigger the Declaration of Independence's rationale to leave a Union unfriendly to traditional principles and values. Remember, the Declaration of Independence is Supreme Court case law. It matters in the legal system.

Yes they are poor and hungry, but no, they should not be welcomed to the United States until they can prove as a group that they can respect America, respect American people, and respect American values. Those who are here who attack Jewish people or try to force Americans to accept their ways should be sent back to their country of origin quickly.

Asking the West to care for a mass migration of people bent on destroying the West is what Saad means by suicidal empathy.

It is akin to asking a dog lover to caress and pet the rabid, snarling, frothing canine creature lurching toward them with nothing on its mind but biting and infecting with its deadly pathogens the hand trying to help it.

The Calhoun Chronicle

and

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Governor Morrisey Announces $1.3 Million to Expand Mobile Cancer Screenings Across West Virginia

CHARLESTON, W.Va. - Governor Patrick Morrisey today announced a $1,339,077 Rural Health Transformation Program award to the WVU Cancer Institute to replace the aging Bonnie's Bus mobile mammography unit and expand access to potentially life-saving breast and lung cancer screenings in rural communities across West Virginia.

"Early detection remains one of the most effective ways to improve health outcomes and save lives," Governor Morrisey said. "As we recognize Breast Cancer Awareness Month, this investment builds on that message by helping bring cancer screenings directly into communities, reducing barriers to care, and making it easier for West Virginians to access preventive services close to home."

The award comes through the Connected Care Grid initiative, part of West Virginia's Rural Health Transformation Program. The investment advances Governor Morrisey's efforts to improve healthcare outcomes by bringing preventive services closer to home, identifying serious illnesses earlier, and helping more West Virginians remain healthy, stay in the workforce, or return to work.

The award will build upon one of the nation's most established mobile cancer screening programs. Since 2009, the WVU Cancer Institute's mobile screening program has delivered more than 40,000 screenings and identified more than 300 cancers, helping connect rural residents with potentially life-saving breast and lung cancer screening services. Funding will replace the original Morgantown-based Bonnie's Bus mobile mammography unit, which has been in service since 2017 and is nearing the end of its operational life, helping preserve a critical screening resource for rural and medically underserved communities across the state.

In addition to replacing the unit, the project will expand mobile screening events in high-need communities, with plans for up to 168 screening events annually and the capacity to serve more than 5,300 patients each year. The investment will optimize electronic health record (EHR) systems to identify patients due for recommended screenings, strengthen connectivity through technologies, and deploy resources to help residents navigate cancer screening, follow-up care, and other healthcare resources. These enhancements are designed to reduce barriers to preventive care while improving care coordination and early detection.

"WVU Cancer Institute has built a strong track record of bringing preventive services directly to the communities that need them most," Dr. Arvin Singh, Secretary of the West Virginia Department of Health said. "This award supports much more than a replacement vehicle. It strengthens a comprehensive statewide system that combines screening, outreach, patient navigation, and technology to help identify cancer earlier and connect patients with care sooner."

"The Trump Administration's Rural Health Transformation Program is giving states the resources to strengthen rural health care and better serve the people who depend on it," said CMS Administrator Dr. Mehmet Oz. "These investments will help West Virginia expand access to preventive care, detect disease earlier, and improve health outcomes for rural families across the state."

By combining mobile screening services, patient navigation, advanced technology, and stronger community partnerships, the project will help reduce disparities in cancer screening and improve access to care across rural West Virginia. The investment supports the long-term goal of identifying cancer earlier, improving outcomes, and ensuring more West Virginians can access high-quality care close to home.

Additional awards will be announced as WV continues implementing its RHTP to improve healthcare outcomes, expand access to care, strengthen the healthcare workforce, and help more West Virginians get healthy and return to work.

Governor Morrisey Completes Funding Packages for More Than $58 Million in Water and Wastewater Projects

CHARLESTON, W.Va. - Governor Patrick Morrisey today announced $4 million in Abandoned Mine Land Economic Revitalization (AMLER) funding for a new water treatment plant in Buckhannon, along with $930,000 in recommended Infrastructure and Jobs Development Council (IJDC) grants for projects serving Mingo, Wyoming, Cabell, and Wayne counties.

Together, the funding will complete packages for more than $58 million in infrastructure improvements, expanding access to reliable water service, modernizing wastewater systems, and supporting economic development across West Virginia.

"Every West Virginia family deserves clean, reliable water and infrastructure they can depend on," said Governor Morrisey. "We're bringing public water to families who have relied on private wells, improving systems that serve thousands of residents, and helping communities prepare for new homes and businesses. And in Fort Gay, we made a promise to help finish the job, and we're delivering on that promise."

The investments address different needs across the state, from replacing aging treatment facilities to extending public water service into communities that have never had it. In Upshur County, where residents continue to recover and rebuild following devastating flooding, the Buckhannon project represents an important investment in the community's long-term infrastructure needs.

The projects include:

Buckhannon, Upshur County - $47.31 million: Construction of a new water treatment plant and raw water intake, supported by $4 million in AMLER funding. The State is also recommending $3 million in additional loans and principal forgiveness, with the remaining $40.31 million awarded through federal loans and grants.

Mingo and Wyoming Counties - $8.74 million: An $800,000 IJDC grant recommendation completes funding for a public water extension that will improve service for 236 customers in Justice and bring public water to approximately 215 potential customers in Hanover, where homes and businesses currently rely on private wells. The project will also allow Huff Consolidated School and the R.D. Bailey Lake facility to connect to public water. The remaining funding includes $7.45 million in federal grants, along with state and local contributions.

Salt Rock, Cabell County - $2.525 million: A $95,000 IJDC grant recommendation completes funding for upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant serving 4,855 customers in Ona, Milton and Culloden. The improvements will modernize the system and support continued residential and economic growth in the area. The additional grant builds on $500,000 in previously committed IJDC funding, along with financing from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and West Virginia Water Development Authority.

Fort Gay, Wayne County - $185,000: Fulfilling a commitment made during Governor Morrisey's August visit, the State is providing $185,000 to complete a water main extension that will improve the connection to the town's water supply. The funding includes an additional $35,000 following an engineering adjustment to ensure the project can move forward.

"I'm very grateful for everyone involved in this significant development in funding more clean water for Wyoming County and Mingo County residents. The ongoing progress in securing funding for these types of projects is absolutely remarkable."

State Senator Rollan Roberts

"I am deeply grateful to Governor Morrisey and the State of West Virginia for recognizing the importance of this project and making such a meaningful investment in Buckhannon's future. We have worked hard to bring this project to fruition, and while there is still much work ahead, today's announcement brings us one significant step closer to making it a reality. On behalf of the City of Buckhannon and Upshur County community, I extend my sincere appreciation for this partnership and for the confidence being placed in the future of our community."

Robbie Skinner, Mayor of Buckhannon

The IJDC grants and proposed financing are scheduled for council consideration on November 4.

Bringing together state, federal, and local funding sources allows communities to tackle infrastructure needs they could not afford on their own. By completing these funding packages, the State is helping move long-planned improvements closer to construction and ensuring communities have the resources needed to finish the work.

"These projects will make a real difference for West Virginia families and businesses," said Governor Morrisey. "We're working with our state, federal and local partners to deliver the infrastructure our communities need to grow and prosper."

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

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COLLEGE

Cont. from Page 1

foreseeable future, making lucrative jobs a reality not far from Calhoun and Gilmer counties.

Statewide, almost every community faces shortages and looming mass retirements of skilled tradespeople, such as carpenters, plumbers, masons, and those whose hands build the places people live, work, and recreate. Glenville State University invited Calhoun-Gilmer students in technology and carpentry "to step outside the classroom and explore real-world career environments. Students toured parts of campus under construction to examine the roles of skilled work and technology, including how they converge and support each other.

"This hands-on experience," said a CGCC release, "allowed students to see the skills, technology, and craftsmanship involved in large-scale construction projects while gaining valuable insight into potential career paths in the construction and technology fields."

Additionally, these experience demonstrate how small colleges and universities, as well as community and technical colleges, are evolving from the traditional model to better serve both students and the community at large.

HALLOWEEN

Cont. from Page 1

works in support of families in need or who are experiencing struggles. Sometimes those struggles might be financial, but not always. Parents who have no family or friends in the area can find a social support system at the Center. Grandparents who have courageously stepped in to take care of little ones when their parents cannot may need help adjusting to raising children in a new century, with its technology and different youth cultures/

Many just need help learning the basics, like cooking on an economy, organizing the payment of bills, or other needs that they did not learn growing up. The FRC hosts a number of classes to help households not only just survive, but also thrive.

And, as Persinger explains, the Center remains open every business day from 8 o' clock in the morning until four in the evening. Families are encouraged to drop in whenever needed to just take a load off, grab a coffee, talk, and let their kids have fun in the play room just to get a little break.

Events like the Spooky Resource Fair, held regularly by the FRN, brings most of those who can help with those needs

At least 16 booths will be set up, each showcasing a different agency, offering a different program, to serve a different need. That includes workforce readiness programs, support and advice for parents, referrals for service, instruction in cooking, and home financial advice and information. All of these services can help to put a family and a household on a more secure grounding.

Organizations countywide planned a day of family fun, but also organized in such a way that families don't have to miss any of it. Calhoun FRN will hold theirs from 10 until two o' clock in the afternoon.

That stopping point gives families time to make the short drive to Arnoldsburg Park for the annual Calhoun County Halloween Party. From three o' clock in the afternoon until five, families can enjoy old fashioned wagon rides, a costume contest, a toy giveaway, inflatables, and, of course, trunk or treat. This gives kids who live out of town especially a place to come and enjoy the traditions of the day.

Vandalia Health recognized for digital health achievement

Charleston, W.Va. – The College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME) has announced the results of its 2026 Digital Health Most Wired Survey, an internationally recognized benchmarking program that honors excellence in digitally enabled healthcare.

Vandalia Health earned a Level 9 in both the acute and ambulatory categories.

Vandalia Health distinguished itself from the more than 44,000 facilities represented in this year's survey, by ranking above peers in key focus areas including clinical quality and safety, analytics and data management, cybersecurity and innovation.

"We continue to improve our technical infrastructure including new AI initiatives, better data analytics, improved robotic process automation and additional enhanced IT security features," said Dan Stross, Chief Information Officer for Vandalia Health. "This recognition validates the quality of patient care provided at Vandalia Health's 18 hospitals."

As healthcare organizations navigate persistent cybersecurity threats, evolving care models, workforce shortages and tightening budgets, the pressure to accelerate digital transformation continues to grow. Artificial intelligence is moving quickly from pilot to practice, and innovations powered by interoperable data, AI and secure digital infrastructure are reshaping how and where care is delivered. Realizing that potential responsibly will require sustained commitment, strong governance and a clear strategic roadmap.

"This achievement extends beyond information technology to every area of Vandalia Health," said Jeff Sandene, President and CEO of Vandalia Health. "This reflects our commitment to advancing healthcare throughout the region."

The Digital Health Most Wired Survey serves as a comprehensive evaluation and digital maturity report card for healthcare organizations around the world. As digital transformation increasingly shapes the quality and accessibility of care, this recognition reflects the progress of leading healthcare providers as they reshape the future of healthcare.

US Department of Labor awards $81.5M in grants to support industry-driven job training programs in rural communities

Funding will help workers close skills gaps, meet employer needs

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Labor today announced the award of $81.5 million in funding to address the critical workforce needs of employers in high-growth and emerging industries across the Appalachian, Delta, and Northern Border regions.

Administered by the department's Employment and Training Administration, the seventh round of Workforce Opportunity for Rural Communities program funding supports 13 projects across 11 states to stimulate employment and wage growth, as well as economic mobility, self-sufficiency, and increased labor force participation. The demonstration grants support the workforce needs of regional employers in predominantly rural areas to enable them to better compete economically and enable residents of the regions to obtain or retain family-sustaining employment opportunities so they can remain and thrive in their communities.

"These grants ensure those in our rural communities have a pathway to the training they need for in-demand jobs that feed a family and strengthen our supply chains," said Acting Secretary of Labor Keith Sonderling. "They help us advance President Trump's goal of building the workforce for the Golden Age and enable more people to pursue the American Dream."

The WORC Initiative is made available in partnership with the Appalachian Regional Commission, the Delta Regional Authority, and the Northern Border Regional Commission.

The grants will help provide industry-driven training, including Registered Apprenticeships, for new and dislocated workers, and those already in the workforce who need to learn new skills. These programs will focus on high-growth and emerging industry sectors such as skilled trades and construction, healthcare, information technology, manufacturing, domestic energy production, and business and professional services.

Grants are being awarded to recipients as follows:

Recipient	State	Amount
Tuskegee University	AL	$7,500,000
Arkansas Rural Health Partnership Inc.	AR	$6,133,431
Eastern Kentucky Concentrated Employment Program Inc.	KY	$6,000,000
Delta Health Alliance Inc.	MS	$7,994,044
Part of the Solution Foundation	MS	$4,500,000
Community Partnership of Southeast Missouri	MO	$3,542,739
Finger Lakes Community Action	NY	$4,126,013
Tri County Jobs for Ohio's Graduates	OH	$7,994,597
United Steelworkers local 689	OH	$8,000,000
CodeCrew	TN	$4,000,000
JobForward Inc.	VT	$7,999,999
New River Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Area Consortium	VA	$7,994,951
The 1982 Foundation	WV	$5,757,080
Total Awarded		$81,542,854



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WV Public School Enrollment Down Over 8,200 Students

Charleston, W.Va. – The West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) released its annual certified enrollment today, and public schools in the state continue the downward slide. The 2026-27 certified count is 226,687 students, down from 234,957 last year.

Each year, the WVDE takes a snapshot of public school enrollment and staffing on a specific day. This information serves as the certified data used by the school system throughout the year.

The loss of 8,270 students in public schools represents a 3.5% decrease in enrollment since last school year. The system has lost more than 23,000 students since the 2022-23 school year, and more than 46,000 students over the past 10 years – a 17% decline.

School Year (SY)	Total Headcount	Enrollment Loss Compared to Prior Year	Enrollment Loss as % of Prior Year Enrollment	Notes
SY13-14	281,013			
SY14-15	279,899	-1,114	-0.40%	
SY15-16	277,137	-2,762	-0.99%	
SY16-17	273,170	-3,967	-1.43%	
SY17-18	270,613	-2,557	-0.94%	
SY18-19	265,755	-4,858	-1.80%	*Change in birthdate for school-age eligibility (from Sept. 1 to July 1)*
SY19-20	261,633	-4,122	-1.55%	
SY20-21	252,357	-9,276	-3.55%	*COVID Re-Entry Year*
SY21-22	250,899	-1,458	-0.58%	
SY22-23	250,049	-850	-0.34%	*First year of charter schools; Hope Scholarship implemented mid-year*
SY23-24	245,047	-5,002	-2.00%	*First full year of Hope Scholarship*
SY24-25	241,024	-4,023	-1.64%	
SY25-26	234,957	-6,067	-2.52%	
SY26-27	226,687	-8,270	-3.52%	*Universal eligibility for Hope Scholarship*

All 55 counties experienced a decrease in enrollment, along with two of the seven charter schools. Roane County had the steepest decline with a 14.89% reduction, followed by the Virtual Preparatory Academy (10.51%), Mingo County (9.65%), Lewis County (8.1%), Calhoun County (7.74%) and Randolph County (7.19%). Jackson and Pleasants counties experienced lower enrollment decreases with 0.8% and 0.2%, respectively.

The WVDE will release additional certified data over the coming weeks on the wvde.us Zoom data dashboard.

Arnoldsburg Elementary School 1st Nine Weeks 26-27 Honor Roll

Principal's honor roll – All As

Kindergarten – Karina Bremar, Wren Butler, Breslyn Casner, Dominic Harris, Lexi Jefferson, Leelah Long, Samuel Parsons, Korrah Reip, Sawyer Richards

First Grade - Charlotte Bain, Alexander Hall, Waylon Hall, Dauson Harris, Scarlett Houchin, Ryleigh Lane, Dallas Mace, Spencer Parsons, Isaiah Quick, Emma Starcher, Hayden Teykaerts

Second grade – Kason Carder, Reed Falls, Greyson Grogg, Ronin Gungle, Kaden Marks, Alivia Nichols, Henry Poore, Memphis Quick, Presley Watkins

Third grade – Carolina Blosser, Natalia Bremar, Ethan Fitzwater, River Parsons, Jaxson Peters,

Fourth grade – Emersyn Butler, Lydia Burch, Brantley Davis, Paxton Hughes, Talia Mayle, Waylon Poore, Gavin Parsons, Kendall Richards

A and B Honor roll

Kindergarten – Kaycee Conley, Sawyer Daniels, Cooper Delaney, Arianna Everett, Thomas Ferrell, Madilynn Grogg, Jordan McCumbers, Paisley Montgomery, Shay Nicholas, Olivia Watkins

First Grade – Hazel Bush, Ainsley Davis, Katherine Ferrell, Adaleigh Hand, Brinley Hickman, Gracelynn Hughes, Madelynn McCullough, Anna Proctor, Isabel Richards

Second grade – Brier Arnold, Rylan Arthur, Hal'Lee Hughes, Sofia Jones, Marlie King, Lydia Long

Third grade – Morgan Arnold, Paige Hendershot, Abigail Hicks, Kenleigh Lane, Hadley Propst, Paisley Sauer, Aila Richards-Compton

Calhoun Middle High School Principal's Honor Roll-1st Term

Middle School: Gracelynn Baker, Sophia Bartelt, Elizabeth Collins, Aubrie Daigle, Isaac Fitzwater, Daisy Gibson, Thorin Gungle, Bodhi Heiney, Judd Helmick, Parker Hoskins, Paislie Jarvis, Emily Knudsen, Morgan Knudsen, Marcus McGuire, Michelle, McGuire, Kaelynn Powell, Dezarae Richards, Genevieve Riggs, Kyson Sampson, Mason Sampson, Harlow Sarratori, Willie Smith, Adalida Trippett, Maison Wilson

High School: Laney Arnold, Eli Bailey, Elijah Capps, Ryleigh Crislip-Garrett, Emma Frail, Ellie Hall, Hoyt Helmick, Bristol Hoskins, Kelbie Johnson, Madison Jones, Mackenzie Justice, Reagan Morgan, Kaleigha Morris, Muriel Nicolosi, Mark Plumby, Kylee Quick, Payton Quick, Aydann Rogers, Maddox Siwicki, Regan Smith, Rylan Smith, Danika Starcher, Lydia Starcher, Aaron Stevens, Kylee Stewart, Orion Swearingen, Brooke Tingler, Jasmyne Tingler, Jacob Toney, Alice White, Eliana White, Mackenzie Wright

Calhoun Middle High School

Honor Roll-1st Term

Middle School: Colton Anderson, Raelyn Arnold, Brentley Bradley, Chiara Brenneman, Kyla Burrows, Karson Butler, Zaden Cadle, Lillian Caldwell, Temperance Caldwell, Addison Caudill, Zion Coleman, Chandler Cottrell, Natalie Craddock, Koby Crislip, Gabriel Cunningham, Silas Cunningham, Jase Farley, Levi Ferrell, Emma Frederick, Baeli Frum, Willis Gainer-Pittman, Sophia Goodrich, Adrianna Griffin, Evan Griffin, Jacob Gumm, Embree Gungle, Maggie Hardman, Rylee Harris, Lydia Hill, Sawyer Hoskins, Haygan Houchin, Audrey Johnson, Tyler Mayle, Audrey McCumbers, Dexter Murphy, Annie Nelson, Briana Nicholas, Maciah Nida, Isabella O'Connell, Quintin Parkin, Jason Powell, Kallah Reip, JessaLynn Reynolds, Cali Rogers, Kaislee Sampson, Brantley Schoolcraft, Kyle Shook, Bronson Smith, Layton Snider, Bentley Snodgress, Isabella Staples, Mercy Starcher, Kamryn Stewart, Cameron Tallhammer, Jakob Tanner, Carter Thompson, William Thurmer, Mackenzie Tingler, Conner Trippett, Aiden Villers, Axton White, Colbie Wilson, Kierra Wise, Everett Wright, Liam Yeager

High School: Chelsea Bailey, Sam Bailey, Westley Bailey, Evan Burch, Hanlea Campbell, Katelynn Carder, Hailey Carpenter, Kylie Caudill, Kyle Christman, Khloe Cobbett, Mason Craddock, Madison Cunningham, Makenna Cunningham, Raylee Cunningham, Robert Davis III, Lilly Falls, Morgan Ferrell, Nevaeh Fulks, Dagan Gainer-Pittman, Lillian Gibson, Lance Grogg, Owen Hall, Zemirah Hardman, Paisley Harper, Allison Harris, Cyrus Helmick, Tyler Helmick, Cody Hinkle, Amera Hosey, Addison Laughlin, Mason Laughlin, Trevor Mayle, Michael McGuire, Natalie Miller, Cooper Morris, Caydence Moss, Karlee Nelson, Haley Nicholas, Kaley Nicholas, Allie Ogle, Caden Osborne, Camry Parsons, Paislee Perkins, Chase Pierce, Trinity Probasco, Kadence Remele, Jace Riffle, Gwen Sampson, Kaylee Sampson, Keegan Sampson, Tucker Sampson, Carissa Sands, Preston Sauer, Chase Schoolcraft, Reese Schoolcraft, Kendall Snodgress, Reaonna Stamper, Coby Staples, Mia Starcher, Kaili Studer, Owen Swisher, Brycen Toney, Josiah Wilson, Alayna Wolford, Caiden Wolford, Olivia Zwoll

Calhoun County Cross Country Makes History at Regional IV Meet

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. – The Calhoun County High School cross country team turned in a memorable performance at the **Regional IV Cross Country Championships** held October 25, 2026, at the YMCA Kennedy Center in Huntington, highlighted by a historic regional title from freshman standout **Brooke Tingler**.

Tingler captured the girls individual championship with a winning time of **20:44**, becoming the **first Calhoun County cross country runner to win a regional championship**. Her outstanding performance led the Lady Red Devils and secured her place at next week's state meet.

Joining Tingler on the girls side were **Carissa Sands**, who placed **16th** in **25:45**, and **Gabi Smith**, who finished **18th** in **26:11**. Both runners earned qualification for the WVSSAC State Cross Country Championships.

The Calhoun County boys team also delivered a strong showing with four runners finishing among the top 11 competitors. Leading the way was **Braidin Ferrell**, who crossed the line in **18:22** to place **4th** overall.



Teammate **Eli Ferrell** followed closely in **6th place** with a time of **18:38**, while **Jackson Clawson** finished **10th** in **18:44** and **Zac Smith** claimed **11th place** in **19:14**.

Thanks to their performances, all seven Calhoun County runners qualified for the **WVSSAC State Cross Country Championships**, which will be held on **October 31, 2026, at Cabell Midland High School**.



Headed into the state meet, Calhoun County carries momentum and confidence after one of the most successful regional performances in program history. Tingler's historic championship and the team's complete qualification for the state championships mark a significant achievement for the Red Devils cross country program.



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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

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

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

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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

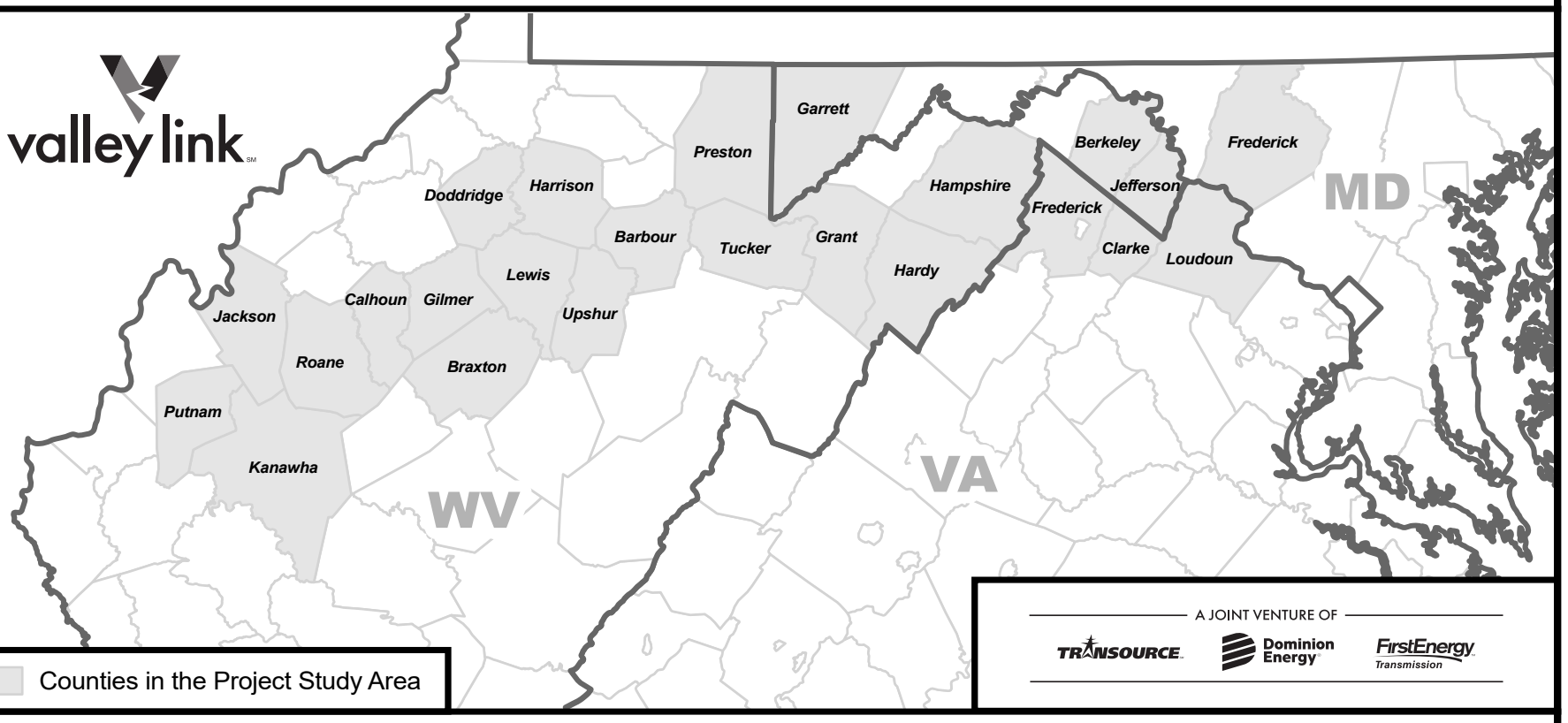
PJM Interconnection LLC, the federally regulated regional transmission operator, selected the Valley North Transmission Project to strengthen the region's electric transmission backbone, support long-term reliability and help meet growing energy needs across the Mid-Atlantic region. Valley Link Transmission 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

West Virginia–Ireland Education Alliance awards $225,000 to expand international education partnerships

Six partnerships will strengthen academic, cultural and workforce connections between West Virginia and Ireland

October 22, 2026

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – The West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission (HEPC) today announced the inaugural grant awards through the West Virginia–Ireland Education Alliance, awarding $225,000 to six partnerships designed to expand academic, cultural and workforce connections between West Virginia and Ireland.

Created through House Bill 4087 in 2026, the West Virginia–Ireland Education Alliance brings together West Virginia's four-year institutions and community and technical colleges with higher education partners in Ireland. The initiative is designed to create lasting institutional partnerships while opening new opportunities for West Virginia students and faculty to engage internationally.

"The West Virginia–Ireland Education Alliance is about creating meaningful opportunities for our students while building relationships that will benefit our state for years to come," said Chancellor Sarah Armstrong Tucker. "These inaugural awards are an important first step. By bringing our colleges and universities together with partners in Ireland, we are creating new pathways for students and faculty to learn, collaborate and build connections that strengthen both education and workforce development in West Virginia."

The initiative offers two funding pathways. Development Awards of up to $25,000 help institutions establish partnerships, strengthen their capacity and prepare for future programming. Implementation Awards of up to $50,000 support partnerships ready to undertake more substantive activities and direct student and faculty engagement, including faculty-led study abroad programs beginning in 2027.

FY2027 Development Awards – $25,000 each

Bluefield State University and Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College

Fairmont State University and Pierpont Community and Technical College

Glenville State University and Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College

FY2027 Implementation Awards – $50,000 each

Fairmont State University and Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College

Marshall University and Mountwest Community and Technical College

Shepherd University and Blue Ridge Community and Technical College

Together, the three Implementation Award partnerships anticipate sending 44 students to Ireland through faculty-led programs, providing students with international academic experiences while deepening collaboration between West Virginia and Irish institutions.

"These partnerships begin with education, but their potential extends well beyond the classroom," said Dr. Clark Egnor, Director of International Programs for WVHEPC. "By building lasting relationships between institutions in West Virginia and Ireland, we can create new connections among faculty, students, employers and industries that prepare students for a global workforce and, over time, strengthen the economic and trade ties between our two regions."

The Commission will continue working with each recipient throughout the grant period, providing post-award capacity-building support focused on successful implementation, coordination among partner institutions, student access and the long-term sustainability of the partnerships.

"These awards are the beginning of the work, not the end," Tucker said. "Our goal is to help these partnerships grow into sustainable relationships that give more West Virginia students access to transformative experiences while strengthening the educational, workforce and economic ties between West Virginia and Ireland."

The West Virginia–Ireland Education Alliance reflects a broader commitment to developing durable international partnerships that expand opportunities for students and faculty and create connections with long-term value for West Virginia.



Clarksburg Baptist Church Children's Ministry Donates Jared Boxes to UHC Pediatrics

The Children's Ministry at Clarksburg Baptist Church recently donated 50 Jared Boxes to WVU Medicine United Hospital Center Pediatrics (UHC). Jared Boxes are filled with small toys, games, books and other comforting items designed to help children cope with a hospital stay, medical procedure or emergency room visit.

Pictured from left are Lilly Knight, church intern at Clarksburg Baptist Church; Meghan Kroll of the Children's Ministry Department at Clarksburg Baptist Church; Kayla Maxwell, Children's Ministry volunteer at Clarksburg Baptist Church; and Marissa Varney, RN, BSN, nursing supervisor at UHC.

For more information contact: Matt Chisler, Director of Public Relations at United Hospital Center, 681.342.1611

Treasurer Pack Announces West Virginia SMART529 Plans Again Named "Top of the Class" in National Rankings

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – State Treasurer Larry Pack today announced all three of West Virginia's SMART529 plans have once again earned Saving for College's "Top of the Class" designation in its 2026 national 529 rankings.

"This recognition reinforces what we already know – West Virginia families have access to some of the strongest college savings options in the country," Treasurer Pack said. "We're proud that all three SMART529 plans continue to earn top marks, and we remain committed to giving families reliable, competitive tools to help them save for their children's future."

Saving For College is a national informational service that evaluates 529 savings plans across the country. Its ratings use a five-cap scale and consider factors including performance, ease of use, savings success and program delivery. The organization's "Top of the Class" designation is reserved for plans that outscore more than 80 percent of their peers within their respective categories.

For 2026, the SMART529 Select Plan, which is available to families nationwide, and the SMART529 WV Direct Plan, which is available exclusively to West Virginia residents, were among just seven direct-sold plans nationwide to receive the honor. The Hartford SMART529, which is sold through financial investment professionals, was one of only five advisor-sold plans nationwide to be recognized.

All three West Virginia plans received an overall rating of 5 out of 5.

Saving for College identified West Virginia's resident benefits as among the strongest available to state residents. The SMART529 Select Plan and the SMART529 WV Direct Plan also continue to rank highly in Saving for College's investment-performance rankings. Based on data through June 30, 2026, the SMART529 Select Plan ranked first nationally for five-year performance, while the SMART529 WV Direct Plan ranked third.

A comparison of each of the three West Virginia SMART529 plans is available here: https://www.smart529.com/invest/smart529-plan-comparison-chart.html

SMART529 is a qualified tuition program issued by the Board of Trustees of the West Virginia College and Jumpstart Savings Programs and administered by Hartford Funds. Complete information about SMART529 plans and investment options is available at www.SMART529.com.



LOCAL STORIES.
LOCAL PEOPLE.
LOCAL CONNECTIONS.

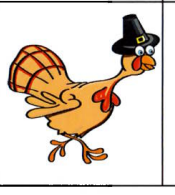
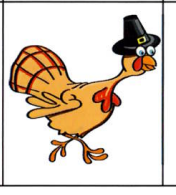
More Than Just Paper and Ink.

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.

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In print and online, your community's stories live here.

Calhoun County Committee on Aging
November 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Fish Slaw beets Fruit Ww bread	3 CENTER CLOSED VOTE	4 (Veteran Dinner) Bake Steak Gravy onions Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Fruit Ww roll	5 Tomato Soup Peanut butter sandwich Fruit Ww crakcers	6 Lasagna Lettuce Pea Salad Fruit Ww bread
9 Chicken ww pasta Stem vegetables Fruit Ww bread	10 Chili w/Meat, onions & Beans Peanut butter sandwich Fruit Ww bread	11 CENTER CLOSED Honoring All Who Served VETERANS DAY Honoring All Who Served	12 AI steak Mashed potatoes Broccoli Fruit Ww roll	13 Pinto Beans W/Ham Mixed Greens Beets Fruit Ww Cornbread
16 Chicken Tenders Macaroni & Cheese Mustard Greens Fruit Ww bun	17 Fish Peas and carrots Apple juice Ww bun	18 Broccoli Soup Cheese Salad Fruit Ww crackers	19 Turkey Dressing Mashed Potatoes Green beans Ww Roll Pumpkin Pie	20 Rib sandwich Carrots Fruit Onions Ww bun
23 Baked Beans & wieners Cauliflower w/cheese Broccoli Fruit Ww Cornbread	24 Baked Pork Chop Mashed Potatoes Greens Fruit Ww Bread	25 Hamburger Patty on Ww Roll Lettuce/onion corn French Fries Fruit	26 Center CLOSED Happy Thanksgiving	27 Center CLOSED Happy Thanksgiving
30 Chicken Patty lettuce Carrots Fruit Ww Bun		2% Milk And Margarine Served Daily		Menu Subject To Change Without Notice