



Clay County Free Press

Home of the Clay County Golden Delicious Apple



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Report: Percentage of good jobs, skilled trades to increase over next decade

Nadia Ramlagan

As the economy continues to struggle with inflation and ongoing fears of a potential recession, a new report found the nation's labor market will add more good jobs in the next decade.

Skilled trades will offer solid career pathways and are even more promising due to massive public and corporate investment in infrastructure and the transition to green energy.

Artem Gulish, senior federal policy adviser in the Center on Education and the Workforce at Georgetown University and co-author of the report, said most good jobs will require bachelor's degrees or specialized credentials.

"Sixty-six percent of good jobs will go to workers with a bachelor's degree or higher, and 15% will go to workers with a high school diploma or less," Gulish reported.

A good job is defined as paying at least \$43,000 a year and a median annual salary of \$74,000 for workers age 25 to 44. West Virginia is among five states with the greatest expected share of jobs for workers with a high school diploma or less, according to data from the Center.

The mass exit of baby boomers from the workforce and artificial intelligence in the coming decade will cause shifts in many sectors of the economy. Gulish pointed out blue-collar jobs such as construction, health care, maintenance and repair will increasingly require

postsecondary training.

"Those jobs are increasingly going to be shifting to middle-skills workers with more specialized skills," Gulish emphasized.

The report also pointed to job quality beyond salary in the future jobs landscape, including access to health care plans and retirement benefits. The data show 89% of workers in the highest wage bracket have access to health care plans and retirement benefits, compared with only 30% of workers in the lowest bracket. Flexible work schedules and access to wellness programs are more common among in higher-income jobs.

Support for this reporting was provided by Lumina Foundation.

Golden Delicious Apple Festival Schedule released

The 2024 Clay County Golden Delicious Apple Festival is fast approaching, and will be held from Thursday, Sept. 19 through Sunday, Sept. 22. The schedule of events is as follows (subject to change):

Thursday, September 19:

- 6 pm- Opening Ceremonies, Flag Raising and Star Spangled Banner
- 6 pm- Queen's Coronation Ceremony, Amusement rides open, Quilt Show winners announced
- 7 pm- First Responders Parade

8 to 10 pm- Open Mic Night

Friday, September 20:

- 9 am- Flag Raising
- 9 am- Business Decorating contest registration
- 10 am- Big Otter Elementary Choir
- 10:30 am- Clay Elementary Choir
- 11 am- Clay Middle School Choir
- 11:30 am- Clay Middle School Band
- 11 am to 6 pm- Quilt Show at the Health Department
- 12 pm- Apple Belle Ceremony
- 12 pm- Amusement Rides Open

FESTIVAL cont. on page 6

CCHS Alumni Luncheon scheduled Sept. 18

The CCHS Alumni Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 18, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Carol's CrossRoads Best Family Restaurant in Maysel, Clay County. RSVP to Quincy Potasnik at 304-549-8203. Everyone is responsible for paying for their own food.

Here's what to expect: eat good

food, meet up with old classmates, meet new friends, reminisce, and laugh A LOT.

You're encouraged to bring memorabilia, stories, and a smile to share with everyone. If you are a CCHS graduate, attended Clay County schools, or had parents or grandparents who attended, you are invited!

Mountain State Spotlight: Rural West Virginia health departments are struggling to stop the spread of HIV amidst restrictions and underfunding



Dr. Anita Stewart, the Nicholas County health officer, sitting at her office. Photo by Allen Siegler.



Senate Majority Leader Tom Takubo, R-Kanawha, during a Senate Health Committee meeting on Feb. 14, 2023. Photo by Will Price/WV Legislature

The deadly infectious disease is spreading in rural counties, and local health departments don't have enough money and resources to find cases and connect people to treatment. State lawmakers have a big role in creating both problems.

by Allen Siegler

This story was originally published by Mountain State Spotlight. Get stories like this delivered to your email inbox once a week; sign up for the free newsletter at <https://mountainstatespotlight.org/newsletter>.

As West Virginia towns were dealing with the fallout of being flooded with prescription painkillers in the late 2010s, Dr. Anita Stewart recognized that people with opioid addictions were at risk of HIV.

Prescription pills became harder to get, leading many people to switch to injecting heroin and fentanyl. Stewart knew they needed clean syringes and needles to be protected from developing one of the deadliest infectious diseases in American history.

"Not having the supplies is why they're at risk of HIV," said Stewart, the top doctor at the Nicholas County Health Department.

And her fear appears to be coming to pass. Over the

past 18 months, she said health workers have detected at least four positive HIV cases in Nicholas County.

"We've never had a cluster here, and we haven't had a new case of HIV in several years," she said. "Until last year."

In 2021, epidemiologists warned of rural HIV spread after West Virginia lawmakers passed a bill restricting how harm reduction programs could operate, leading many syringe service programs to close. Now, another legislative decision — the low levels of state funding for local health departments — is making the ability to respond to that disease spread difficult.

Lawmakers have underfunded West Virginia's local health departments for years and made cuts earlier this year. Although the state health department recently restored the funds to last year's level, county health agencies are receiving around as much state budget money as they were 15 years ago.

That limited budget means that Stewart and the Nicholas County Health Department can no longer afford rapid HIV tests, which are important for identifying people with HIV and connecting them with treatment. She's now unsure of whether, like in other parts of the state, Nicholas County has more undiagnosed

people with the disease.

"How many other cases are out there that you don't know about?" She asked.

Across the state, county health agencies already lacked the money needed to prevent and treat HIV, said Greg Puckett, a member of the West Virginia Public Health Advisory Committee and a Mercer County commissioner.

Combined with laws that give politicians more power to dictate health decisions, he said this is the opposite of what West Virginia needs to address the consequences of the overdose epidemic.

"We have massive amounts of HIV that is undocumented," Puckett said. "I'm 100% confident of it, because we are not testing enough."

But it could be difficult to convince lawmakers to address the situation. Sen. Tom Takubo, the Republican Senate Majority Leader and a Kanawha County pulmonologist, said local health departments running out of money to prevent and treat HIV needs to be fixed.

But he said not all his colleagues would agree with him.

"They just don't like public health or something," he said. "I can't speak for other legislators, but I think we

SPOTLIGHT cont. on page 8

Clay County Free Press

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Little, Shared Moments Of Love

By Joe Mazzella

On cold, winter nights when I was a boy my Mom would often let me help her make popcorn to eat while we watched television. Mom made it the old fashioned way too. She would grab a cast iron skillet and light the stove beneath it. Then she would pour in a splash of oil and add a dollop of butter. Next she would sprinkle in a big handful of kernels from the popcorn bag. Together we would wait, listening to the oil sizzle until we heard the first kernels popping. Then we would grab the skillet and lid and shake them over the fire to keep the popcorn from burning. Shake, shake, shake and pop, pop, pop until the skillet was full to overflowing. Finally, Mom would pour it all into a huge bowl and shake salt all over it.

After this we would all sit down in the living room, Dad in his recliner, Nana in her chair by the stove, and me, Mom, and my brothers on the couch. There was always enough popcorn for everyone and Mom even let me crunch on the kernels that didn't quite finish popping.

The funny thing is I can't really remember a single one of the programs that we watched on TV on those nights. They are all just a blur to me. What I can remember clearly, however, is the smell of the popcorn, the warmth of the bowl on my lap, the delicious taste of it, and most of all the joy I felt with Mom cuddled up next to me. I felt so loved, so safe, and so happy. There with my family all seemed right with the world. We didn't have a huge home, a lot of money, or even fancy snacks from the store but we had Love and that was all we needed.

In the end I think it is those little, shared moments of Love that give life meaning. They are God's gift to us. They are our gift to each other. They are the only things we will take with us when we leave this world. Cherish every one of them. Fill your life with them. Because every time you do, you create a little bit of Heaven right here on Earth.



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Doctor, Could You Repeat That?

Dr. James L. Snyder

For the first time in my life, I've been having health issues. It was nothing serious, but just enough to be aggravating.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage has been very helpful with my medical issues. She arranges all of the medicine I'm supposed to take every day; otherwise, I probably wouldn't take any.

She often asks me, "How are you today?"

I look at her, smile, and say, "I'm fine."

"No, you are not fine. Now take your medicine."

Obviously, she doesn't think I'm fine, but I guess I'm fine with that.

My health issues are very superficial, at least from my perspective. I get up in the morning, eat everything I can get a hold of, take a little nap in the afternoon, and do whatever I want to do.

No matter what I do or don't do, I am still "not fine," according to The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage.

When I have a doctor's appointment, she usually accompanies me because she knows I will not remember anything the doctor says. Of course, she is absolutely truthful about that. I hear what my doctor is saying, but I'm not always listening to what he says. The only thing I hear from the doctor is, "You're doing fine; keep up the good work."

Most health issues had to do with getting old. The older you get, the more your body seems to wear out. So, I'm going to continue getting as old as I can, even if it means hobbling down the road of life.

I noticed something rather interesting. Whenever I go to see a doctor, he or she is always looking for what's wrong with me. I never had a doctor examine me to find something that was right with me.

I know what that means, of course. If there's nothing wrong with me, the doctor has no job. If he does find something wrong, no matter how small, he at least has a job.

Several years ago, before I had these health issues, I went to my doctor every year for an annual checkup. Every time I went, the doctor ended the session by saying, "Somebody your age should have something wrong with them." He was always trying to find something wrong with me. It's a good thing I wasn't seeing a psychiatrist.

I remember something happening at one of my yearly visits to the doctor. It was on a Monday, and the day before, I had an episode of shingles on the right side of my body. At the time, I didn't know what it was.

When I went to see the doctor on Monday, I showed him some of the marks on my right arm, and I've never seen my doctor so excited.

He said, "Let me examine that. Something must be

wrong."

Well, he examined it and re-examined it, and every time he examined it, his smile got bigger and bigger. Then, after his examination, he said, "You have been hit with the shingles."

Of course, I didn't know what that meant at the time, but he explained it, and every other sentence was a giggle. I'm one patient who never had anything wrong with them and finally has something wrong with him. That's what my doctor lives for.

That was over five years ago, and it seems like my health went downhill after that. Not too much, just enough to be aggravating. I did spend several days in the hospital. I had a heart attack and had to have a stent put in. I had the Covid episode, which kept me locked in my house for two weeks.

In spite of all of that, I seem to be getting back to some good health. I still have to have regular six-month physical checkups. I have a series of doctors that I have to see, and that just is life.

Last week, for example, I had my six-month appointment to see my heart doctor. I had some tests taken a week before, and he was going to review them for me at this appointment.

He went through all of the regular processes, examined my report, and finally, he was finished. As he was closing up my file, he simply said, "Sir, you are good."

I looked at him and said, "What did you say doctor?"

"I said, you were good."

Looking at him and then back at my wife, who was with me, I said, "Doctor, could you repeat that last word for me so my wife can hear it?"

He looked at me, my wife, and then laughed and said, "good."

I looked over at my wife, who was not smiling then, and said, "My dear, did you hear what the doctor said? Do you need the doctor to repeat it?"

Looking at me with no smile, she said, "I heard everything the doctor said."

As we left the doctor's office, I smiled and said as I walked out, "I'm good." Let's see how The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage can handle that one.

For many years my favorite Bible verse has been, Proverbs 17:22, "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones"

I realize there are many problems in life, but my focus should not be on that, but on the God who is bigger than any problem I might have. My faith in God creates a merry heart in my life.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamesnsnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamesnsnyderministries.com

THIS WEEK IN West Virginia History

The following events happened on these dates in West Virginia history. To read more, go to *e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia* at www.wvencyclopedia.org.

Sept. 4, 1862: General Albert G. Jenkins and his men crossed the Ohio River and became the first to raise the Confederate flag on Ohio soil during the Civil War.

Sept. 4, 1894: Jessie Maynard was born in Williamson. Two of her husbands were killed in violent incidents during the Mine Wars: Cabell Testerman during the shootout at Matewan in 1920 and Sid Hatfield on the steps of the McDowell County Courthouse a year later.



Sept. 5, 1861: Sutton was occupied by 5,000 Union troops. Later in 1861, Gen. Rosecrans bivouacked 10,000 Union troops there, including a future president, William McKinley.

Sept. 5, 1936: Baseball hall of famer Bill Mazerowski was born in Wheeling. He played all 17 years of his career for the Pittsburgh Pirates. His walk-off home run to win the 1960 World Series over the New York Yankees is one of the most famous moments in baseball history.

Sept. 6, 1875: Members of the notorious James Gang allegedly robbed the Bank of Huntington and got away on horseback. The robbery spawned a host of legends, including stories about outlaw Frank James – brother of Jesse James – hiding out in Wayne County.



Sept. 6, 1942: Award-winning woodcarver, dancer, playwright, and educator Jude Binder was born in Maryland. In 1982, she founded Heartwood in the Hills, a school for the arts in Calhoun County. For two decades, she also has been Charleston's "FestivALL Princess."

Sept. 6, 1980: The new Mountaineer Field opened in

Morgantown with a 41-27 win over Cincinnati. It was the first game for new coach Don Nehlen, who would become the most successful coach in West Virginia University history.



Sept. 7, 1808: Peter Godwin Van Winkle was born in New York City. In 1863, Van Winkle was elected as one of the first two U.S. senators from the new state of West Virginia.

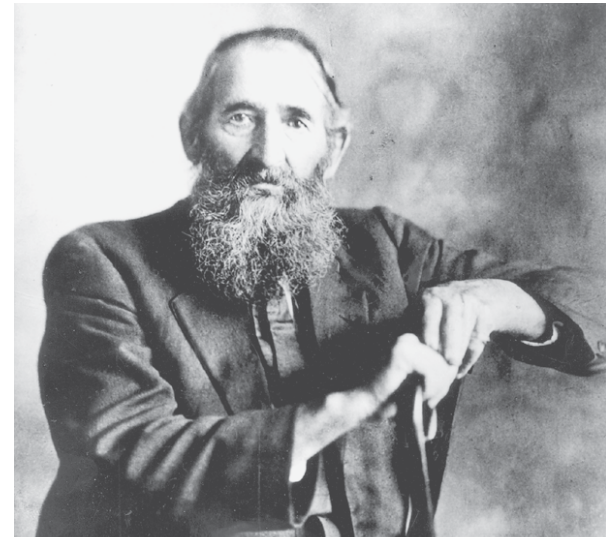
Sept. 7, 1848: Christopher Harrison Payne was born in Monroe County. In 1896, Payne became the state's first Black legislator when he was elected to the House of Delegates from Fayette County.

Sept. 7, 1937: Photographer Arnout "Sonny" Hyde Jr. was born in Bluefield. His images of nature and people appeared in magazines, books and calendars throughout the U.S. and Europe.

Sept. 8, 1862: Confederate raiders led by Gen. Albert G. Jenkins, a Cabell County native, rode into Barboursville. They skirmished with the enemy and then rode into Wayne, Logan and Raleigh counties.

Sept. 8, 1947: Morris Harvey College (now University of Charleston) moved to its current location on the south side of the Kanawha River.

Sept. 9, 1839: Anderson "Devil Anse" Hatfield was born in Mingo County. He was the patriarch of the Hatfield family and their leader during the Hatfield-McCoy feud.



Continued on page 6

Capito: Senate Passes Bipartisan 2024 Water Resources Bill with Key WV Wins

Last month, the U.S. Senate unanimously passed the bipartisan Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2024, which authorizes the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to continue implementation of key projects and studies that address water resources challenges in communities across the country, including several in West Virginia.

WRDA 2024 is biennial legislation that authorizes flood control, navigation and ecosystem restoration projects for the USACE. The bill authorizes water infrastructure projects and programs that will impact all 50 states, including 83 feasibility studies and 13 new or modified construction projects.

U.S. Senators Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.), Ranking Member of the EPW Committee, Tom Carper (D-Del.), Chairman of the Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee, Kevin Cramer (R-N.D.), Ranking Member of the EPW Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee, and Mark Kelly (D-Ariz.), Chair of the EPW Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee, released the below statements celebrating the bill's passage.

"This year's bipartisan Water Resources Development Act supports the important work the Army Corps of Engineers does in states, cities, and towns across America," Ranking Member Capito said. "By passing this legislation, the Senate took a significant step toward strengthening our water infrastructure, supporting our national economy, better protecting communities from flood risks, and helping the Corps carry out its mission now and in the future. I appreciate Chairman Carper and Senators Cramer and Kelly for working together as we advanced the 2024 WRDA today."

"Today, the U.S. Senate passed crucial bipartisan legislation to invest in our nation's water infrastructure, protect our communities and support good paying jobs," Chairman Carper said. "This bill addresses the diverse water resources needs of our nation and directs the Army Corps of Engineers to continue its work to make our communities more resilient in the face of extreme weather. I am grateful to Senators Capito, Kelly and Cramer for their partnership in crafting this legislation and look forward to seeing it across the finish line."

"With today's Senate passage of the Water Resources Development Act, we're supporting states like Arizona in preparing for and responding to drought conditions," Senator Kelly, Chairman of the Senate EPW Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure, said. "This bipartisan legislation includes provisions that will expedite critical Army Corps of Engineers infrastructure and flood control projects in Arizona. I'm proud to have worked alongside my colleagues to advance this bill, and I look forward to its swift enactment to better secure Arizona's water future and support our communities."

"Every two years we pass a bipartisan Water Resources Development Act to authorize Army Corps of Engineers projects and reform existing programs," Senator Cramer, Ranking Member of the Senate EPW Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure said. "From flood control to recreational access, North Dakotans are acutely aware of the importance of the Corps to our state. I am thankful for the partnership of my EPW colleagues who help make WRDA one of the few bills which is both

bipartisan and passed through regular order. The unanimous passage of the Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act in the Senate is a win for regular order and for communities across North Dakota and the country which interact with or even depend on Army Corps operations."

Supporting Flood Control and Prevention Efforts, Ecosystem Restoration:
Addresses the needs of areas harmed by the 2016 flood: adjusts the cost-share for any future projects in West Virginia that are identified by the feasibility study for flood risk management in the Kanawha River Basin.

Increases the maximum amount of funds the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers may contribute to small projects for emergency streambank and shoreline protection, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and the removal of obstructions or debris to rivers and channels.

Urges the USACE to expedite completion of studies/projects in:
o Upper Guyandotte River Basin: feasibility study for food risk management
o Kanawha River Basin: feasibility study for flood risk management
o Milton, W.Va.: project for flood control
o Hinton, W.Va. - Bluestone Dam: project for dam safety modifications

Enhancing Assistance for Environmental Infrastructure Projects:
Increases the authorized funding level for the USACE's Section 340 and Section 571 environmental infrastructure programs, which support drinking water and wastewater projects across the state of West Virginia, and adjusts the cost-share for projects in West Virginia communities that are carried out under these programs.

Establishes a new authority for the USACE to partner with communities in West Virginia, Ohio, and Pennsylvania to restore rivers and streams that have been impacted by acid mine drainage.

Strengthening the Corps' Authorities to Address Water Resources Needs:
Improves the USACE's outreach and education efforts to communities, including those in West Virginia, that are facing water resources challenges.

Expands the USACE's ability to partner with West Virginia University to conduct academic research on water resources issues critical to West Virginia.

Modernizes the USACE's ability to pay authority to account for the different needs of communities across West Virginia and the nation.

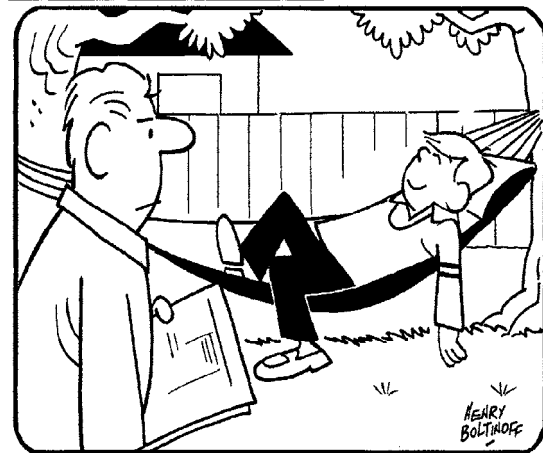
Requires the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to conduct a review of and prepare a report to Congress on the USACE's:

o Efforts to accelerate feasibility studies by implementing the environmental review provisions in the *Fiscal Responsibility Act* and other existing USACE authorities.

o Project partnership agreements for water resources development projects, emphasizing the indemnification clause and long-term Operations, Maintenance, Repair, Replacement, and Rehabilitation Responsibilities of the non-federal interest included in those agreements.

o Project cost estimates for completed and ongoing water resources development projects to improve fiscal responsibility and transparency in cost estimates for non-federal interests.

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Arm is longer. 2. Foot is moved. 3. Nose is smaller. 4. House is not as wide. 5. Leaves are missing. 6. Tree trunk is different.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Asteroid belt's largest body
 - 6 Ooze
 - 10 Lavish party
 - 14 PC peripheral
 - 19 "Halt!" at sea
 - 20 Forearm bone
 - 21 Nagging pain
 - 22 Amtrak train
 - 23 Part of a cylinder lock preventing motion
 - 25 Lectures aided by blackboards
 - 27 Concerning
 - 28 Gigi's "yes"
 - 29 Working stiff
 - 30 "Bad Guy" singer Billie
 - 31 Wrestler's leg lock
 - 35 Pop rocker Turner
 - 36 Co. big shot
 - 37 Eye, to poets
 - 38 — Dhabi
 - 39 Egg-shaped
 - 41 Instant lawn
 - 44 Manor
 - 46 Original name of the comic strip "Popeye"
 - 49 French painter Camille
 - 51 San Diego baseballer
 - 52 Pulsate
 - 53 Revered one
 - 56 Arizona tribe
 - 59 Burglarize
 - 60 Twosome
 - 62 Adhesive-roll containers
 - 66 Study of light
 - 67 Actor's signal
 - 68 "Angel" singer Yoko
 - 69 Simple chord
 - 70 Flaky dessert
 - 71 Bit of body art, informally
 - 72 Being staked
 - 74 Inoculation creation
 - 77 Siblings' daughters
 - 78 Noted coach Parseghian
 - 79 Scientology's — Hubbard
 - 80 With 84-Across, think piece in a newspaper
 - 81 Lug along
 - 82 — Taco (frozen treat)
 - 84 See 80-Across
 - 87 Edible fungus whose cap has not yet opened
 - 92 Sunday paper extra
 - 96 That, to Lucia
 - 97 Forest, brush or desert
 - 98 Pothole filler
 - 99 Inclined (to)
 - 100 "The Thing" actress — Marie Johnson
 - 101 — diagram (logic image)
 - 102 Posting of off-topic replies on an internet forum
 - 105 Wearable gift shop item
 - 108 BLT spread
 - 110 — -mo replay
 - 111 Oklahoma tribe
 - 112 Women's shoe parts that are wide at the top and bottom and narrower in the middle
 - 114 Nine featured items in this puzzle may be found in these
 - 117 Eyelike openings
 - 118 Bill blocker
 - 119 Omani, e.g.
 - 120 Relative of largo
 - 121 Clear kitchen wrap
 - 122 British school since 1440
 - 123 Skillets, e.g.
 - 124 Lung or heart
 - 34 Kimono sash
 - 35 London art gallery
 - 39 Like some strict Amish
 - 40 "Come" and "go," e.g.
 - 41 "Get the lead out!"
 - 42 Tooth flossing, e.g.
 - 43 Really hated
 - 45 Stridex target
 - 46 Sporty car roof option
 - 47 Tell everything
 - 48 Be next to
 - 50 Really, really
 - 53 "No way!"
 - 54 Wary
 - 55 Light musical work for the stage
 - 57 Baseballer with a record 4,256 hits
 - 58 Close enough to get
 - 60 Penny, e.g.
 - 61 Intl. oil group
 - 63 Medicine amount
 - 64 Pen fluids
 - 65 PBS' "Science Kid"
 - 70 Many groaners
 - 73 "Power" rapper
 - 74 Biblical book after Micah
 - 75 Work in verse
 - 76 Playthings
 - 82 "Get the lead out!"
 - 83 Big name in lawn products
 - 85 Draw off via a tube
 - 86 Oppositionist
 - 88 Ohio city or college
 - 89 Jazz chord
 - 90 Boating tool
 - 91 Mine metal
 - 93 Giving a thrill
 - 94 Manicotti cheese
 - 95 Confronts
 - 99 Does improv
 - 101 Cello cousin
 - 102 Boxer Mike
 - 103 Egypt's — High Dam
 - 104 Jestling sort
 - 105 General — chicken
 - 106 Stray-rescuing gp.
 - 107 Part of mph
 - 108 Confront
 - 109 Choir voice
 - 113 Actress Arden
 - 114 Devitalize
 - 115 Bit of history
 - 116 Day- — paint

Super Crossword STITCHWORK

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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THE WIDEN NEWS



The people who think alike should vote alike.

"DUNDON" RED ASH COAL

Where all think alike, no one thinks very much.

February 1958

Class of 1947-48

By Reba Ann Eagle

Marie Conner is married to Jack Holcomb. Jack works in the "empty hole." They have two children, Jack, Jr., who is 8 years old and Dianna Lynn who is 9 months old. They live in Widen.

Betty Truman is married to Charles Cantrell. He works at Mobile Service Station at Clay, W. Va. They have two sons, Randy 7, and Ernie 1. They live at Duck Creek.

Dorlee Vaughan is married to Joe Truman. Joe is a "motor-man". They have two sons, Mike 9 and Steve 8. They live at Widen.

Betty Shelton is married to Olan "Red" Tinney. "Red" is a tramman. They have a son, Danny Joe 5. They live in Widen.

Hilda Tinney Steadham has two sons, Roger Dale 8 and Mike 4. Hilda is now employed at Hollis Mullin's Store at Dille. She and her sons live at Morris with her parents.

Wanda Potasnik is married to Keith Hamrick. Keith works on the Tipple and Wanda works in the Widen Bank. They live at Widen.

Minnie Pearl Rapp is married to Orval Chapman. Orval works for B and W Electric. They have two daughters, Marlin 7 and Karen 3. They live in Akron, Ohio.

Helen Jones unable to obtain information.

Eleanor Nottingham Rapp and her 3 sons Sammy 8, Mark 6, and Johnny 3 live with her father, Richman Nottingham, in Cleveland, Ohio where Eleanor works as a bookkeeper for Spiegel.

Mary Wilson is married to Ronald Butcher. They have a son Keith age 5. Mary teaches 1st grade in Widen and Ronald is a maintenance foreman in the mines. They live on Buffalo Street.

Joyce Marple is married to Arlle Houghton. He is the constable. She is a beautician at Summersville. They have two sons Johnny 8 and Timmy 4. They live on Wilson Ridge.

Ernestine Nettles is married to Bill Grey. He has served 10 years as a Sergeant in the Air Force. They have one son, Charles William 5 and one daughter Cheryl Lynn 5 months. They live in Tillamum, Washington.

Betty Butcher is married to Robert Payne Tharp. He is a representative for Suburban Motor Freight Co. They have two sons Phillip 7 and Lee G. Jeffrey 2 1-2. They live in Wheeling, W. Va.

Ruth Wood is married to Harold Hunt. He drives a transfer truck. She works as a waitress. They have one son Harold Jr. 7 and one daughter Patsy 9. They live in Atwater, Ohio.

Norma Frame is married to Clayton Hamrick. He works at the tipple. They have three daughters Lorene 4, Loretta 3, and Lauren 2. They live at Little Birch.

Pearl Boggs is married to Russell Jarvis. He works in a Goodyear Rubber plant. She works in the Memorial Hospital. They have two sons Larry 7 and Bobby Jo 3 and one daughter Carol 5. They live in Akron, Ohio.

Betty Pawza is married to Carl Squires and lives in Denver, Colorado. Betty is a nurse in a Denver, Colorado Hospital.

A POEM

By Willy and Carl

The snow is falling very fast,
To the sleigh riding hill we go.
The boys and girls are sleighing
past,
The little mounds of snow.

Its so much fun to go sleighing
Down the slippery hill.
The boys' laughter is very coarse,
The girls', loud and shrill..

I love to sit 'round the bon fire,
They always build up there.
I think a bon fire's so much fun,
Out in the snow filled air.

I love the whispering murmur of
sled runners,
As they go gliding over the snow,
And the crunch of merrily trudging
feet,
As back up the hill they go.

I think it would be impossible
If you tried forever more,
To find a place so fun and relaxing
As America's great outdoors.

Who's Who!

Jerle Hamrick and April Manning were the mystery students for last month.

One of Widen School's most attractive co-eds and definitely one of our softest spoken is a member of the sophomore class.

Her 5'3" frame carries a 105 pounds trimly and neatly. Her attractive well-chosen clothing emphasize her slender figure. She has dark brown hair and expressive dark eyes. Her favorite entertainers are "The Doves". At the age of 15 she looks forward to being a Secretary someday. Her favorite car is a Ford. She loves to listen to "Maybe" while eating pork chops.

"Boy oh Boy what was that just went past me?" or maybe it's "who pulled my hair?" That's just a member of the eighth grade. He said he got all his ideas from the T.V. program "Cheyenne". His ambition is to go to the Air Force. If he keeps eating fried chicken he might grow enough by the time he is old enough. He is only 13 now. His favorite song is "Diana." This package of dynamite is 5'1" tall and weighs 85 pounds.

STUDENT'S ATTEND STATE CONVENTION

Carol Neal and Jimmy Manning, juniors, will motor to Charleston, W. Va. on March 3, to attend the annual "Know Your State Government" conference under the sponsorship of the WVEA Citizenship and International Relations Committee.

Carol and Jimmy were elected by their class mates to represent their class at the conference.

The couple and Mr. H. E. Baer, principal, will attend the general session in the House of Delegate's Chamber, where they will hear Goren Dalfelt of Angelholm, Sweden speak. Later, they will listen to panel discussions featuring state officials and student interrogators.

After Luncheon at the Charleston Woman's Club, where they will hear an address by the Honorable Cecil H. Underwood, Governor of West Virginia, they will be conducted on a tour of the Capitol.

'MISS WIDEN HIGH SCHOOL' CROWNED AT HOMECOMING GAME ON FEBRUARY 7TH

Miss Helen Ellis was crowned "Miss Widen High School II" at a colorful half-time ceremony on Friday, February 7, at the home coming game between the Widen Buffaloes and the Burnsville Bruins in the community building.

Her escort was made up of: Senior Princess, Joanne Conner, escort—Jimmy Manning.

Junior Princess, Judy LaCorte, escort—Tommy Napier.

Sophomore Princess, D a w n e Backus, escort—Robert Baughman.

Freshman Princess, Jane Gibson, escort—Charles Lewis.

8th Grade Princess, Karen Wood, escort—Gary Craft.

7th Grade Princess, Patricia Manning escort—Jack Wilson.

Crown Bearers: Nancy Pinney and Kenneth James.

Mistress of Ceremonies: Ruby Lee Holcomb.

Eight trumpeters played a fanfare as Albert King, the captain of the team, crowned Miss Ellis.

Paul DeMoss, Co-captain, presented Miss Ellis the school colors of red and white.

Each princess presented the queen with her class' colors.

Mr. Baer gave Helen a bouquet of red roses and white carnations.

SIX TOP TIPS ON WINTER DRIVING

Here are six tips from the National Safety Council's Committee on Winter Driving Hazards for motorists who have to drive on ice or snowcovered roads:

1. Be prepared. Winterize your driving techniques and your determination to avoid accidents, as well as your car.
2. Check your tires. Whether you use regular or snow tires, make sure they're in good condition. Use reinforced tire chains for deep or hard packed snow, ice, and in emergency traction situations. Even with chains, slow down. Specialized tires, while better than conventional tires, are not enough better to warrant less care in winter driving.
3. Make sure you can see. Keep windshield and windows clear. Make sure that wiper blades, heater and defroster arer in proper operating condition. Ventilate to keep the inside of car windows from fogging.
4. Get the feel of the road. As soon as you start out (but away from other cars or hazards) try your brakes occasionally to learn road conditions.
5. Don't follow other cars too closely. Following too closely, a year-round hazard, is especially dangerous in winter. Keep well back of the vehicle ahead and give yourself plenty of room in which to stop.
6. For stopping quickly on a slippery surface and still maintain steering control, pump your brakes in a series of quick applications. Jamming on the brakes is certain to lock the wheels and throw a car into an uncontrollable skid. Above all, take it easy.

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LEGAL

Notice of Administration to Creditors, Distributees & Legatees

Notice is hereby given that the following estate(s) have been opened for probate in the Clay County Clerk's Office at P.O. Box 190, 246 Main Street, Clay, WV 25043-0190. Any person seeking to impeach or establish a will must make a complaint in accordance with the provisions of West Virginia Code 41-5-11 through 13. Any interested person objecting to the qualifications of the personal representative or the venue or jurisdiction of the court, shall file written notice of an objection with the County Commission through the Clay County Clerk's Office at the address listed above within 60 days after the date of the first publication or within 30 days of the service of the notice, whichever is later. If an objection is not filed timely, the objection is forever barred. Any person interested in filing claims against an estate must file them in accordance with West Virginia Code 44-2 or 44-3A.

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

Publication Date: Thursday, September 5, 2024

Claim Deadline: Monday, November 4, 2024

APPOINTMENT DATE: 08/12/2024
 ESTATE NAME: **KELLI JO ADKINS**
 ADMINISTRATRIX: BEVERLY ADKINS
 5051 DOG RUN RD
 CLAY WV 25043-6099

APPOINTMENT DATE: 07/02/2024
 ESTATE NAME: **RHEENETTA BENNETT**
 EXECUTOR: DENNIS BENNETT
 1730 VALLEY VIEW DR
 CLENDENIN WV 25045-9248

APPOINTMENT DATE: 08/15/2024
 ESTATE NAME: **JERRY CLYDE BUTCHER**
 EXECUTRIX: CONNIE KERR
 PO BOX 326
 CLAY WV 25043-0326

APPOINTMENT DATE: 08/16/2024
 ESTATE NAME: **WAYNE DOUGLAS KINCAID**
 EXECUTRIX: JULIE EVANS
 2882 DIXIE HIGHWAY
 LIZEMORES WV 25125-8183

APPOINTMENT DATE: 08/27/2024
 ESTATE NAME: **JUNE RECKELL**
 ADMINISTRATRIX: TAMEULA RAE TRACY
 3949 HWY 32
 ASHTON ID 83420-5725

APPOINTMENT DATE: 08/27/2024
 ESTATE NAME: **ALBERT SHAMBLIN JR**
 ADMINISTRATRIX: DIANNA SIZEMORE
 2012 WILSON ST
 DUNBAR WV 25064-2005

APPOINTMENT DATE: 08/27/2024
 ESTATE NAME: **GLORIA JEAN SHAMBLIN**
 ADMINISTRATRIX: DIANNA SIZEMORE
 2012 WILSON ST
 DUNBAR WV 25064-2005

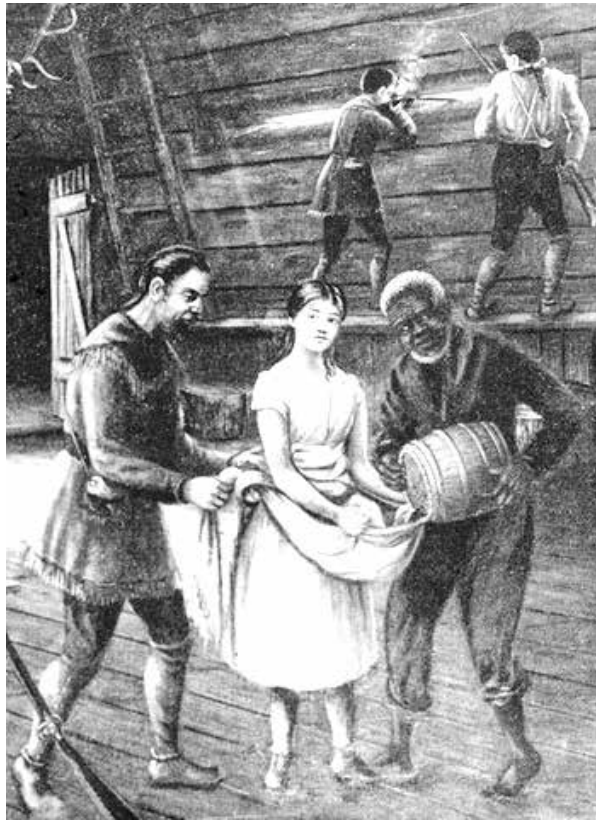
APPOINTMENT DATE: 08/22/2024
 ESTATE NAME: **DOTTIE GRACE STARCHER**
 EXECUTOR: JOEL F. O. RICHERT
 5924 WEST LYN HAVEN DR SE
 KENTWOOD MI 49512-9316

Subscribed and sworn to before me on 08/27/2024

Sheila Stone
 County Clerk
 Clay County
 P.O. Box 190
 246 Main Street
 Clay, WV 25043-0190

THIS WEEK IN West Virginia History

Continued from page 3



Sept. 10, 1782: Frontier heroine Betty Zane is credited with saving Fort Henry in Wheeling during an attack by British and Indians during the Revolutionary War. According to one account, Zane sprinted across a field to retrieve gunpowder from the Zane family cabin.

Sept. 10, 1861: The Battle of Carnifex Ferry took place on the Gauley River. Union Gen. William Rosecrans sent in brigades one at a time as they arrived at the battlefield, allowing the outnumbered Confederates to repulse the piecemeal attacks. During the night, the Confederates retreated before they could be defeated in the morning.



FLOYD'S COMMAND RE-CROSSING THE GAULEY RIVER AFTER THE BATTLE OF SEPTEMBER 10TH, AT CARNIFEX FERRY. AFTER A SKETCH MADE AT THE TIME.

Sept. 10, 1887: Author and scholar John Frederick Matheus was born in Keyser. He became a prominent writer of plays, short stories, and other works during the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s.

Sept. 10, 1996: Movie and TVactress Joanne Drue died in Los Angeles. Drue, the older sister of *Hollywood Squares* host Peter Marshall, was born Joan Letitia Lacock in Logan. Her movie career included more than 40 films.



LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT

Notice is hereby given that WV RECLAIM CO, LLC, 2122 LEATHERWOOD ROAD, BICKMORE, WV 25019, has submitted an application to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), for the surface mining of approximately 256 acres and has submitted an application to the DEP, 47 School Street, Suite 301, Philippi, WV 26416-1600, for renewal of Article 3 Permit Number O3022292 to operate a refuse disposal site in the NA seam of coal.

The operation is discharging into Big Branch of Lilly Fork of Buffalo Creek of Elk River and is located 4.5 miles, east of BICKMORE, in HENRY District of Clay County, Longitude 81° 2' 5" and Latitude 38° 23' 17" (Coordinates from USGS Topographic Map).

Surface of the area associated herewith is owned by:

NAME	ADDRESS
AppleAtcha Land, LLC	200 Park Ave Ste 400, Orange Village, OH 44122
Allegheny Rural Nmtc Forestlands, LLC	1512 East Franklin Street, Suite 104, Chapel Hill, NC 27514

*and the mineral associated herewith is owned by:

NAME	ADDRESS
NA	

*and the mineral within 100 feet of the permit area is owned by:

NAME	ADDRESS
NA	

Surface of the area within 100 feet of the permit area is owned by:

NAME	ADDRESS
AppleAtcha Land, LLC	200 Park Ave Ste 400, Orange Village, OH 44122
Allegheny Rural Nmtc Forestlands, LLC	1512 East Franklin Street, Suite 104, Chapel Hill, NC 27514
EL2LLC	11 Speltz Lane, Oley, PA 19547

Written comments and/or requests for an informal conference of the permit renewal application shall identify the applicant and application number and will be received by the Permit Supervisor at the DEP address above until 10/28/24, or thirty (30) days from the date of final publication. A copy of the application will be available for review until 10/28/24, or thirty (30) days from the date of final publication in the DEP Regional Office located at the address above and is available at:

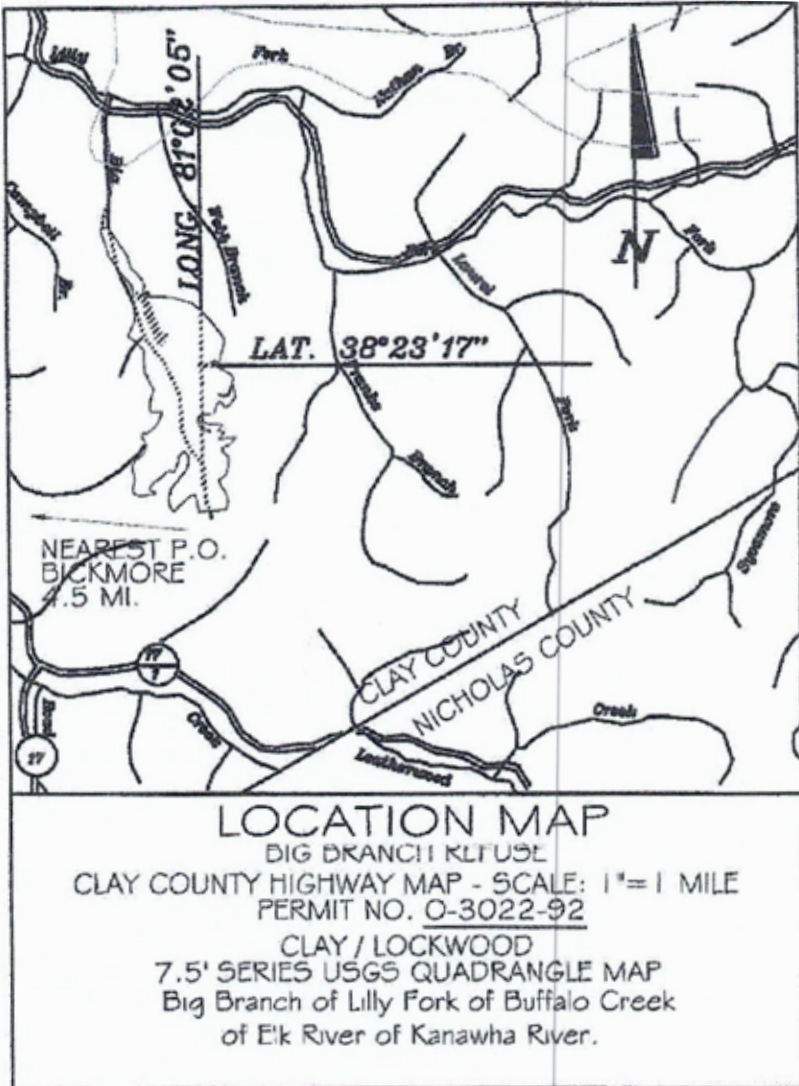
http://apps.dep.wv.gov/WebApp/_dep/Search/ePermitting/ePermittingApplicationSearchPage.cfm

The above link can be accessed from a computer at all West Virginia public libraries.

DEP Telephone Number: 304-457-3219 Permit Number: O302292

*These items are to be completed only for operations involving mineral removal.

Include location map in accordance with 38-2-3.2(b)(2)



FESTIVAL

Continued from Page 1

- 12:30 pm- Apple Belle Reception at the Clay Senior Services Building
- 3 pm- Business Decorating winner announced
- 4 pm- Music by Jebediah
- 6 pm- Music by Michael Rucker
- 7 pm- Music by Marissa Truman
- 8 pm- Music by Josh Pantry Music

- Saturday, September 21:
- 8 am- Baking Contest registration (auxiliary gym)
 - 9 am- Flag raising
 - 9 am- Pet Pageant Registration
 - 9 am- Car Show (auxiliary gym lot)
 - 9:30 am- Pet Pageant
 - 10 am- Weiner Dog Races
 - 11 am to 4 pm- Quilt Show (Health Department)
 - 11 am- Art Auction (Courthouse square)
 - 1:30 pm- Grand Parade
 - 2 pm- Amusement rides open
 - 2:30 pm- Skillet Flinging registration

- 2:30 pm- Cornhole registration
 - 2:30 pm- Bake Show winners announced
 - 3 pm- Baked Goods Auction
 - 3 pm- Skillet Flinging Contest
 - 3 pm- Cornhole Competition
 - 3:30 pm- Not So Newlywed Game
 - 4:30 pm- Music- by Christopher Mullins
 - 5 pm- CCHS Alumni Gathering (High School)
 - 5:30 pm- Music by Logan Truman
 - 6:30 pm- Music by Kate Boytek
 - 7 pm- Athletic Hall of Fame Induction (High School)
 - 8 pm- Music by DIAMOND RIO
 - After the concert- Fireworks
- Sunday, September 22:
- 8 am- Elk River Trail Marathon/Half Marathon/5K (Dundon)
 - 11 am- Gospel Music Sunday (Sponsored by Fairview Baptist Church)
 - 2 pm- Rubber Ducky Race (Sponsored by Clay Lion's Club)

LEGAL

Tariff Form No. 8-A
 (Tariff Rule 8.1 a et seq.)

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

NOTICE is hereby given that Nicholas County Solid Waste Authority (the "Authority"), a commercial solid waste facility and a public utility, has, on August 23, 2024, filed with the PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA an application containing increased rates and charges for furnishing transfer station disposal services to customers at the Nicholas County Transfer Station in Calvin, West Virginia.

The proposed increased rates and charges will produce approximately \$277,948 annually in additional revenue, an increase of 14.03%. The purpose of the Authority's rate case filing is to increase rates and charges for increased operation and maintenance costs relating to the Landfill's compliant and continued operations. The proposed increased rates and charges will not become effective until approved by the Commission. The Authority's current and proposed rates, on a per ton basis, are as follows:

	Current	Proposed	(\$)	(%) Increase
Bag Rate (Up to 20 Bags)	\$1.08 per bag	\$1.28 per bag	\$0.20	18.35%
Appliances	\$3.13	\$3.70	\$0.57	18.35%
Municipal Solid Waste	\$65.78 per ton	\$77.85 per ton	\$12.07	18.35%
Minimum Charge (Less than 300 lbs)	\$10.57	\$12.51	\$1.94	18.35%
Passenger Tire	\$4.68	\$5.54	\$0.86	18.35%
Small Truck Tire	\$6.11	\$7.23	\$1.12	18.35%
Large Truck Tire	\$16.84	\$19.93	\$3.09	18.35%
Cardboard	\$65.78 per ton	\$77.85 per ton	\$12.07	18.35%
Construction & demolition material (clean)	\$28.75 per ton	\$34.03 per ton	\$5.28	18.35%

Both the present and proposed rates referenced above are exclusive of any legislatively mandated or authorized per-ton assessment fees and any other per-ton assessment fees due to any governmental entity. The Authority has no resale customers.

The increases shown are based on averages of all customers in the indicated class. Individual customers may receive increases that are greater or less than average. Furthermore, the requested 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 Public Service 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 and 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 rules 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 Virginia, P.O. Box 812, 201 Brooks Street, 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 delivered to the Executive Secretary at the address above.

A complete copy of this tariff, as well as a representative of the Authority to provide any information requested concerning it, is available to all customers, prospective customers, or their agents at any of the following offices of the Authority: 120 Baughman Road, Calvin, West Virginia.

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.

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| 2014 Chevy Malibu-Auto, A/C, Tilt & Cruise, Black | \$4,999.00 |
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A nurse conducts HIV testing during a harm reduction event in 2020. Photo by Lauren Peace.

really need a bigger vision of our public health.”

A service hub for rural communities

County health departments aren't the only West Virginia organizations that focus on addressing HIV. Hospital systems like Charleston Area Medical Center run programs aimed at treating and preventing it, and the state health department has a division dedicated to responding to infectious diseases outbreaks.

But unlike some groups, local health departments are mandated by law to try to control HIV and prevent it from spreading in their communities.

William Cohen was the West Virginia health department's harm reduction program manager until last year. He said while he was there, the state's local health agencies were more involved in HIV prevention efforts than their counterparts in other states, especially in rural areas.

“Health departments in each area acted as that hub that provided all of those services,” he said.

In Ohio County, health workers detected six new cases of HIV in the first half of 2024. It's a significant increase in a county that averaged just three cases a year from 2016 to 2020.

“Are there additional cases out there? Probably,” said Howard Gamble, the Wheeling-Ohio County Health Department administrator.

Compared to some local health agencies, Gamble's department has advantages that are helping it respond to the county's cluster. It operates one of the few syringe service programs left in West Virginia, and it has a staff of about 30 people.

But only two of the health department's workers see patients, and Gamble says these workers must respond to outbreaks of other illnesses, like Legionnaires' disease.

Additionally, Gamble said that while his staff are doing what they can to increase HIV testing, the agency also struggles to afford rapid tests. His county's portion of the state's local health department funding isn't enough.

“That makes a huge impact on how we can respond to the everyday efforts,” Gamble said.

“It's going to be up to the voters”

When state lawmakers were writing the 2025 state budget, they worried that West Virginia would have to return \$465 million to the federal government and made cuts. This included a 10% reduction in funding for local health departments, according to House Health and Human Resources chair Amy Summers, R-Taylor.

Later in the spring, after lawmakers learned the state wouldn't lose that money, state delegates and senators allocated an additional \$5 million to the reserves for the Department of Health. Summers said this additional money was intended to help local health departments.

“After we found out there was no judgment against the state, we had a special session and replaced the funding,” Summers wrote in an email.

But this money is unlikely to make its way to local health agencies. Gamble said he was told by the Department of Health that local departments could only access the \$5 million for emergencies, like if a county's building had water damage.

“I do not foresee that county health departments will be the recipients of that in any fashion,” he said.

Earlier this summer, the Department of Health used money from a different source to restore local health department funding back to last year's level, according to department spokesperson Annie Moore. She added that the department hasn't received any funding requests related to HIV clusters.

“[The Department of Health] remains committed to supporting local health departments, particularly in HIV testing and response,” Moore wrote in an email.

But even with funding restored, the state budget for local agencies is millions of dollars less than it was 15 years ago after adjusting for inflation. And the 2021 syringe service restrictions remain in effect.

“It's very obvious that the consequence of these particular situations is that HIV is going to increase,” said Cohen, the former state health department harm reduction program manager.

Takubo, the West Virginia Senate Majority Leader, said if he hears that local health departments need more money for specific HIV prevention efforts, he and his colleagues could try to fund them.



Health and Human Resources Committee Chair Amy Summers, R-Taylor, speaks on the floor during May's special session. Photo by Perry Bennett/WV Legislative Photography.



The outside of the Nicholas County Health Department building. Photo by Allen Siegler.

But he said a lot of state lawmakers haven't wanted to increase health spending in the past, and he thinks it'll be hard to convince them of that now.

“Some legislators don't want to change and learn,” he said. “It's going to be up to the voters.”

Conversations with the community

Stewart, the Nicholas County health officer, knows that it can be difficult protecting West Virginians from HIV. Before starting in Summersville in 2023, she held the same position in Fayette County and helped run its harm reduction program.

Even as it got harder, Stewart continued the work. After the 2021 syringe service restrictions, she and her coworkers found a way to keep their program open within the stringent state rules.

In Nicholas County, elected officials seem willing to have discussions about how best to stop the spread of HIV. Stewart, who has sometimes struggled to have these conversations in Southern West Virginia in the past, is hopeful the county's commissioners will approve her department's recent syringe service program application.

Still, the application process and trying to find funds for a needle exchange can bring up a feeling in Stewart that's familiar to doctors across West Virginia.

“That's hard, knowing that there's something that could be done to make someone healthier, to make communities healthier, and then not being able to respond.”

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