


Clay County

Free Press

Home of the Clay County Golden Delicious Apple



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Gov. Patrick Morrisey high fives kids at West Teays Elementary School during an event promoting reading earlier this year. Courtesy photo

Confused about vaccine exemptions in West Virginia schools? Here’s what you need to know.

After failed legislative attempts to weaken West Virginia’s vaccination law, Gov. Patrick Morrisey has gone to court to allow religious exemptions. Right now, public school students must be vaccinated in almost all instances.



Gov. Morrisey speaks at a press conference earlier this summer announcing a lawsuit by a Raleigh County parent over the state’s vaccination requirements. Courtesy photo.

By Duncan Slade for Mountain State Spotlight, www.mountainstatespotlight.com

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>.

This month, students across West Virginia are returning to school — and at least for now — they have to be vaccinated.

As that first day of class approached,

VACCINE *cont. on page 3*

West Virginia Student Assessments Continue Positive Trend

West Virginia public school students are improving in English language arts (ELA), mathematics and science according to the most recent state assessment data. The West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE) received results from the 2024-2025 student assessments during its meeting today in Charleston. These include the West Virginia General Summative Assessment (WVGSA) for Grades 3-8, the SAT School Day for Grade 11, and the West Virginia Alternative Summative Assessment for Grades 3-8 and 11.

According to the report, 48 of the 55 counties improved in mathematics, with 26 of them meeting or exceeding annual growth targets set by the West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE). In ELA, 52 counties showed improved proficiency, with 30 of them meeting or exceeding the annual growth target.

Overall, grade-level content improved or stayed the same with increases of 3% in ELA (to 48%), 2% in mathematics (to 38%) and 1% in science (to 30%). Additionally, the percentage of students in the lowest-scoring achievement level in Grade 3 decreased as well.

“We are so excited to see the continued progress of our students. It is the result of the hard work invested at the local and state levels,” said State Superintendent of Schools Michele L. Blatt. “These incremental steps show sustainable growth that impacts student learning in tangible ways. We are grate-

ful to our educators and administrators for their dedication to our students.”

Three years ago, the WVBE directed the State Department of Education to make sure all classroom instruction focused on the fundamental building blocks of learning. The WVDE, working with the West Virginia Legislature and county school systems, implemented the Third Grade Success Act in 2023 that provided unprecedented resources for early learning classrooms. West Virginia’s assessment trends reflect the consistent focus and commitment to the proven practices that strengthen student learning and achievement.

This year’s assessment data report can be found on the Board event calendar page and the Zoom WV dashboard.

Immunization Requirements

The WVBE voted unanimously to issue a letter to the West Virginia Professional Charter School Board (PCSB) to ensure that public charter schools are in full compliance with the State Board’s directive that public schools comply with the compulsory vaccination laws – W. Va. Code §16.3.4 and W. Va. Code §18-5G-3(c). According to state law, charter schools are subject to the same immunization requirements applicable to non-charter public schools which do not recognize religious exemptions. Documents and a video recording of this meeting are available on the WVBE information page of the WVDE website.

The next regularly scheduled WVBE meeting will be announced at a later date.

Meet your 2025 Golden Delicious Apple Belle: Mrs. Frances Sutton



Frances Sutton was named the 2025 Golden Delicious Belle.

On Aug. 7, the Golden Delicious Festival committee met and voted on our new 2025 Golden Delicious Belle. There were four nominations this year, and it is with great pleasure to announce our 2025 Belle, Mrs. Frances Sutton, at age 92. Frances was nominated by her daughter in law, Catrina Neal Sutton.

Frances is from Hansford Fork, Maysel, WV and has been a lifelong resident of Clay County. She is most deserving to serve as our Golden Delicious Belle.

Frances was born August 17, 1933, the daughter of Mattie Boggs Davis and Okey Davis. She was raised on her mother and dad’s poultry farm on Hansford Fork. She was a graduate of

Clay County High School, Class of 1951. After graduation she married the love of her life, Glenn Sutton and they moved to Ohio, then later moved back to the farm on Hansford Fork, Clay County. Together they raised two children, Sherry and Rodrick. She has six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Frances worked at the Clay County Courthouse in the Circuit Clerks Office and retired with 15 years of service. She loves to read her daily bible devotions, watch her hummingbirds eat and enjoys sewing her beautiful scrap quilts.

Frances is most deserving! Congratulations Frances as our New 2025 Golden Delicious Apple Belle.

2025 Summer Meltdown is ending



Looking for cooler weather and the Autumn glow.


See story on Page 8

BOOKED




REGIONAL JAIL MUGSHOTS


NICHOLAS COUNTY




Brian Joseph Addington
Booked 8/12/25
Capias




Charles Elijah-Martell Barnhouse
Booked 8/15/25
Capias




Brittney Danielle Bennett
Booked 8/13/25
Forgery/counterfeiting/etc of lottery tickets, probation violation, embezzlement, fraud schemes, conspiracy



Anthony Michael Houchin
Booked 8/13/25
Family court order



Jacob Casey Jones
Booked 8/16/25
DUI



Daniel Jordan Lane
Booked 8/15/25
Conspiracy to commit felony offense against state, grand larceny, destruction of property

NICHOLAS COUNTY



Cody Ray Mullins
Booked 8/13/25
Probation violation, conspiracy, petit larceny, entering without breaking



Sarah Renee Rogers
Booked 8/13/25
Burglary, fingerprint refusal, trespassing, destruction of property



Ashley Ranae Starcher
Booked 8/15/25
Probation violation



Donald Gene Woods
Booked 8/17/25
Possession of meth, driving while suspended/revoked



Matthew Steven Gentile
Booked 8/12/25
Expired MVI, driving suspended, DUI, possession controlled substance, improper registration



Daniel Jordan Lane
Booked 8/15/25
No MVI, expired operators, possession of counterfeit with intent to utter, defective equipment, no insurance, no operators, improper MVI

BRAXTON COUNTY



James H. Murphy
Booked 8/17/25
DUI first offense, driving revoked



Lindsey Teresa Truman
Booked 8/18/25
Liquor/drink in motor vehicle/street, driving revoked, DUI first offense



Patrick Joe Blankenship
Booked 8/17/25
Disorderly conduct, domestic assault



Edward Lee Deems
Booked 8/12/25
Sexual abuse first degree



Jacob Scott Miller
Booked 8/11/25
Attempted first degree murder



Jeffrey Francis Peek
Booked 8/15/25
Domestic battery second offense

CLAY COUNTY



Patrick Joe Blankenship
Booked 8/17/25
Disorderly conduct, domestic assault



Edward Lee Deems
Booked 8/12/25
Sexual abuse first degree



Jacob Scott Miller
Booked 8/11/25
Attempted first degree murder



Jeffrey Francis Peek
Booked 8/15/25
Domestic battery second offense

Puzzle Answers

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

5	3	9	4	8	7	1	6	2
8	2	1	9	6	5	7	4	3
7	4	6	2	3	1	5	8	9
3	1	5	7	9	4	6	2	8
2	6	4	8	5	3	9	7	1
9	7	8	1	2	6	4	3	5
6	5	2	3	4	9	8	1	7
4	8	7	5	1	2	3	9	6
1	9	3	6	7	8	2	5	4

Super Crossword

Answers

H	O	P		S	M	A	R	T	S		I	O	T	A	S		M	A	R	E		
A	M	I		P	A	R	I	A	H		S	C	O	O	P		O	V	U	M		
H	A	T		F	A	C	T	O	R		T	E	R	R	A		V	I	D	I		
A	R	T		I	C	L	E	S			B	O	A	T	T	R	A	I	L	E		
				S	E	E					A	S	A		N	I	A		N	E		
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O	E	R			D	E	I	T	Y		A	I	L		A	L	E	K	E	G		
O	P	E	D	S		A	N	I	M	A	L	M	A	G	N	E	T	I	S	M		
T	O	N	O	E	N	D		O	N	E	L		O	A	R		T	S	A			
S	T	E	L	M	O		D	O	U	G		O	M	I	T		A	T	O	N		
				L	I	N	E	O	F	R	E	A	S	O	N	I	N	G				
Z	A	G	S		P	R	O	F		L	I	T	E		C	O	L	A	D	A		
A	H	A		M	R	I		D	I	O	R				U	S	H	E	R	E	D	
P	O	L	I	T	I	C	S	A	S		U	S	U	A	L		O	T	E	R	O	
S	Y	S	T	E	M		M	Y	O		O	R	O	N	O		N	E	B			
				S	T	E	N	O		F	O	U	L		L	A	N	G	U	A	G	E
S	A	R	A	N		O	K	S		L	T	S			T	E	C					
W	H	I	P	A	N	T	E	N	N	A				S	M	A	L	L	I	S	H	
O	M	N	I		E	Y	D	I	E		A	F	T	E	R	P	A	R	T	Y		
R	A	N	T		T	E	R	P	S		R	O	A	D	I	E		M	A	P		
D	D	A	Y		S	T	Y	E	S		E	G	G	S	O	N		A	Y	E		

West Virginia Department of Tourism Releases

2025 Fall Foliage Projection Map

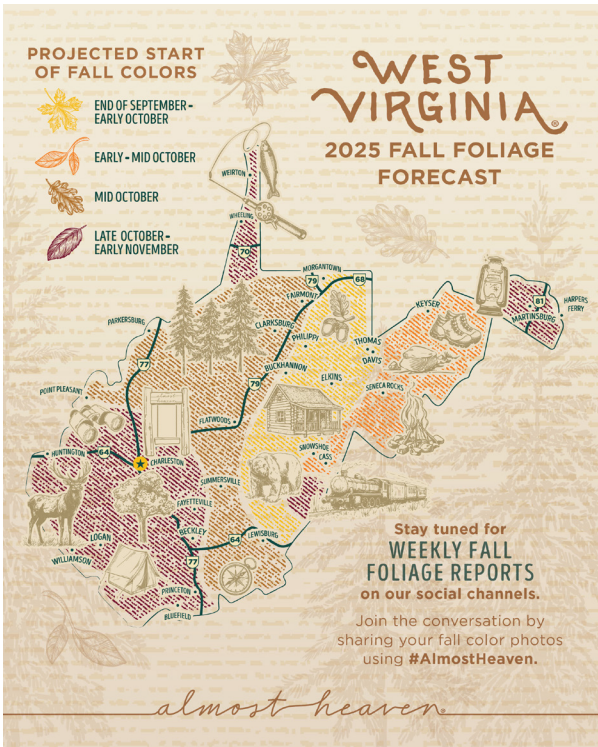
Magnificent color expected to cover the Mountain State following summer rain

With autumn quickly approaching, the West Virginia Department of Tourism has unveiled its highly anticipated fall foliage projection map. Created in collaboration with the West Virginia Division of Forestry, this map predicts when and where fall foliage will appear across the state, helping travelers plan the perfect autumn trip to the third most forested state in the U.S. Summer rainfall totals have set the stage for exceptional color this season.

“West Virginia’s mountains are poised to put on one of their most breathtaking shows yet,” said West Virginia Division of Forestry Director Jeremy Jones. “With the wet summer and perfect mix of warm days and crisp nights, we’re expecting vibrant reds, brilliant oranges, and golden yellows to sweep across the hillsides this fall.”

Starting mid-September, the Department of Tourism will roll out weekly travel-ready itineraries highlighting some of the best destinations and adventures for enjoying vibrant color. These curated itineraries can be found on West Virginia Tourism’s social media channels and at wvtourism.com/press-releases. Join the West Virginia Tourism Instagram Broadcast Channel to be among the first to hear about fall happenings in West Virginia and unlock exclusive offers! An invite will be sent to all followers, or they can access the join link under the “Fall” highlight.

“There are still a few weeks of summer left, but it’s never too early to start planning a trip to experience West Virginia’s stunning fall foliage,” said West Virginia Department of Tourism Secretary Chelsea Ruby. “Thanks to above-average rainfall this summer, the fall colors are expected to really show off. Head to our website for inspirational fall content and trip planning tips. There’s no better place to spend this season than in Almost Heaven!”



West Virginia Department of Tourism.

Travelers are invited to share their autumn photos using #AlmostHeaven for a chance to be featured on social media channels. Beginning late September, the department’s live leaf tracker will also showcase photos shared with #AlmostHeaven and will be updated in real time, offering a glimpse into the current conditions.

In addition, the Department of Tourism plans to re-launch the popular state-wide Paranormal Trail and feature new spine-chilling stops.

To keep tabs on all things autumn in Almost Heaven, visit wvtourism.com/fall.

Treasurer Pack Welcomes Outschool to Hope

Scholarship Program

State Treasurer Larry Pack, who serves as Chairman of the Hope Scholarship Board, today announced his Office has approved an online learning platform, Outschool, to offer Hope Scholarship students a wide range of small-group, online classes.

Outschool has been a leader in serving a variety of students across the country and creating unique learning experiences for families. Today, Outschool offers more than 140,000 live online classes to more than 1.5 million students nationwide.

“This is a big deal for our Individualized Instructional Plan students, especially as we see a record number of students from the homeschool community coming into the program and we prepare to welcome thousands more once the program goes truly universal for the 2026-2027 school year,” Treasurer Pack said. “I am proud my Office is partnering with Outschool so Hope Scholarship funds can easily be utilized to access high-quality educational experiences that support a child’s individualized goals. It is crucial we continue to empower students and parents to find the right education that fits their unique needs.”

Eligible families can use their Hope Scholarship funds to purchase Learning Passports, which are Out-

school credit bundles, through the Hope Scholarship online portal operated by Student First Technologies. These non-transferrable credits are tied to the eligible Hope student and can only be used for state-approved Outschool classes for than specific student. If a student leaves the Hope Scholarship program at any time, their remaining Outschool balance will return to the state.

Students will be able to purchase Learning Passports in the amounts of \$50, \$100 or \$200 and each student may hold a maximum of \$500 in program-funded Outschool credits at any time.

The deadline to receive the full scholarship amount of \$5,267.38 for the 2025-2026 school year was June 15. A student application submitted within the following dates will receive the associated level of Hope Scholarship funding:

- June 16-Sept. 15: 75% of Hope Scholarship annual award amount.
- Sept. 16-Nov. 30: 50% of Hope Scholarship annual award amount.
- Dec. 1-Feb. 28: 25% of Hope Scholarship annual award amount

For more information about the Hope Scholarship, visit www.HopeScholarshipWV.com.

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Growing Up Grateful

By Joe Mazzella

When I was a boy growing up we didn’t have much materially. I spent most of my childhood living in my Nana’s 75 year old house with my Dad, Mom, Nana, and two brothers. It was built from two shanty cars with lots of lean-to’s, porches, and other rooms built on as the years went by. I can only remember my Mom buying me new clothes two times. The other times I was given my two brothers’ hand-me-downs. Yet, I never felt ashamed because of this. I didn’t have any fancy toys either. I had a bike, a basketball, and a football. In the summer I had the outdoors and my imagination to play in. And in the winter I had the wood stove to sit by with my shelf full of tattered old books to read.

We never went hungry, though. We raised hogs for meat and had four huge gardens that gave us vegetables that lasted throughout the year. And every Sunday afternoon after church my dear Nana and Mom would make us a huge spaghetti dinner with pasta, potatoes, meat-balls, chicken, and even steaks slow cooked in Nana’s homemade red sauce. It was a feast that filled the soul as well as the belly. Most of all we were rich in the things that mattered. Our house had a lot of laughter, a lot of smiles, a lot of joy, and a lot of love. The truth is if I could go back in time to my childhood, I would only change one thing. I would try to be more thankful for every meal, for every smile, for every hug, and for every moment of love we shared.

The truth is happiness is not what makes us thankful. It is thankfulness that makes us happy. And the most powerful prayer in the world consists of three words: “Thank You God!” When you look back on your own childhood then be grateful. It made you who you are today.

May all of your days be filled with gratitude. May all of your days be filled with love. May all of your days be filled with the happiness you create with each choice you make.

Home Country

Slim Randles

When we first noticed the baby sparrow, here at the house, it saddened us all. He had fallen from his nest and was slowly walking around the front yard under the tree while his mother and father had an absolute fit.

We knew we were looking at a dead baby bird, as it was only a question of who does it, where it is done, and how long before it happens. Years of experience in these kinds of things have taught us the finality of a baby bird falling out of a tree. Would the end come from a cat, or from a raccoon wandering up from Lewis Creek, or a snake? One of the problems with being a baby bird is that almost everything with teeth wants to eat you, and if you can’t fly, there’s not much you can do about it. We learned that picking the baby up and putting him back in the nest wouldn’t work, so we were forced to just watch his timid movements around the yard and whisper to him, “I’m sorry, pal.”

You might think that the older we get, the tougher our shells become to these little natural tragedies, but it doesn’t seem to work that way. Maybe it’s because we’ve now had children of our own, and grandchildren, too. Maybe that’s why it actually hurts more to see a helpless baby bird today than when we were 11 and riding our bikes on the river trails. Back then we were bulletproof, flexible, and immortal. But we learned things over the years. We saw people our age die. We saw younger people die. We accumulated our own little collection of personal tragedies.

Then the baby found the drain spout. Yep, that little rascal hopped into the drain spout coming off the roof and had sense enough to stay in there, coming to the edge of his “cave” only for meals from his anxious mother. A week later, I thought I recognized him sitting on a tree branch, looking smug. He wasn’t in the drain spout and I didn’t see any feathers around on the ground.

We live in an age of small miracles.

If you find an injured bird, you can always call or email the experts here at injuredbird@nycbirdalliance.org. NYC birds tend to fly into glass windows, I’m told.



Practice Doesn’t Always Make Perfect

Dr. James L. Snyder

This month The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and her amazing husband will celebrate 54 years of marital bliss. I can’t believe how fast the time has gone. It only seems like yesterday that we got married. Maybe that’s the benefit of getting old.

I remember the beginning of our life together. I went to a Bible college to prepare for the pastoral ministry, and that’s where I met her.

As a young person, I had no qualities when it came to dating. Up until I met this young lady, I had never dated in my life. My parents planted the seed in my mind that most girls had cooties. I didn’t know what that meant, but I wasn’t going to explore it. I just stayed away from girls.

In going to college, my one prayer was that God would lead me to the young lady who would be my wife in my pastoral ministry. I had no way of choosing who that would be. With no dating experience, I just let it in God’s hands. I was still nervous.

The first day of Bible college is when I met her, but I tried to dismiss it because it was just the first day. In classes, we crossed paths almost every day. Then one of the men in the men’s dorm invited me to go out with him and his girlfriend for dinner one night. He said his sister would be coming along if I didn’t mind. Well, I didn’t mind, so we went out together. Guess who it was?

That was the beginning. Slowly, we began seeing each other, and then one day it hit me like a pie in the face. I started thinking that maybe I was dating a girl for the very first time. It took me some time to get over that thought, and it made me wonder about certain things.

When I began to realize that we are actually dating, a thought came to my mind I had never thought before in all my life. What if, and I thought about this very seriously, but what if she expected me to kiss her?

I almost passed out when that thought run through my brain. I’ve never kissed anybody in the world, and nobody’s ever kissed me. Well, except for my dog Sparky. But outside of that, I have been kiss-free all my life. I did not know how to handle it if it got to that point.

Maybe I should begin practicing kissing. I didn’t know how to do it, and I sure wasn’t going to ask anybody in the men’s dorm about this subject.

One morning, I walked into the bathroom and looked in the mirror, and there I saw it. I saw how I could begin to practice kissing by using the mirror.

In the morning, I would go in and practice kissing myself in the mirror over and over again. Then, in the eve-

ning before going to bed, I would go into the bathroom and stand in front of the mirror and kiss myself over and over again.

I’m not sure how long I was doing this, but I did not have confidence I was learning how to kiss anybody. I can hardly kiss myself in the mirror and get away with it.

I always heard that practice makes perfect, and so I practiced, and practiced, and practiced as much as I could. I had no confidence I had perfected any kissing.

Up until now, I have never told anybody about this aspect of my life. After all, who would I tell? And, who would believe me?

Keeping to my diligence, I practiced this kissing procedure day after day. I had to be very careful I didn’t get caught in the dorm, because how would I explain what I was doing? Some things are better left secret.

As our dating got a little more serious, I got a little more nervous. There was going to come a time when she would expect me to give her a kiss good night. Oh boy. How do you fix such a situation in life?

Even now, I’m not exactly sure when it took place. But there was one date that I took her to the ladies’ dorm and walked her to the door, and before I knew it, we kissed. I still don’t know if I kissed her or if she kissed me. The only thing I remember was that woozy feeling I had following that kiss.

Not all my practice in the bathroom mirror prepared me for what I experienced.

After that experience, I guess we kissed a lot, but once I was over that first one, everything else seemed to fall in place.

I must say that all my practicing did not prepare me for what I expected to happen. The more I practiced, the less prepared I became.

A verse of Scripture came to mind along this line. The Apostle Paul writers in 2 Timothy 2:15, “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

In my life I have learned that preparation and practice is important. I personally like the phrase, “a workman that needeth not to be ashamed.” I need to work at my life and not assume things will be OK.

I need to prepare my heart for what God has next for me.

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

Continued from Page 1

VACCINE

there’s been a flurry of courtroom action, social media posts, and press releases that may leave families confused about the status of West Virginia’s vaccination requirements for public schools.

Childhood vaccination is one of the most effective ways to control and prevent disease. Vaccines have saved millions of lives in recent decades.

West Virginia has some of the highest vaccination rates for kindergarteners in the country, a rare bright spot in a state with poor health and shorter life expectancy.

Here’s what you need to know.

What does West Virginia law say about vaccinations?

State law requires students to be vaccinated against measles, chicken pox and other illnesses.

If a kid wants to attend West Virginia public schools, they have to be vaccinated to protect themselves and others. Over the last decade, state officials have approved only a couple dozen medical exemptions per year, which require a doctor’s certification.

Conservative activists and politicians have unsuccessfully tried to change the state law for several years. The GOP has controlled the office of the governor and legislative supermajorities but not been

able to pass a new vaccine law.

On his first day in office, Gov. Patrick Morrisey ordered state health officials to allow religious exemptions under a 2023 law preventing the state from substantially burdening a person’s free exercise of religion. Morrisey argues that forcing parents to vaccinate their kids violates their deeply held religious beliefs.

Parents can still seek an exemption for their child through the state Bureau for Public Health.

But the state immunization law stands unchanged and the West Virginia Board of Education directed schools to keep requiring vaccinations.

What’s happening in the courts?

Miranda Guzman, a Raleigh County parent, applied for and received a religious exemption from state health officials for her four-year-old who is entering preschool. After being told that the religious exemption would not be accepted, she sued state and local school officials.

Other parents have joined her lawsuit, arguing that their religious beliefs not to vaccinate are being violated.

Morrisey has backed the lawsuit. In a court filing, he argued that the state Board of Education is not considering the 2023 religious freedom law and should allow religious exemptions.

Last month, a judge ordered that the kids in the case can go to school without vaccinations. A full hearing is scheduled for mid-September.

“We’re going to keep pressing away in court, or ultimately have the Legislature take action,” Morrisey said on Wednesday in Parkersburg.

Does that court ruling apply to my kid’s school?

The judge’s order in Raleigh County currently only applies to the parents in the case and their kids.

The judge has set another hearing for Sept. 10 and 11 to hear more arguments and determine whether the kids get to continue attending school under a religious exemption. And the case could be appealed all the way to the state Supreme Court.

I got a vaccine exemption from the state. Is it valid?

For this school year, state health officials have issued almost 450 religious exemptions. But, religious exemptions that have been issued are not valid under guidance from the state Board of Education.

Counties have been directed to follow the long-standing state law that requires children to be vaccinated before they begin school.

How does this affect students at private and public charter schools?

Private and parochial schools set their own vaccination policies.

Earlier this week, the state’s charter school board directed the seven schools under its supervision to accept religious exemptions. But two days later, the state Board of Education told the charter school board that it needed to comply with its directive, which does not allow religious exemptions.

Disclosure: The law firm of Bailey & Glasser represents the state Board of Education in the Raleigh County vaccine case. One of the firm’s co-founders, Ben Bailey, is chairman of Mountain State Spotlight’s board of directors.

TRADITION
ALIVE & GLOWING

Appalachian artistry and heritage are on full display at Blenko Glass. This fall, tour the grounds and discover the magic behind the craftsmanship.

Blenko.com

WEST VIRGINIA BLENKO GLASS CO.

almost heaven

THIS WEEK IN West Virginia History

Aug. 20, 1851: The oldest statue in West Virginia, a nine-foot wood carving of Patrick Henry, was dedicated at the county courthouse in Morgantown.



Aug. 20, 2004: Eldora Bolyard Nuzum died in Elkins. While working for the *Grafton Sentinel* in 1946, she became the first female editor of a daily newspaper in West Virginia. For three decades, she was editor of the *Elkins Inter-Mountain*.

Aug. 21, 1861: Confederate troops under General John B. Floyd crossed the Gauley River at Carnifex Ferry, Nicholas County, and began to entrench their position. It was the

beginning of what became known as the Battle of Keslers Cross Lanes.



Aug. 21, 1915: Sing-er Ann Baker was born in Pennsylvania. She later operated a popular Charleston nightclub, The Shalamar, and became known as “Charleston’s First Lady of Jazz.”

Aug. 22, 1872: Following the Constitutional Convention of 1872, the West Virginia electorate ratified a new state constitution by a vote of 42,344 to 37,777. In the same election, voters rejected a controversial convention proposition that would have prohibited Black citizens from holding public office.

Aug. 22, 1874: John

Kee, the patriarch of a powerful political family, was born in Glenville. He relocated to Bluefield in 1910 and was first elected to Congress in 1932, eventually chairing the House Foreign Affairs Committee. After his death in 1951, his widow, Elizabeth, filled his seat (1951-65), followed by their son James (1965-73).



Aug. 23, 1949: John Chambers was born in Cleveland but spent much of his formative years in Ravenswood and Charleston. He is best known as the former CEO and chairman of the Cisco Systems technology company.

Aug. 23, 1965: Sylvia Mathews Burwell was born in Hinton. She was U.S. Secretary of Health

and Human Services (2014-17) under President Obama before serving as American University’s first woman president (2017-24).

Aug. 23, 1970: The Mormon Church established its first “stake,” or congregation, in West Virginia. The stake was organized in Charleston with a membership of nearly 4,000 people.

Aug. 24, 1918: Louis Bennett Jr. died of injuries sustained when his plane was shot down by German anti-aircraft fire. Bennett, with 12 combat kills, was West Virginia’s only World War I fighter ace.



Aug. 24, 1947: Joe Manchin III was born in Fairmont. He served in

both houses of the legislature and as secretary of state before becoming the 34th governor in 2005. In 2010, he ran successfully for the late Robert C. Byrd’s U.S. Senate seat and stepped down as governor. He retired from the Senate in 2025.

August 25, 1903: Soprano Susanne Fisher was born in Sutton. Fisher was the first West Virginian to sing at the Metropolitan Opera.



Aug. 25, 1921: Miners began to arrive at Blair Mountain near the border of Logan and Boone counties. Sheriff Don Chafin, a hated symbol of anti-unionism in southern West Virginia, met them with a combined force of deputies, mine guards, civilian volunteers and others.

Aug. 25, 2000: The Robert C. Byrd Green

Bank Telescope was dedicated. It is the world’s largest fully steerable radio telescope.

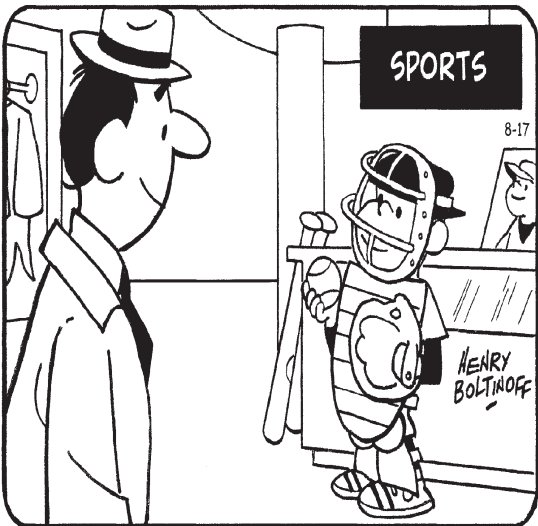
Aug. 26, 1863: Union and Confederate forces collided in what became known as the Battle of White Sulphur Springs. The next morning, with ammunition nearly depleted, Union General William Averell retreated to his base without accomplishing any of his objectives.

Aug. 26, 1918: Mathematician Katherine Johnson was born in White Sulphur Springs. For 33 years, Johnson worked for NASA, making calculations for manned space flights, including the Apollo 11 moon landing. In 2015, she received the Presidential Medal of Freedom.



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Weekly SUDOKU

5					7	1	6	
		1					4	3
7	4	6		3	1	5		
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9	7	8		2		4		5
	5	2		4				7
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1	9		6	7				

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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Super Crossword

FETE-FUL
FOLLOWERS

ACROSS

1 Little jump
4 Brains
10 Teeny bits
15 Female horse
19 Friend, in Paris
20 Social outcast
21 Ice cream utensil
22 Female gamete
23 Cap production place
25 — firma
26 “I saw,” to Caesar
27 Newspaper stories
28 Vehicle attachment to transport watercraft
30 “Get it?”
31 “Ender’s Game” star Butterfield
33 Actress Long or Vardalos
34 Closes in on
35 Cry while wearing a costume
41 Some boxing punches
43 On top of, in verse
44 Divine figure
45 Feel poorly

47 Pub barrel
51 Pundits’ paper pieces
54 Power to attract others
57 Unceasingly
59 Newbie at a law school
60 Sculling tool
61 Org. that screens bags
62 Patron of sailors
63 “Second gentleman” Ernhoff
65 Forget to say
67 Lots and lots
68 Logical thought process
72 Some sharp turns
75 Coll. lecturer
76 Low-fat, informally
77 Piña —
81 “I have it!”
82 Hosp. test in a big tube
83 Christian of fashion
85 Led to a seat
86 Typical D.C. dealings
91 County in New Mexico or Colorado
92 Method
93 Muscle: Prefix

94 University of Maine’s city
96 Neighbor of Kan. and Ia.
97 Pro at taking dictation
99 Swear words and such
103 Clear wrap
106 Says “yes” to
108 USN officers
109 Sleuth, in old slang
110 Straight, flexible wire receiving waves
113 Rather little
118 Prefix with present
119 Gorme of song
120 Post-event bash ... or where eight key words in this puzzle might appear
122 Diatribe
123 U. of Maryland team
124 Band flunky
125 Atlas feature
126 Pivotal WWII event
127 Eye maladies
128 Prods
129 “Yes” vote

DOWN

1 “Funny joke!”

2 Vizquel of baseball
3 Brad of “Fight Club”
4 Sissy of the screen
5 Gavin of “The Mary Tyler Moore Show”
6 Jester Johnson
7 Ocho — (resort in Jamaica)
8 Pothole filler
9 Sheepish
10 Colon’s meaning in an analogy
11 Whale locale
12 Burrito base
13 Large arteries
14 Trade jabs
15 Apt place to make a scene
16 Birthplace of St. Teresa
17 Less courteous
18 Kuwaiti chiefs
24 Finance-related: Abbr.
28 Lamb’s cry
29 Growth on an elk’s head
31 Intro studio class
32 Jane of “Live and Let Die”
35 Horn blasts

36 Transplant, as a flower
37 Cara of “Fame” fame
38 Enjoy a novel
39 Element #50
40 Chronicle
42 Zealots
46 “This makes no sense to me”
48 Singer Eartha
49 Canadian gas brand
50 FBI guy, e.g.
52 Barbies, e.g.
53 Big rig
55 Poet Maya
56 Enter
58 Like numbers with more than two divisors
63 “Whoop-de- —!”
64 When a team travels, perhaps
66 TV bartender Szyslak
67 Shoelace tag
69 “Will & Grace” actor McCormack
70 Ventilates
71 Big Apple neighborhood
72 Microwaves, informally
73 Sailor’s cry
74 Lassies

78 Sports center
79 Removal of govt. controls
80 Pueblo brick
82 E. Sicilian volcano
84 “Time — the essence!”
85 Forearm part
87 “How sad”
88 Cure by exposing to burning wood
89 E-addresses
90 Gmail rival
95 A Great Lake
98 “Later”
100 Rock- — jukebox
101 Alternative to a ballpoint
102 Golden State sch.
103 Fencing need
104 Ex-NFLer Rashad
105 Lisa of “Melrose Place”
107 Marsh bird
111 Fish snares
112 Scottish loch
113 Forest buck
114 Contents of Rx bottles
115 “— la Douce”
116 Go nowhere
117 Really promote
120 “How — you?”
121 Haze

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	14		15	16	17	18
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126						127						128						129		

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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.



September 1958

Old Widen Landmark Is Razed By Fire



In the early morning hours of August 30, 1958, the "Old Colored Y and Barber Shop" were completely destroyed by fire.

Firemen were unable to recover anything from the "Y" which was being used as a storage house for the Widen Store, but did an ex-

cellent job in keeping the fire from spreading to other buildings near-by.

Teacher-Parent Tea Climax PTA Meeting

A tea in honor of new teachers was given by the Widen P.T.A. on September 15th, in the gymnasium. This climaxed the first and well attended meeting of the new school year.

Refreshments were served by hostesses, Mrs. Robert Elliott, Mrs. Melvin Conner, Mrs. A. R. Matheny, and Mrs. Burke Hathaway.

A brief business session, which preceded the tea, opened with devotions by Cecil Butcher. His theme was Justice in Community Life. "Love is the basis of justice on a community level." This theme was further developed by his scripture selection and prayer.

Committee reports indicate that a progressive year has begun.

The purchase of a set of ten new books for each room is the main project for this year.

Door prizes are to be given at each meeting, President, Mrs. Elzvie Conner, announced. Door prize this month was won by Mrs. Ronald Butcher.

Parents attendance count gave honor to Mrs. Griffith's senior

Membership chairman, Mrs. Joseph. Potasnik, with other members, is working toward a goal of one hundred members or more. A membership drive is now in progress.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Woe is us! Twenty long minutes have been added to the school schedule. To fulfill the state's requirements, extra time has been added to the afternoon school schedule. The bell now rings at 3:30 instead of 3:15. This extra time will be used by the teachers for supervised study.

At 8:20 the first bell rings for the students to enter the building.

All morning classes last 50 minutes. Activities period also lasts 50 minutes instead of 35 as it was last year.

Afternoon classes last 1 hour and 10 minutes each.

More Than 1000 Attend Walnut Grove Annual Homecoming

By MARY CRITCHFIELD
RICHWOOD (RNS)— The 25th Homecoming of the Walnut Grove Methodist Church was held last Sunday, August 31, 1958.

More than 1,000 persons attended the event, a traditional part of the Labor Day week-end for residents of Clay County.

The church at Walnut Grove was originally established in 1880, and a log structure was the first center of worship.

The present building was erected in 1926. Much of the work and the construction of the present church has been an outgrowth of the homecoming first held in 1923.

The cemetery is located beside the church. Names most frequently noted are Hickman, Houghton, Wilson, Gibson, and Strickland. The earliest grave marker is that belonging to an infant daughter of Janah Wilson, whose death occurred in 1882.

The Walnut Grove Church is three miles from Widen, is in the Buffalo District, and is served by the Rev. Glen Phillips, who holds preaching services twice each month.

The committee on arrangements for this year's homecoming consisted of Mrs. Leona Griffith, Dille; Mrs. Ermin Givens, Strange Creek; Mrs. Prussia Gibson and Mrs. John Chapman, of Widen.

Among the traditions of the Homecoming noted are first the closing hymn of the morning service is concluded with a general handshaking by all those in attendance, and the basket lunches are filled to overflowing.

Former residents from any distance, and guests are never expected to take any food, "insults" the good cooks of Clay County say.

Many of the members reside in Widen, Dille, or Strange Creek. Other former residents and relatives come from Clay Court House, Huntington, Charleston, Clarksburg, Summersville, Richwood, Cincinnati, and Coshocton in Ohio and Uniontown, Pa., and Phoenix, Arizona.

The homecoming marked the opening of a protracted meeting of at least two-weeks duration.

One former resident who returned for the homecoming was Mrs. Harry Truman, Uniontown, Pa., the former Miss Marie Carte, Walnut Ridge.

Mrs. Truman had always been told, so she informed this reporter, "that she was the first child born on what is now Main Street in Richwood," and that she arrived before the late Dr. E. C. Bennett reached the home.

Her father, French Carte, had gone to Richwood in 1901, where he helped in building the sawmill for Cherry River Boom and Lumber Company and erecting houses. His wife, the former Miss Julia Walker, Summersville, had been a teacher in Nicholas County schools.

Later the family moved to Strange Creek, Meadville, then to Widen. Carte continued to work as a builder of mills, until his death in 1912.

Later, members of the family added the "e" to the name—previously, it was spelled "Cart."

Mrs. Truman comments that her father always said "it's spelled like the wagon with four wheels."

Before her marriage, Mrs. Truman was a teacher in the Truman school, located near the Walnut Grove Church. Much of her life has been spent in Pennsylvania, but she tries to always attend the Homecoming.

West Virginia Statewide Classified Network

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tative for warranty and offer details.

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Call the WV Press at (304) 342-1011



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stonewallcountry.com

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almost heaven

LEGAL

TO: CHRISTOPHER MONTVILLE
11976 DUCK RD.
IVYDALE, WV 25113

BETTY MONTVILLE
11976 DUCK RD.
IVYDALE, WV 25113

NOTICE OF SALE

Under authority of a certain Deed of Trust dated June 25, 2022, from Christopher Montville and Betty Montville to J. Gregory Gency and Raymond G. Dodson, Trustees, securing Clay County Bank in the amount of \$127,500.00 of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Clay County, West Virginia, in Trust Deed Book 151, at page 784, default having been made in the payment of the obligation secured by said Deed of Trust, and sale having been requested in writing by the holder of the indebtedness secured, the undersigned, Andrew C. Shaffer, Substitute Trustee, by virtue of Notice of Substitution of Trustee dated April 29, 2025, and recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Miscellaneous Book 37, at page 358, will hold a public auction at the front door of the Clay County Courthouse on Main Street, in Clay County, West Virginia, on September 16, 2025, at 10:00 O'clock, and sell the certain real estate conveyed in said Deed of Trust, which is further bounded and described as follows:

The surface only of all those two certain lots, tracts, or parcels of land, together with the improvements thereon and the appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate on the Elk River between West Virginia State Route No. 4, and Elk River, in Otter District, Clay County, West Virginia, and being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

FIRST TRACT:

BEGINNING at an iron pin situate in the southerly line of West Virginia State Route No. 4, said iron pin being 77 feet east of a drain and culvert situate in the southerly line of West Virginia State Route No. 4, said drain and culvert being situate 228 feet west of the northwest corner of a certain parcel of land described as "Tract No. One", as the same was conveyed unto George E. Meadows and Ida Meadows, his wife, by Cullen G. Hall, Special Commissioner, by deed dated June 27, 1969, said deed duly of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Court [Commission] of Clay County, West Virginia, in Deed Book 100, at Page 580, thence in an easterly direction with the southerly line of West Virginia State Route No. 4, 70 feet to a stake in the said line of West Virginia State Route No. 4, thence leaving the said line of West Virginia State Route No. 4 and in a southeasterly direction 272 feet, more or less, to the water's edge of Elk River; thence down the said river and binding thereon, 89 feet, more or less, to a stake in the water's edge, thence leaving the water's edge and in a northwesternly direction, 300 feet, more or less, to the place of beginning.

SECOND TRACT:

BEGINNING at a drain and culvert and the southerly line of West Virginia State Route 4, said beginning point being situate 228 feet west of the northwest corner of a certain parcel of land described as "Tract No. One", as the same was conveyed unto George E. Meadows and Ida Meadows, his wife, by Cullen G. Hall, Special Commissioner, by deed dated June 27, 1969, said deed duly of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Clay County, West Virginia, in Deed Book 100, at page 580; thence in an easterly direction with the southerly line of West Virginia State Route No. 4, 77 feet to a stake in the said line of West Virginia State Route No. 4; thence leaving the said line of West Virginia State Route No. 4 and in a southeasterly direction 300 feet, more or less, to the water's edge of Elk River; thence down the said river and binding thereon, 142 feet, more or less, to a small drain; thence leaving the water's edge and up and with the meanders of said drain 267 feet, more or less, to the place of beginning.

Being the same property conveyed unto Christopher Montville and Betty Montville by that certain deed dated May 19, 2015, from Patricia A. Stover, of record in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Deed Book 214, at page 497.

This conveyance will also be made subject to any and all reservations, exceptions, restrictions, rights of way and easements contained in prior deeds affecting said property of record in said Clerk's office or visible on the ground.

This property will be conveyed by Trustee "as is" and "where is" together with the hereditaments thereof and all building, structures and improvements now or hereafter situate thereon and all fixtures, materials, supplies, equipment, machinery and other property as is now or may hereafter be an accession thereto, be a fixture thereto, or be otherwise treated or deemed as a part of the land described herein, all of which is included in the term "property" as used herein. By way of example and not byway of limitation, such fixtures and accessions shall include heating, cooling and air-conditioning units, plumbing and electrical fixtures and equipment, built-in appliances of every kind, boilers, machinery, motors, wall-to-wall carpeting, storm doors and windows, awnings and all furnishings attached to the property.

The above-described real estate will be conveyed by the undersigned Trustee to the purchaser by deed containing a Covenant of Special Warranty and subject to all liens, reservations and exceptions appearing in the record of title, and to the lien of all unpaid taxes, if any, which are entitled to priority over the lien of the aforesaid deed of trust.

Purchaser must pay all transfer taxes, delinquent or current real estate taxes, title search and any costs related to recording any Deed from the Trustee herein.

TERMS OF SALE

Any successful bidder shall pay 10% of the sales price as a deposit in Certified Funds or Cash at the time of sale with the balance to be paid within 30 days from date of sale. The above-described real estate will be sold by the undersigned Substitute Trustee by auction to the highest bidder subject to the right of the Trustee to reject all bids if in his opinion they are inadequate. The owner of the indebtedness secured by the above-described deeds of trust and the owner of any other interest in the properties to be sold shall have the right to bid.

CONTINUANCE OR ADJOURNMENT OF SALE

The Substitute Trustee reserves the right to continue the sale, or adjourn the sale for a time, or from time to time, and the place of sale, as hereinabove set forth, or any continuance or adjournment thereof.

Dated: August 11, 2025

Andrew C. Shaffer
Substitute Trustee

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CLAY COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

In the Matter of Petition of Name Change of
Emma Hartshorn
Current Name Emma Marie Hartshorn Civil Action No. 25-P-12
To Judge Jasmine R.H. Morton
New Name Emma Marie Arnold

Legal Notice of Publication Change of Name

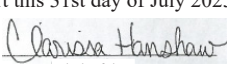
Order of Publication

Circuit Court of Clay County West Virginia

Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of October, 2025 at 2:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, Petitioner Emma Hartshorn will apply by Petition to the Family Court of Clay County, West Virginia, for the entry of an order by said court, changing name of Emma Marie Hartshorn to Emma Marie Arnold at which time any interested party may appear and be heard, if they so desire.

A copy of said Petition can be obtained from the undersigned Clerk at his office.

ENTERED by the Clerk of said Court this 31st day of July 2025.


Clerk of the Court

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CLAY COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

In the Matter of Petition of Name Change of
Kamryn Carly McCallister Civil Action No. 25-P-14
Current Name Kamryn Carly McCallister Judge Michael Asbury
To
New Name Kamryn Carly Losito

Legal Notice of Publication Change of Name

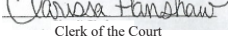
Order of Publication

Circuit Court of Clay County West Virginia

Notice is hereby given that on the 24th day of September, 2025 at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, Petitioner Marina Losito will apply by Petition to the Circuit Court of Clay County, West Virginia, for the entry of an order by said court, changing name of Kamryn Carly McCallister to Kamryn Carly Losito at which time any interested party may appear and be heard, if they so desire.

A copy of said Petition can be obtained from the undersigned Clerk at this office.

ENTERED by the Clerk of said Court this 7th day of August, 2025.


Clerk of the Court

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CLAY COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

In the Matter of Petition of Name Change of
Sadie Onyx McCallister Civil Action No. 25-P-13
Current Name Sadie Onyx McCallister Judge Michael Asbury
To
New Name Sadie Onyx Losito

Legal Notice of Publication Change of Name

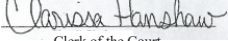
Order of Publication

Circuit Court of Clay County West Virginia

Notice is hereby given that on the 24th day of September, 2025 at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, Petitioner Marina Losito will apply by Petition to the Circuit Court of Clay County, West Virginia, for the entry of an order by said court, changing name of Sadie Onyx McCallister to Sadie Onyx Losito at which time any interested party may appear and be heard, if they so desire.

A copy of said Petition can be obtained from the undersigned Clerk at this office.

ENTERED by the Clerk of said Court this 7th day of August, 2025.


Clerk of the Court

LEGAL

August 2025 - The Clay County LEPC must provide public notices at least annually. Each LEPC must publish notice in local newspapers that the emergency response plan, material safety data sheets, first aid, and medical treatment procedures, inventory forms and follow-up emergency notices which have been submitted to the LEPC are available to the public for review. The Annual Public Notice submission should contain the date of the publication. Please see the Clay County LEPC website for more information - www.claycountylepcwv.org.

LEGAL

Tariff Form No. 8-C

(Tariff Rule 14.2 et seq. (Historical Rule 30-C))

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CHANGE IN RATES UPON APPLICATION

NOTICE is hereby given that MOUNTAINEER GAS COMPANY, a public utility, has filed with the PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA, an application containing increased rates, tolls and charges for furnishing natural gas service to approximately 218,000 customers at various locations in the Counties of Barbour, Berkeley, Boone, Braxton, Brooke, Cabell, Calhoun, Clay, Doddridge, Fayette, Gilmer, Grant, Greenbrier, Hancock, Hardy, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Kanawha, Lewis, Lincoln, Logan, Marion, Marshall, Mason, McDowell, Mercer, Mineral, Mingo, Monongalia, Monroe, Nicholas, Ohio, Pendleton, Preston, Putnam, Raleigh, Randolph, Ritchie, Roane, Summers, Tucker, Tyler, Upshur, Wayne, Wetzel, Wirt, Wood and Wyoming.

The proposed changes in rates and charges will become effective November 1, 2025, unless otherwise ordered by the Public Service Commission and will increase revenues approximately \$44,564,000 annually, an increase of approximately 39.2%. The average monthly bill for the various classes of customers of MOUNTAINEER GAS COMPANY will be changed as follows:

	INCREASE	INCREASE
Residential	\$ 12.51	15.56%
Commercial	\$ 62.49	19.80%
Industrial	\$ 440.00	9.18%
Resale	\$ 1,479.55	28.10%

Proposed PGA rates for each Mountaineer rate schedule, which include Business and Occupation Tax, are as follows:

Rate Schedule	Present	Proposed	Increase \$	Increase %
RS	\$ 3.460	\$ 3.960	\$ 0.500	14.45%
RS Demand	\$ 11.08	\$ 20.59	\$ 9.51	85.83%
GS	\$ 5.308	\$ 7.391	\$ 2.084	39.24%
LGS	\$ 2.860	\$ 3.960	\$ 1.101	38.46%
WS	\$ 5.080	\$ 7.074	\$ 1.995	39.25%
IS	\$ 2.860	\$ 3.960	\$ 1.101	38.46%
LIS	\$ 2.860	\$ 3.960	\$ 1.101	38.46%

Resale customers of MOUNTAINEER GAS COMPANY include Canaan valley Gas Company, Cardinal Natural Gas Company, Consumers Gas Utility Company, Hope Gas, Inc., Megan Oil and Gas Company, and City of Philippi.

The increases shown are based on averages of all customers in the indicated class. Each class may receive an increase greater or less than stated here. Individual customers may receive increases that are greater or less than average. Furthermore, the requested increased 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.

This filing also contains proposed changes to MOUNTAINEER GAS COMPANY'S rate components for customers that purchase their gas from an alternative supplier/marketer and purchase only transportation services including MDFQ, Storage Balancing Fee, Firm Standby Fee, and Fuel Retention Percentage from MOUNTAINEER GAS COMPANY. These transportation service rates are applicable to customers that voluntarily elect to subscribe to transportation service. The proposed changes to the rate components are as follows:

Rate Component	Present	Proposed	Increase \$	Increase %
MDFQ	\$ 12.952	\$15.861	\$ 2.909	22.46%
Storage Balancing Fee	\$ 0.483	\$ 0.609	\$ 0.126	26.09%
Firm Standby Fee	\$ 1.833	\$ 2.648	\$ 0.815	44.46%
Fuel Retention	4.00%	4.00%	N/A	0.00%

Any change in rates and charges will not become effective until authorized and approved by the Public Service Commission. If a hearing is conducted, notice will be given of the time and place of hearing.

A complete copy of the proposed rates, as well as a representative of the Company to provide any information requested concerning it, is available to all customers, prospective customers, or their agents at the following offices of the Company:

- Mountaineer Gas Company Office
- 501 56th Street SE, Charleston, West Virginia 25304.

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.

The Rule 30-C procedure is designed to provide a procedure for changing rates charged to customers by natural gas distribution utilities based exclusively on the cost of purchased gas. Consequently, protest should be limited to the reasonableness of such costs and the method by which they are calculated. Anyone desiring to protest or intervene should file a written protest or notice of intervention within twenty-five (25) days following the date of this publication unless otherwise modified by Commission order. Failure to timely intervene can affect your rights to protest any rate adjustments and to participate in future proceedings. 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 must be mailed or hand-delivered and be addressed to Executive Secretary, Public Service Commission of West Virginia, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, WV 25323. Protests may be filed online through the Commission website using the "Submit a Comment" link or may be mailed to the Executive Secretary, Public Service Commission of West Virginia, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, WV 25323.

LEGAL

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CLAY COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA THAT BEING THE JUVENILE COURT OF SAID COUNTY

IN RE: State v. J.P., A.P., & D.P., Case Nos. 25-JA-58-60
In the matter of J.P., A.P., & D.P., and the unknown whereabouts of Amanda Baty, Adult Respondent Mother, of J.P., A.P., & D.P., and Kevin Puente, Adult Respondent Father of J.P.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

And

NOTICE OF ANSWER

To: **Amanda Baty, and Kevin Puente.**

(The object of this action is to notify the Adult Respondents of an abuse and neglect petition herein filed so that said Adult Respondents may answer the same to protect their interest.)

You are hereby notified that an abuse and neglect and/or abandonment petition has been filed with the Circuit Court of Clay County, West Virginia, on the 9th day of July 2025, and assigned Case Numbers 25-JA-58-60, wherein it is alleged that the Adult Respondent Mother of the Infant Respondent J.P. (DOB: 12.31.08), A.P. (DOB: 11.29.11), and D.P. (DOB: 04.17.13), is Amanda Baty, and that said Infant Respondents be placed in the custody of the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, with said Infant Respondent remaining in the care, custody and control of the said Department since that time in accordance with WV Code §49-6-3. You are hereby notified that you have the right to answer said petition and you have the right to have counsel present at all stages of these proceedings and ALL PROCEEDINGS CAN RESULT IN THE PERMANENT TERMINATION OF CUSTODIAL AND PARENTAL RIGHTS TO SAID INFANT CHILD.

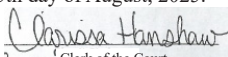
Accordingly, it is **ORDERED** that the Adult Respondents, Amanda Baty, and Kevin Puente, shall appear before the Honorable Judge Asbury, Jr. on the **21st day of August 2025, at 11:30 a.m.**, at the Clay County Courthouse, 246 Main Street, Clay, West Virginia, otherwise judgment by default will be taken against them at any time thereafter, and termination of your custodial and parental rights may be ordered by the Court.

A copy of said Petition can be obtained from the Office of the Circuit Clerk of Clay County, West Virginia at the Clay County Courthouse, Clay West Virginia.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA AND WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES, CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES DIVISION

BY: Wayne King, Prosecuting Attorney Clay County, West Virginia

Entered by the Clerk of said Court on the 5th day of August, 2025.


Clerk of the Court

LEGAL

WV Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Water and Waste Management
601 57th street, S.E.
Charleston, WV 25304
Telephone: (304) 926-0495

Public Notice No. Section 401-MN-25-001
Public Notice Date: August 18, 2025 - August 22, 2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

PROPOSED 401 CERTIFICATIONS FOR US ARMY CORP OF ENGINEERS ACTIVITIES FOR DISCHARGES OF DREDGE AND FILL MATERIAL INTO WATERS OF THE U.S.
Pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act and WV Legislative Rule 47CSR5A, the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) is accepting public comments prior to issuing a 401 certification for the US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) proposed Regional General Permit (RGP) and Letter of Permission (LOP) procedures for discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the US (WOTUS) for activities associated with the construction, maintenance, and operation of energy and energy resource-related projects in West Virginia. WVDEP will consider the proposed RGP and LOP's impact on water resources, fish, and wildlife, recreation, critical habitats, wetlands and other natural resources. On June 4, 2025, the USACE Huntington and Pittsburgh Districts published in the Federal Register its respective permit applications LRH-2025-00287 (RGP) and LRH-2025-00151 (LOP). The public can view draft 401 Certification special and standard conditions at: <https://dep.wv.gov/www/programs/pages/401certification.aspx>
Written comments are due by September 23, 2025, and may be mailed or emailed to:

Department of Environmental Protection
Attn: WVDEP 401 Certification Program
601 57th St., S.E.
Charleston, WV 25304
(304) 926-0499, extension 41114
Fax: (304) 926-0463
E-mail: WQScments@wv.gov

Correspondence should include the name, address, and telephone number of the writer and a concise statement of the nature of the issues being raised. The Director shall hold a public hearing whenever a finding is made, based on requests, that there is a significant degree of public interest on issues relevant to the 401 Certification. Interested people may contact WQScments@wv.gov to obtain further information.

LEGAL

“I, Wanda L. Coulter,
will not be responsible
for debts made by any-
one other than myself.”

LEGAL

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CLAY COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA THAT BEING THE JUVENILE COURT OF SAID COUNTY

IN RE: State v. C. J., Case Nos. 25-JA-64
In the matter of C. J., and the unknown whereabouts of Shana Jett, Adult Respondent Mother, and the Unknown Father of C. J.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

And

NOTICE OF ANSWER

To: **Shana Jett, and Unknown Father.**

(The object of this action is to notify the Adult Respondents of an abuse and neglect petition herein filed so that said Adult Respondents may answer the same to protect their interest.)

You are hereby notified that an abuse and neglect and/or abandonment petition has been filed with the Circuit Court of Clay County, West Virginia, on the 29th day of July 2025, and assigned Case Numbers 25-JA-64, wherein it is alleged that the Adult Respondent Mother of the Infant Respondent C. J. (DOB: 07.19.25), is Shana Jett, and that said Infant Respondent be placed in the custody of the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, with said Infant Respondent remaining in the care, custody and control of the said Department since that time in accordance with WV Code §49-6-3. You are hereby notified that you have the right to answer said petition and you have the right to have counsel present at all stages of these proceedings and ALL PROCEEDINGS CAN RESULT IN THE PERMANENT TERMINATION OF CUSTODIAL AND PARENTAL RIGHTS TO SAID INFANT CHILD.

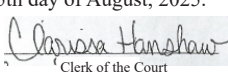
Accordingly, it is **ORDERED** that the Adult Respondents, Shana Jett and Unknown Father, shall appear before the Honorable Judge Asbury, Jr. on the **27th day of August 2025, at 12:45 p.m.**, at the Clay County Courthouse, 246 Main Street, Clay, West Virginia, otherwise judgment by default will be taken against them at any time thereafter, and termination of your custodial and parental rights may be ordered by the Court.

A copy of said Petition can be obtained from the Office of the Circuit Clerk of Clay County, West Virginia at the Clay County Courthouse, Clay West Virginia.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA AND WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES, CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES DIVISION

BY: Wayne King, Prosecuting Attorney Clay County, West Virginia

Entered by the Clerk of said Court on the 5th day of August, 2025.


Clerk of the Court

To
place
your
legals
Call
us at
(304)-
647-
5724



CHURCH DIRECTORY



A

ALTA CHURCH OF GOD
Sunday Night Services
6:00 PM
Wednesday 7:00 PM Everyone
is welcome! **Pastor: Paul E.
Young**

B

**BELL CREEK
COMMUNITY BAPTIST
CHURCH**
NO Scheduled Services
At This Time

**BELL CREEK
PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**
Dixie
Tuesday Night 6:00 PM
Thursday Night 6:00 PM
Sunday Morning 11:00 AM
PM **Pastor: Lee Holiday**
(304) 632-1135

**BETHEL BAPTIST
CHURCH** of Adonijah.
Preaching from K.J.V. Bible
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Morning 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening 7:00 PM
Thursday Evening 7:00 PM

**BETHEL COMMUNITY
CHURCH**, Porter Creek Road,
Bomont, WV
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Night Service
7:30 PM
Thursday Night Service
7:30 PM
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Junior Davis

**BICKMORE BAPTIST
CHURCH** located at Bick-
more on Fola Road
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening 6:00 PM
Wednesday evening services
7:00 PM
Pastor: Ralph D. Lane

**BIG OTTER BAPTIST
CHURCH OF IVYDALE**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Wednesday prayer service and
Bible Study 6:30 PM **Pastor:**
Danny Richardson

**BIG UNION BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Worship Service 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening Service 1st,
3rd and 4th
Sundays Preaching 6:00 PM
Wednesday Night Prayer &
Bible Study 7:00 PM
2nd Sunday Communion
Service 6:00 PM
Pastor: Pete Shaffer

BLUE KNOB CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM Everyone
is Welcome!

**BUFFALO VALLEY
BAPTIST CHURCH** Sunday
School 10:00 AM Worship
Service 11:00 AM Sunday
Evening Service
6:00 PM
Radio Broadcast, Sunday
Morning 9:00 AM. WCWV
Summersville
Everyone Welcome **Pastor:**
Doug Newell IV

**BURKE MEMORIAL
METHODIST CHURCH** in
Prociuous. Across Camp Creek
Bridge on the left. Preaching
Every Sunday
9:00 AM
Sunday School 10:00 AM Bible
Study every Wednesday 7:00
PM **Pastor: Jerry Chandler**

C

**CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF
LIZEMORE**
Prayer Service and Bible Study,
Tuesday 7:00 PM Regular
Service Sunday Nights at 7:00
PM
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Pastor: Thurman Sizemore

**CHURCH OF GOD
BENTREE**
Sangamore Rd.,Bentree, WV
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Evening Service
7:00 PM
Wednesday Service 7:00 PM
Come and worship the Lord
with us.
Everyone Welcome!
Pastor: Michael L. Holcomb, Sr.
**CLAY COMMUNITY
CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Night Service
7:00 PM
Wednesday Night Service 7:00
PM. Everyone welcome.

**CLAY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Worship 11:00 AM.
Everyone is Welcome!
Pastor: Wilma Dobbins

**CLENDENIN UNITED
PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**
10:00 AM – Sunday School
11:00 AM – Preaching
6:00 PM
Wednesday 7:30 PM
Pastor: Fred Walker

**CLIO COMMUNITY
CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Night Preaching 7:00
PM
Wednesday Worship
7:00 PM
Everyone welcome.
Pastor: George Stickland

**COLD SPRINGS GOSPEL
TABERNACLE**, Upper Fall-
ing Rock, Clay County
Sunday Morning Worship
10:00 AM
Sunday School 11:30 AM
Sunday Evening Service
7:30 PM
Tuesday Evenings 7:30 PM
Teachings from the King
James Bible
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Darris Barker

**CORNERSTONE
INDEPENDENT BAPTIST
CHURCH**, Rt. 3, Newton
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday Night Service 7:00
PM
Wednesday Prayer Service/
Discovery Clubs 7:00 PM
Pastor: Roy Huffman

E

**ELK RIVER BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Wednesday Service 7:00 PM
Saturday Night 7:00 PM
Pastor: Brace Cook

F

**FAIRVIEW BAPTIST
TEMPLE**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening 6:00 PM
Wednesday 7:00 PM
Pastor: Bret Wiley

**FAITH MISSIONARY
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Dutch Ridge Laurel Road
Sunday Service 6:00 PM
Tuesday Service 6:00 PM
Everyone Welcome!
Pastor: Brother B. J. Evans
**Associate Pastor: Lee Roy
Anderson**

**FAITH MISSIONARY
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Bomont, WV
Sunday Service 10:00 AM
and 6:00 PM
Wednesday Service 7:00 PM
Pastor: Nick Bird
Phone 304-548-6665

**FLAT FORK
MISSIONARY BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Wednesday Prayer & Bible
Study 6:00 PM
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship 11:30 AM
Pastor: Chris Johnson

**FOLA MISSIONARY
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Sunday Night Service 7:00 PM
Wednesday Adults Bible Study
& Kids for Christ 7:00 PM
Pastor: Daniel Tanner

G

**GAULEY BRIDGE
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Sunday Morning Worship
11:00 AM
Junior BYF/Senior BYF
6:00 PM
Sunday Evening Worship
7:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Study
7:00 PM
Wednesday Kids/Children/
Youth 7:00 PM
**GOSPEL LIGHT
COMMUNITY CHURCH**
Located on Rt. 119 at the mouth
of Gabe. Everyone welcome.
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday night 6:00 PM
Wednesday night 6:00 PM
Pastor: Rev. David Smith
**GROVES CREEK
COMMUNITY CHURCH**
Sunday Service 10:00 AM
Wednesday Service 7:00 PM
Friday Service 7:00 PM
Pastor: Dean Rogers

H

**HALLBURG BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday Sunday 10:30 AM
Sunday Night Preaching 6:00
PM

Pastor: Michael Jackson

**HARTLAND COMMUNITY
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Wednesday Night Service
7:00 PM
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday Night Service
6:00 PM
Pastor: Jeremy Holcomb

**HORNERS FORK
MISSIONARY BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening Worship
6:00 PM
Wednesday Evening 7:00 PM
Wednesday Evening Youth
7:00 PM
Pastor: Joe Dawson

HOUSE OF PRAYER
Hansford Fork Rd, Maysel,
WV (off Rt. 36)
Pentecostal/Full Gospel
Sunday Morning 10:00 AM
Sunday Evening 6:00 PM
Wednesday evening 7:00 PM
Pastor: (304) 587-2996
(home), (304) 587-2703
(church)
Pastor: James R. Paxton

I

IDA BAPTIST CHURCH
Bentree
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Wednesday Prayer Service &
Bible Study 7:00 PM
Wednesday BYF 7:00 PM.
All ages welcome. Also
have crafts, etc., all children
welcome.
Pastor: Larry Skaggs

**INDORE BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday Worship 10:00 AM
Sunday Class 11:00-12:30
Preaching Lunch
12:30-1:30 PM
Wednesday Service
6:30-7:30 PM
Everyone welcome!

**IVYDALE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Worship Service 11:00
Everyone Welcome!
304-395-9990
Pastor: Freddie Elliott

J

**JODIE BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Come Worship with Us!
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Evening Service 7:00 PM
Wednesday (BYF) 7:00 PM
Wednesday Night 7:00 PM

**JOHNSON CREEK
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Vineyard Ridge
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Night Service
7:00 PM
Wednesday Night 7:00 PM

**JUBILEE MOUNTAIN
CHURCH**
103 Main Street, Clay, WV
25043
Sunday 10:00 A.M. - 12 noon
For more info call 304-587-
4779
Pastor: David Davis

L

**LAUREL FORK
MISSIONARY BAPTIST
CHURCH** of Adonijah
Sunday Morning 10:00 AM
Sunday Night 7:00 PM
Wednesday Service 7:00 PM
Youth Meeting 7:00 PM

**LEATHERWOOD
FREEWILL BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Service 7:00 PM
Wednesday Services 7:00 PM

**LIBERTY ADVENT
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Wednesday Night: Bible
Study/Prayer Meeting and
Youth Group 7:00 PM **Pastor:**
John Barnhouse

**LICKFORK BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 10:00 every
Sunday Morning
Sunday Night Services
7:00 PM
Wednesday 7:00 PM
Come worship with us!
Pastor: Herb Vance

LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Mark Dudley
Phone 304-286-5909

**LITTLE LAUREL
MISSIONARY BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening Worship
6:00 PM
Everyone Welcome!
Pastor: David McLaughlin

**LIVING GOD WORSHIP
CENTER**
We invite you to come and
worship with us.
Thursday Evening 7:00 PM
Sunday Morning 10:00 AM
Pastor: Cecil Lee

**LIZEMORE CHURCH
OF THE NAZARENE**
Sunday School 10-11:00 AM
Church Service 11-12 Noon
Wednesday Service 7:00 PM
Pastor: Robert Thomas

M

**MAYSEL COMMUNITY
CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00
Sunday Night 6:00 PM
Monday Night Service
6:00 PM
Wednesday Night Prayer
Meeting/Bible Study 6:00 PM
Everyone welcome!

**MAYSEL MISSIONARY
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Worship Service 11:00 AM
Everyone Welcome
Pastor: Jim Hamrick

**MIDDLE CREEK
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday Night 6:00 PM
Wednesday Night 7:00 PM
Pastor: John Osborne

**MT. OLIVE
COMMUNITY CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Preaching 7:00 PM
Wednesday Prayer Meeting

Everyone welcome!

MUD FORK CHURCH
Sunday & Jr. Worship
Service 10:00 AM Sunday
School 11:00 AM Sunday
Night 6:00 PM Wednesday
Night & Jr.

Church Service 7:00 PM
Everyone Welcome!
Pastor: Christopher Stout

N

NEBO BAPTIST CHURCH
Preaching every Sunday
Morning at 10:00 AM

Sunday School 11:00 AM
Preaching, Prayer Meeting
Wednesday at 7:30 PM

**NEW ANTIOCH
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Service 11:00 AM
Sunday Night 7:00 PM
Wednesday Night Prayer
Meeting 7:00 PM
Please join us in Praise!
Pastor: Gary Walker

**NEWTON UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching every Sunday
11:00 AM
Pastor: Kenneth Boggs

**NEWTON BAPTIST
CHURCH**

Adult Choir Practice Sun. 9 AM
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday Night Service 6:00 PM
Wednesday Night Prayer Meet-

ing & Bible Study 7:00PM
Pastor: Darius Walker
**Pastor Emeritus: Ron
Fisher**

**NOAH'S ARK FULL
GOSPEL CHURCH**
Thursday 7:00 PM
Sunday 7:00 PM
Pastor: R.J. Mullins, Sr.

O

**O'BRION ADVENT
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching after Sunday
School. Wednesday Prayer
Meeting 7:00 PM
Pastor: James L. Balser

**OVAPA METHODIST
CHURCH**
Preaching every Sunday at
9:45 PM
Sunday School 10:30 AM
Sunday School on the 2nd
Sunday is at 10:00 AM
Wednesday 7:00 PM
Phone 304-587-2955
**Pastors: Cindy & Roger
Dunlap**

**OTTERLICK
COMMUNITY CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Night Service
6:00 PM
Bible Study Thursday
6:00 PM
Pastor: Gene Copen

**OTTERVALE ADVENT
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching every Sunday,
except 5th, 11:00 AM
Prayer Meeting Tuesday
Evening
Pastor: Rev. Rick Sams

P

**PEOPLES COMMUNITY
CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Wednesday Night 7:00 PM
Sunday Night Service 7:00
PM
Take time out for Jesus, he
took time out for you.
Pastor: Freddie Schoolcraft

**PISGAH FREEWILL
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Evening Bible Study
& preaching 6:00 PM
Pastor: Dennis Vance

**PLEASANT DALE
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching Sunday 11:00 AM
Wednesday night Bible Study
7:00 PM
Saturday Night Preaching
Pastor: Wayne Litton

**PLEASANT HILL
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening 6:30 PM
Wednesday Night 6:30 PM
Everyone welcome.
Pastor: Wayne Smith

**PROCIIOUS
COMMUNITY CHURCH**
Welcomes You!
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:15 AM
Bible Study 2nd, 4th, 5th
Wednesday Night 6:30 PM
Pastor: David Walker

Q

**QUEEN SHOALS F.G.C.
CHURCH**
Sunday Morning 10:00 AM
Sunday Night 7:00 PM
Thursday Night 7:00 PM
Everyone Welcome!
Pastor: Scott Means

R

**RISEN LORD CATHOLIC
CHURCH** at Maysel
Sunday Liturgy 8:30 AM fol-
lowed by Religious Education
9:30 AM
Wednesday Liturgy 6:00 PM
Everyone welcome!
**Pastor: Father Matheus Ro
SVD**
**Pastoral Associates: Father
Dominijus Boak SVD**

**ROGERS FORK BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Saturday Prayer Meeting
7:00 PM
Sunday Worship 7:00 PM
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Delbert McKenzie

**RUSH FORK
COMMUNITY CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 2nd & 4th Sunday
11:00 AM
Every 1st and 3rd Sunday
Singing or Preaching
11:00 AM
Wednesday Prayer Service &
Bible Study 7:00 PM
Come see us in church.
Pastor: Harry Dobbins



S

**STRANGE CREEK
CHURCH**
Sunday Morning 10:00 AM
Preaching 10:30 AM
Sunday School 11:00 AM
Thursday Service 7:00 PM
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Jason Belt

T

**THE AMERICAN CHAPEL
AT ELKHURST**
Saturday Services 7:00 PM
Sunday School 10:00 AM

Pastor: Hiram Lewis

**TRINITY MISSIONARY
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Sunday Worship 6:00 PM
Wednesday Night Service
7:00 PM.
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Clifford Samples

U

**UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF LIZEMORES**
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Service 6:00 PM
Wednesday Service 7:00
PM Everyone welcome
Pastor: Don Dobbins

**UNITY GOSPEL
TABERNACLE**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Sunday Night 6:00 PM
Wednesday Prayer Service
7:00 PM
Everyone welcome!

V

**VALLEY RIDGE
CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Bible Study Wednesday
Night 7:00 PM
Everyone is welcome to
attend.

W

**WALLBACK
METHODIST CHURCH**
Preaching 1st, 3rd, 5th Sun-
days 9:45 AM
Bible Study Wednesday Eve-
ning 7:00 PM
Everyone welcome.
Pastor: Rev. Stewart Cottrell

**WALNUT GROVE
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**
Preaching 1st & 3rd Sundays
11:00 AM
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Pastor: (304) 332-5503
Pastor: Jimmy Adkins

**WALNUT MEMORIAL
CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 10:00 AM
Thursday Evening Service
7:30 PM
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Lester Tanner

**WHITE PILGRIM
METHODIST CHURCH**
Preaching Sunday 9:45 AM
Sunday School 11:00 AM
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Paul Coon

**WHITESTAR
TABERNACLE CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Sunday Night 6:30 PM
Wednesday Night 6:30 PM
Pastor: Rev. Mike Hall

**WIDEN BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Preaching 11:00 AM
Sunday Night Service
6:00 PM
Wednesday Night Service
6:00 PM
Everyone welcome!
Pastor: Randy Tinney

**WINGS OF DELIVERANCE
APOSTOLIC
PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**
Rt. 4, 1/4 miles below
Maysel on the left
Sunday Morning 10:00 AM
Sunday Night 6:00 PM
Wednesday Night 7:00 PM
Come worship the Lord with
us!
Phone: (304) 587-7410
Pastor: Jerry Hanshaw



Sweltering days of summer wind down following the Dog Days

By Allen Hamrick
The meltdown of Summer 2025 is coming to a slow but sure end. The heat has melted and the sun drenched our get up and go. However, there is a subtle change happening in the air...it is getting cooler. The morning air is somewhat crisp, and coffee seems to taste better on the porch swing. Breezes are picking up and carry the promise that things will change soon, and our pace will quicken. All this is not just an indication that fall is on its way but an invitation to use the opportunity to get out and enjoy, to experience yet again the world beyond the air conditioner, to once again become a part of the outdoors.

The heat has been our anchor, forcing us to find a cool spot, and it made getting outside more like a chore instead of enjoyable. With a cool down on the horizon, opportunities are coming to trade melting pavement for a trail through the woods or swap the humidity for the chill of the morning air. All those trails you wanted to hit and those secret fishing holes that you may have avoided due to the heat will now be calling your name. The cool temperatures will invigorate your sense of adventure, for sure, and will make outdoor sports more of a joy as opposed to heat exhaustion. Soon, we get beyond the coolness of the indoors and see again what lies beyond the distant horizon. With fall now on the downside of the summer calendar, soon the rustling of dry leaves and the scent of the earth will fill the air, and all your senses will be ready for change.

Fall is the best time of the year to communicate with nature and become a part of it whether you fish, hike, camp, chop firewood or otherwise engage in a cooler air activity. Summer crowds will be thinning out on the lakes and waterways. The cooler air will allow for more time on the water, and an all-day fishing trip is not punishment. Fall is one of the



Soon the winds will change and so will the colors.

best times for fishing - the crisp air cools the water temperatures, and many species of fish become more active and start an aggressive pattern of feeding. They must get the fat stored up for the winter months, so it is a win-win for an angler.

If you are more into a docile existence, the cool air is ushering in some of the most beautiful landscapes in this country, and the photo opportunities are endless. A phenomenon referred to in the photography world as the golden light of fall is one of the most sought-after occurrences in photography because of its glow. Birds, deer, bears, turkeys and

more shun their deep haunts and get out in the open. A paradise of opportunity awaits if you like wildlife photography.

Fall is a wonderful time of year for peaceful reflection and a quick antidote for fast pace living, a chance to reboot and find solitude. The days will soon shorten; the crisp air will hang around all day and the sweltering days of summer will give way to the chill. So, breathe deep and connect to the outdoors again. The opportunity will be there; all you need to do is step outside.

Keep in mind that fall sports will begin soon as teams are gearing up for

their first games of the season. Panther and Mustang football will begin playing on the new field as soon as the turf is installed. At present, the construction continues. CCHS volleyball will begin, as well, and looks like a strong contender with several returning from last season. CCMS football has a new coach, and he will bring a different approach to the game. Mike Kiser will take the helm and see if he can get the team to get back-to-back championships. So, get ready for plenty of action from the great outdoors, and students will provide the action on the fields and courts.

Tamarack Foundation for the Arts Rebrands as West Virginia Creative Network

A new name. A renewed commitment. A creative future built for all.

As we approach our 25th year of championing artists and creative entrepreneurs across the Mountain State, Tamarack Foundation for the Arts is proud to announce its rebrand as the West Virginia Creative Network—a name that defines who we are, what we stand for, and where we’re headed.

What began as an organization primarily focused on visual arts has evolved into something more expansive, more inclusive, and more responsive to the real needs of creatives in West Virginia. With this rebrand, we’re sharpening our focus. Our mission: to build a vibrant and prosperous arts community through resources, connection, and advocacy.

We envision a West Virginia where art is woven into everyday life—and where creatives are recognized not just for their cultural contributions, but as powerful drivers of economic growth and community development. Artists and creative businesses are key to revitalization and fueling local economies through cross-sector collaborations.

This rebrand has been guided by that vision, offering a clear path forward as we expand our programming to include more artists while continuing to offer professional development, creative entrepreneurship support, and more.”At the heart of the West Virginia Creative Network is a belief that artists matter. We champion their work, their labor, and their lived experiences,” said WVCN Executive Director, Renee Margocee. “We’ve sharpened our focus to support those who need us most—helping creatives thrive not just as artists, but as entrepreneurs and changemakers. We’ve seen firsthand the economic and cultural value creatives bring to our state, and we’re here to make sure they’re supported in doing it.”

WVCN Board President Susan Economou echoed this commitment, adding, “West Virginia has a rich history of art and craft deeply rooted in its Appalachian heritage. Building connections between artists and providing support to them wherever they are on their creative



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path is vital—not only in preserving our cultural heritage, but also in advancing the arts economy of the future. The Board of the West Virginia Creative Network recognizes the value of creatives as drivers of community development and is here to help them realize their aspirations and champion their work.”

At the heart of the West Virginia Creative Network is a belief that artists matter. We champion their work, their labor, and their lived experiences. We have built and will continue to foster a community where every creative—no mat-

ter their medium, background, or career stage—feels a true sense of belonging. And we advocate for a future where the value of artistic labor is understood, respected, and compensated.

To keep up to date with the West Virginia Creative Network, follow us on both Instagram and Facebook. To apply to become a member of the West Virginia Creative Network, please visit our site at www.tamarackfoundation.org/join-the-creative-network/ to be the first to know about more exciting changes to come!

Secretary of State Kris Warner Reports 1,229 New WV Business Registrations for July of 2025

The WV Secretary of State’s Office registered 1,229 new businesses statewide during the month of July according to Secretary of State Kris Warner. Counties that led the state in total businesses registered in July include Berkeley, Raleigh, Kanawha, Monongalia, Jefferson and Cabell. Secretary Warner released the July data while in Buckhannon participating on the monthly WV Entrepreneurship Ecosystem conference call.

Top five counties in total businesses registered:

1. Berkeley County - 120 new registrations
2. Raleigh County - 108 new registrations
3. Kanawha County - 107 new registrations
4. Monongalia County - 104 new registrations
5. Jefferson and Cabell Counties - 60 new registrations each

Of the 1,229 new businesses registered in July, 178 qualified for one of the programs offered by the WV Secretary of State’s Office. Each program waives the initial registration fee for registering the business. The Boots to Business incentive also waives the first four years of Annual Report filing fees, offering potential savings of up to \$250 for new business owners.

New business owners eligible for WVSOS cost savings programs:

- Veterans, active-duty, military spouses - 74 new registrations

- New business owners under the age of 30 - 104 new registrations

Learn more about the Boots to Business and Young Entrepreneur fee waiver programs online.

Statewide, West Virginia registered 14,186 new businesses in the previous 12-month period, from August 1, 2024, to July 31, 2025. Clay County led all 55 counties with a 20.15% growth rate during the one-year timespan. To review county-by-county growth, visit our Business Statistics Database. A total of 166,327 businesses are registered with the Secretary of State’s Office to do business in West Virginia.

Business Tip of the Month:
Business Tip of the Month - In September, The Secretary of State’s office will begin the revocation process for businesses that have not filed Annual Reports for three years. Please make sure your business is not on the list to be revoked. You can easily file your Annual Report by going to onestop.wv.gov. Annual Reports do not ask any financial information.

The WVSOS Business Division works closely with the WV Department of Commerce to help get entrepreneurs the support and assistance they need to start and open their business. Read more about the partnership at WV Business-Link.