BOOKED REGIONAL JAIL MUGSHOTS | P.2

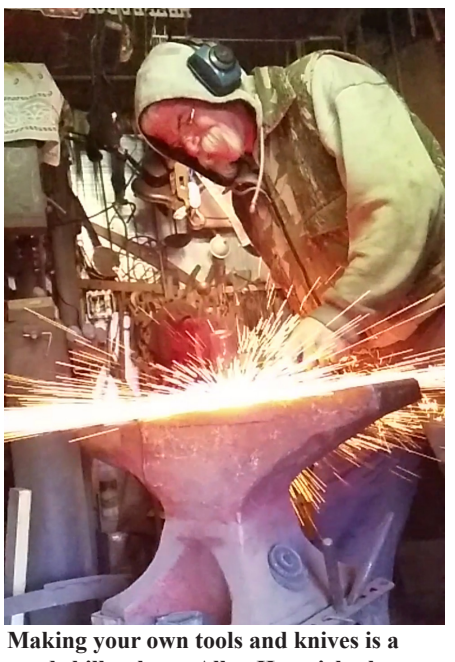
Clay County
Free Press
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Living by your wits

Allen Hamrick

Knowledge is power and the use of that powerful knowledge makes one unstoppable. Let's face it, without some form of evil, some trial in our lives or perhaps a controversy, we tend to become gentle-minded, thinking only about things that are right in front of us. Life is a single journey for all of us, and our ability to adapt to circumstances is paramount. The way we shape our life is the outcome of all we do; sometimes the simplest of means and our ordinary actions dictate our wellness, not how much we have. We tend to prosper as long as there are neediness and destitution barking at our heels. We stimulate our communities through necessity because then it becomes survival. That survival takes away fear and instills the human desire for living no matter what the foe.



Making your own tools and knives is a good skill to have. Allen Hamrick photo.

Many of those that lived when need was overtaken by labor and invention have already gone on. Those with soft hands and lack of preparation are more likely to perish under the weight of suffering, distress, difficulty, and worry. Those that have work-hardened hands and skills often have more than the richest when life goes off track. Essential skills must be learned and, along with action, can save us from ourselves - the proverbial making of a silk purse from a sow's ear, so to speak. Skills in gardening and hunting and preparation with bug out bags and survival packs can be basic essentials for survival. Our ancestors knew how to face adversity head on and deep down, so do we. We need shelter, water, fire, and food; beyond that it is icing. In times of need, keeping up with those basics can be a 24 hour a day job.

We can master many of the skills needed for bush crafting and homesteading. Making your own knife requires tools - safety glasses, a hacksaw, an angle grinder, metal files, sandpaper, a small drill press or brace and bit, some form of vise and a whetstone. If you're going to use a forge, then it gets a little more complicated. You will also need metal to construct your knife. Recycled bull saws from a large mill are a good metal for making tough knives for survival and camping. Also, the band saw on the mill itself is great for paring knives and butcher knives. Car springs and old horse rasps are great for forging knives as well as high carbon railroad spikes. If you're interested, get with someone who knows the process and get started on making your own.

Knot tying has always been an essential skill that everyone should have. Knowing how to tie different knots can save lives in perilous situations, but you must know how to tie them properly for them to be dependable and usable. Useful knots include the square knot, the clove hitch, the bowline, the figure eight, two half hitches, the taut line hitch, the double fisherman's knot, prusik knot, alpine knot and butterfly knot. There are literally hundreds of knots, and learning to tie them can be a lot of fun and prove to be very useful in many of life's situations.

Primitive trapping is an almost forgotten skill that has largely been swept under the rug but can be useful information. You may never need it but ... Two of the most used traps in the day were the trail snare and the figure four. Both, if used properly, will help provide food in a survival situation. I remember my dad talking about using the figure four to catch game when the family was running low on food during his childhood years. In preparing to be able to handle the unexpected, honing your skills never gets dull. You never know when they may come in handy.

Gardening and preserving foods are vital knowledge that seem to be making a comeback. Being able to preserve the food you grow and harvest along with knowing exactly what is in it can be very rewarding as well as tasty. The truth is that practicing these survival skills when times are quiet and calm will prepare you for the difficult times. Even if you are well off and have need of nothing, these are good to know. The older generation lived by the mantra of being able to take care of themselves, and we must embrace the idea that our future depends on us. Society needs to get back to believing that we are part of nature and the natural world and not its enemy. Let's walk with a positive impact and welcome the opportunities.



Having a store of canned goods is a good idea. Allen Hamrick photo.



Two hand crafted knives, one made from a bull saw and the other a hammered out of a horse rasp. Allen Hamrick photo.



It's always good to have a sufficient supply of firewood due to its many uses. Allen Hamrick photo.

Boots in the Gorge country music festival at Ace Adventure Resort

By Chris Colin
For ACE Adventure Resort

Oak Hill — Country music fans from across the region are invited to ACE Adventure Resort this weekend as the inaugural Boots in the Gorge Country Music Festival takes over the mountaintop Friday, July 31 & Saturday, August 1.

The two-day festival features an exciting lineup of country music stars, including Clint Black, Josh Turner, Confederate Railroad, Tigirlily Gold, CieraTheRapper, Sadie Bass, Spencer Hatcher, Noah West, Nathan Bess, and Colton Bowlin, all set against the stunning backdrop of the New River Gorge.

"This is an exciting weekend for us," said Chris Colin, Event Coordinator for ACE Adventure Resort. "After more than a decade of hosting live music festivals and special events at the resort, Boots in the Gorge represents an opportunity to introduce an entirely new genre of music to ACE. We're thrilled to welcome country music fans to experience everything our resort has to offer, and we hope this festival attracts a whole new audience to our event series."

Weekend passes and single-day tickets are still available. Guests who purchase tickets in advance will save off the gate price, and weekend passes include complimentary camping at ACE Adventure Resort, allowing festivalgoers to stay just steps from the concert grounds.



In addition to two days of live country music, guests can enjoy the many amenities and adventures available throughout ACE Adventure Resort, including whitewater rafting, ziplining, hiking, mountain biking, lake activities, dining, and more.

Fans are encouraged to purchase tickets before arriving to take advantage of advance pricing and secure their spot for one of Southern West Virginia's newest summer music traditions.

Graphic Provided by Ace Adventure Resort

For tickets, festival information, and the complete lineup, visit BootsInTheGorge.com.

About ACE Adventure Resort

Located in the New River Gorge region of West Virginia, ACE Adventure Resort is a premier outdoor destination offering world-class whitewater rafting, adventure activities, lodging, dining, and events. Situated on 1,500 acres of scenic wild and wonderful landscape, ACE combines adrenaline-pumping experiences with mountaintop relaxation, welcoming guests from across the country to explore the best of the New River Gorge National Park and Preserve.

BOOKED REGIONAL JAIL MUGSHOTS

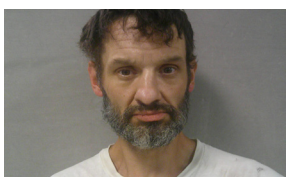
CLAY COUNTY



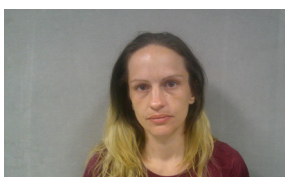
Jeffery Earnest Mollohan
Booked 7/26/2026
Grand Larceny, Receive/ Transfer Stolen Property, Conspiracy to Commit a Felony, Destruction of Property



Rachelle Dawn Duffield
Booked 7/26/2026
Grand Larceny, Receive/ Transfer Stolen Property, Conspiracy to Commit a Felony, Destruction of Property

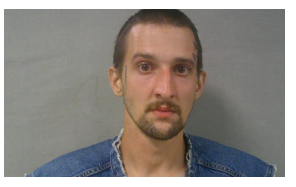


Benjamin Joel Cruickshanks II
Booked 7/26/2026
Grand Larceny, Destruction of Property, Receive/ Transfer Stolen Property, Conspiracy to Commit a Felony

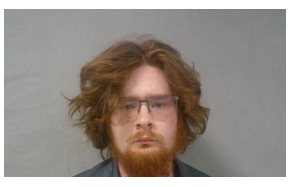


April Dawn Mckown
Booked 7/21/2026
Bond Violation

NICHOLAS COUNTY

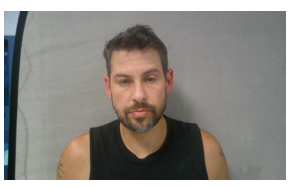


Darryl Wayne Flint II
Booked 7/25/2026
Strangulation, Domestic Battery, Fleeing From Officer, Obstructing an Officer, Destruction of Property

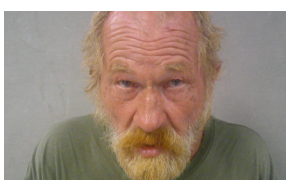


Harley David Webb
Booked 7/20/2026
Crashes Involving Death or Personal Injuries; Erin's Law

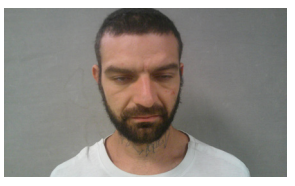
BRAXTON COUNTY



Larry Nathan Shepard II
Booked 7/25/2026
Fraudulent Vehicle Registration, Driving Revoked for DUI 3rd Offense, No Operators, No Insurance, Defective Equipment, No Seat Belt, Possession of a Controlled Substance, No Motor Vehicle Inspection



Darrell Henry Walters
Booked 7/25/2026
Trespassing, Disorderly Conduct, Destruction of Property



Everette Kurtis Meadows
Booked 7/24/2026
Domestic Assault, Trespassing, Destruction of Property

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Puzzle Answers

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Super Crossword

Answers

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

SBA Mid-Atlantic Region Matchmaker Prep Series Launches August 4

Mid-Atlantic Matchmaker Prep Series Held in Fairmont with Virtual Option

Fairmont, WV — The U.S. Small Business Administration's Mid-Atlantic Regional Administrator Jim Spencer, with the West Virginia District Office, invite entrepreneurs, businesses, and manufacturers to attend no-cost Matchmaker Prep Sessions and learn to prepare for competitive contracting opportunities.

The Matchmaker Prep Sessions are offered weekly from 11 am to 12 pm as a hybrid (in-person and virtual) series for entrepreneurs throughout West Virginia.

Attendees can choose to participate in person at Robert H. Mollohan Research Center at 1000 Galliher Dr, Fairmont WV or join virtually. Participants can register for any of the four sessions or for the entire series at wvcapabilitystatement.eventbrite.com.

S1: Thursday, August 4 - Build a Capability Statement to Open Doors

S2: Thursday, August 11 - Know Your Market, Win the Contract

S3: Thursday, August 18 - Pitch Like a Pro - From Nervous to Notable

S4: Thursday, August 25 - Small Business Panel: Maximizing Business Opportunities

"Opportunity should be accessible – not reserved for a select few," said Mid-Atlantic Regional Administrator Jim Spencer. "Opportunity, however, must be matched with preparation. Success requires businesses to be informed, confident, and ready to compete. That is why I encourage small businesses to participate in the Mid-Atlantic Matchmaker Prep Series and position themselves for success – measurable success."

Eastern Enrolling Students for New Artificial Intelligence Certificate Program Beginning This Fall

Eastern West Virginia Community & Technical College (Eastern) is enrolling students for its new Artificial Intelligence Certificate in Applied Science program, which begins in the fall 2026 semester. The certificate is West Virginia's first undergraduate AI certificate program.

Eastern was awarded a $169,440 Technical Program Development Grant from the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (WVCCTCE) last August to develop the curriculum, which has since received approval from both the state and the Higher Learning Commission. The program moves from vision to reality this fall under the leadership of Eastern President Dr. Thomas Striplin, who championed it from its inception.

The fully online, 30-credit-hour certificate is a one-year program. Upon completion, students will be equipped to use AI ethically, write Python programs using libraries such as NumPy and Pandas, apply machine learning algorithms, and efficiently leverage AI across various industries. Classes will be taught by Deepak Mehra, Ph.D., who was hired by Eastern to develop and instruct the program.

"Every industry needs people who understand AI," Mehra said. "In one year, our students go from their first line of Python to building machine learning models and pitching real AI solutions to business audiences — practical skills employers are hiring for right now."

Eastern offers in-state tuition rates to out-of-state students enrolled in fully online programs. Tuition for the AI program is $193 per credit hour. Additionally, Eastern's Workforce Education department will introduce a stackable micro-credential in artificial intelligence designed to run alongside the credit-bearing program.

To learn more about the program, visit easternwv.edu/artificial-intelligence/.

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

Veterans Crisis Line
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This resource provides immediate, free and confidential support from a qualified responder, many of whom are Veterans themselves for Veterans and their loved ones.
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I Found Another Button To Push

Dr. James Snyder

Life has its many experiences. I'm about to hit number 75 this month, a big experience for me.

I'm not sure how to celebrate my 75th birthday, especially since I've done just about everything, so no 75 candles on my cake.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage's birthday is two days after mine. Also, she's two years older than me, but you didn't hear me say that.

When we go across town for any business, we always take The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage's Sissy Van. After all, she does not like riding in my truck. Also, she prefers to sit behind the steering wheel. I don't like to sit there because it takes me almost an hour to get in behind that wheel. I don't know if the Sissy Van is too small or if I'm just too big.

Personally, I don't mind her driving her Sissy Van. I can barely get into the passenger side, but I do. Every time I ride in the Sissy Van, I learn to appreciate my truck all the more.

My truck is a man's vehicle. I enjoy getting behind the steering wheel and drive around town. It's my way of exercising my manhood.

The Sissy Van is a completely different situation. I've been riding with The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage for several years now, and I hope it will be a lot more years ahead.

Almost a month ago, I had one of those "moments." I don't often get "moments" like this, but when I do, I like to take advantage of it.

Over the years of riding in the Sissy Van, I have discovered certain "buttons" to push. It took me a long time to discover this, but once I did, it made riding that much more pleasant for me.

I have always enjoyed figuring out certain "buttons" to push on the people around me. I've always got a kick out of that, and there have been times I have gotten into trouble. But the trouble has always been worth it in my opinion.

As we were driving across town, I started pushing those "buttons."

Coming to a traffic light that had just turned red I said, "The light is red and you need to stop."

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage just looked at me after we had come to a stop at the red light. It was all I could do to keep from laughing. But I managed it.

When the light turned green, I said to her, "The light is green and you need to get going."

All I heard from the other side was a deep sigh. I'm not sure how I'm going to be able to keep from laughing, but I'm going to work on it as long as I can.

We were going across town to celebrate our birthday at a restaurant.

When we left the restaurant, we were going to a store for The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage to purchase some supplies for her craft room. We stopped at a red light, and a lady was crossing the road, and I said, "Oh, my dear, don't hit that lady."

There is a deep sigh going on on the other side of the front seat.

After the stoplight, we were to turn left. So as the light turned green, I said, "You need to turn left right here."

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage didn't say anything at that time, but I knew that marbles were rolling in her head. I sure do love pushing buttons.

When she got back from the store and got into the Sissy Van, and before she turned the engine on, she looked at me and said, "Are you having a crazy episode?"

Looking at her, I calmly said, "I don't know what you're talking about."

"Oh, yes you do. And if you want me to drive home you're gonna have to let me do the driving."

It was then that I lost control and started laughing. As I looked at her, I noticed that she was not laughing.

"I'm sorry," I said, "I was just having a little bit of fun."

Looking at me, she replied, "You may think it's fun but you don't see me laughing, do you?"

She started the engine up, and we left the parking lot and headed home. Whenever she came to a traffic light to stop, she would look at me with one of her looks and say, "Don't say a word."

It was all I could do to keep from laughing. I found new buttons to push, and I'm happy about it.

While I was thinking about this, a Bible verse came to mind.

"And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching" (Hebrews 10:24-25).

Thinking of this scripture challenged me to use my time uplifting the people around me instead of pushing their "buttons". To encourage someone in his or her life is probably the most important thing I can do. I may be the only person that can do that in someone's life. I'm going to focus on that for the rest of my life.

My focus will be finding the encouragement "buttons." I may be the only person in their life who can push that "button".

The Life You Put Into Them

Joe Mazzella

Getting older is a funny thing. When I was a teenager I would lift weights in the morning, jog 2 ½ miles to the local swimming pool, and then swim the rest of the afternoon. Well the other night I slept the tiniest bit crooked and woke up with my entire back twisted into one, gigantic knot.

As I near my 60th birthday it's become clear to me that my body is starting to feel like an old car that I am trying to keep running without any replacement parts. Each year it seems to get a little more rusted and broken down and I know it isn't going to last forever. My soul may be eternal but this pile of flesh and bones carrying it around certainly is not.

I also recently realized that I am now almost 5 years older than my Mom was when she died from Cancer at only 55 years old. It never seemed fair to me that she passed away so young. She was such a good person. She shared more loving-kindness in her brief life here than I could ever share in mine. I still miss her every single day. But in the quiet moments I can still feel her love deep inside my heart. And I know that one day I will see her again in a place of never-ending love, joy, and light.

Thinking of my Mom made me see something too: It isn't the number of years you live here that are important, it is the life you put into them. It isn't the strength of your body that's important, it is the strength of your Love. God Loves us and God put us here to love each other. God put us here to do good, be kind, share smiles, and spread joy. God put us here to laugh, sing, dance, create, help others, and make this world a better place. It doesn't matter if you live 5, 55, or 105 years. The only thing that matters is that you LIVE! The only thing that matters is that you LOVE!

Home Country

Slim Randles

"Now that's the job I want," said Steve, putting down the paper. "A guy could really sink his teeth into something like that."

Doc looked up from his coffee. "Didn't know you were looking for work, Steve. Cowboying not working out for you?"

"It isn't that," said the cowboy/farrier, "it's just that a guy should always keep his eyes open so as not to miss an opportunity to better himself. That's why I'm so interested in becoming a chicken ranger."

"A what?"

"He said a chicken ranger, Doc," said Bert, "but I never heard of one."

"Scoff if you must, friends," said Steve with a flourish, "but right here in the pages of our own glorious newspaper, the Valley Weekly Miracle, comes one of the best ideas for a job I've ever heard of. It seems if your chickens run around loose, you get more money for their eggs. No. Seriously. Look at this ad. The store says they are from certified free-ranging chickens. Got it stamped right on every free-ranging egg."

"Heard about that," Doc said, nodding. "It's not that the eggs are better, but it makes you feel better about eating an egg from a happy hen, 'cause she can run around and peck on other hens and get pecked on rather than be caged."

"And therein lies my new job, gentlemen," Steve said. "Someone has to make sure those are happy, unfettered, free-ranging manufacturers of cackleberries, and I'm just the guy to get 'er done."

Bert, who takes his charter membership in the Mule Barn truck stop's philosophy counter and world dilemma think tank very seriously, said, "Doesn't sound like much work to me."

"Each egg has to be certified," Steve explained. "Gotta be a chicken ranger there to certify those hens didn't bunch up in a corner somewhere, right? So I'll be sitting there on my horse, keeping an eye on the girls…"

"On your horse?"

"Of course," Steve said. "If you can't do a job horseback it ain't worth doing. Don't you know afoot are the two saddest words in the English language?"

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

West Virginians impacted by last Tuesday's flash flooding can report debris blockages to their local conservation district

CHARLESTON, W.Va. -- West Virginia residents impacted by last Tuesday's flash flooding may contact their local conservation district to report debris blockages in streams.

Last Tuesday Governor Patrick Morrisey declared a state of emergency for all 55 counties following severe weather that resulted in flash flooding, landslides, road closures and other dangerous conditions.

WVCA technicians have been deployed to assess the extent of flood-related debris blockages and damages and provide assistance to affected residents.

Residents may be eligible for Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program assistance.

Each county affected is within a specific conservation district. Residents should contact their specific conservation district to report a debris blockage.

• Barbour, Randolph, Taylor, Tucker and Upshur counties are in the Tygarts Valley Conservation District, which can be reached at: (304) 457-3026.

• Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan counties are within the Eastern Panhandle Conservation District, which can be reached at: (304) 263-4376.

• Boone, Cabell, Lincoln, Logan, Mingo and Wayne counties are within the Guyan Conservation District, which can be reached at: (304) 528-5718.

• Braxton, Clay, Nicholas and Webster counties are within the Elk Conservation District, which can be reached at: (304) 765-2535.

• Brooke, Hancock, Marshall and Ohio counties are within the Northern Panhandle Conservation District, which can be reached at: (304) 238-1231.

• Calhoun, Ritchie, Roane, Wirt and Wood counties are within the Little Kanawha Conservation District, which can be reached at: (304) 422-9088.

Starting a business? These US states offer the best chance of lasting, with West Virginia landing in second place

West Virginia and Pennsylvania share the second-highest rate in a new business longevity study, with 55.9% of establishments surviving five years in the Mountain State.

The first year is often treated as the biggest test for a new business, but surviving the initial launch does not necessarily mean an establishment will remain open over the longer term.

Location can also shape the environment in which a business develops. Although online companies may sell to customers across the country, hiring, premises, logistics, and access to local business networks can still depend heavily on where they are based.

With this in mind, a new study by ecommerce experts Build Your Store compared all 50 US states to identify where new employer establishments have the strongest chances of remaining active five years after opening.

The research used Business Employment Dynamics data from the US Bureau of Labor Statistics. It combined establishments that opened in 2018, 2019 and 2020, then measured how many remained active five years later.

West Virginia and Pennsylvania share second place, with both states recording a five-year survival rate of 55.9%. West Virginia's result covers 8,364 establishments across the three five-year opening groups. Its one-year survival rate stands at 76.3%, while 38% of establishments from the 2015 group were still active after a decade.

Pennsylvania's result is based on a much larger cohort of 64,353 opening establishments. It performs more strongly during the first year, with a survival rate of 78.8%, although its ten-year figure is lower at 36.4%.

The tie places both states ahead of major business markets including California, Texas, New York and Florida for establishments reaching their fifth anniversary.

OBITUARY

Franklin Elliott

Franklin Jennings Elliott went home to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on July 23, 2026. Born on December 27, 1951. He was preceded in death by his parents George and Jewel, sister Pam and brother Kevin. Surviving are his beloved wife of 55 years Joyce, beloved daughter Amy, son Jennings (Nellie), grandsons Isaiah (Mandy), Luke, Levi, Daniel, Josiah, Micah, granddaughter Willow, and soon to be born great-grandson Archer Jennings. Frank was a retired coal miner and enjoyed hunting and fishing. To say he liked to fish was an understatement. He was a member of Bell Creek Missionary Baptist Church in Dixie.

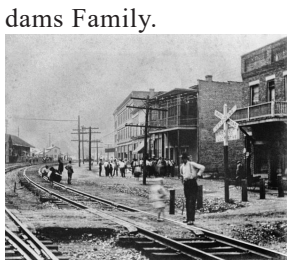
Funeral Service was held at 12:00 pm, Monday, July 27, 2026, at Pennington Smith Funeral Home, Gauley Bridge, WV, Visitation was one hour prior to the service from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm with Delbert Walker officiating. Burial will follow in the Elliott Cemetery, Lizemores, WV.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.carlwilsonfuneralhome.com

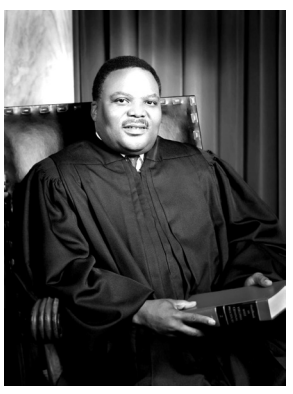
Pennington Smith Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Elliott family.

This Week in West Virginia History

July 31, 1932: Actor Theodore Crawford "Ted" Cassidy was born in Pittsburgh but was raised in Philippi. He was best known for his role as Lurch on The Addams Family.



Aug. 1, 1921: Baldwin-Felts detectives shot and killed Sid Hatfield and Ed Chambers as they approached the McDowell County Courthouse in Welch. As Matewan's police chief, Hatfield had assisted the United Mine Workers' campaign to organize Tug Fork miners. The assassinations set in motion an armed miners' march ending with the Battle of Blair Mountain.



Aug. 1, 1940: Justice Franklin Cleckley was born in Huntington. In 1994, he became the first Black justice to serve on the West Virginia Supreme Court. The Supreme Court once referred to Cleckley's handbooks on evidence and criminal procedure as "the bible for West Virginia's judges and attorneys."

Aug. 2, 2009: Golfers Sam Snead and Bill Campbell became the first two inductees into the West Virginia Golf Hall of Fame.





Aug. 3, 1897: Fire destroyed much of downtown Lewisburg. The town rebuilt and evolved in the next century into the hub of one of the state's major farming areas and a center for education and the arts.



Aug. 3, 1907: Harley Orrin Staggers Sr. was born in Keyser. Staggers served in the U.S. House of Representatives for 32 years.

Aug. 4, 1824: John Jay Jackson Jr. was born near Parkersburg. Jackson was a prominent judge who became notorious among those trying to organize labor unions in West Virginia. He blocked an effort by Mother Jones and United Mine Workers leaders to organize the miners of northern West Virginia.



Aug. 4, 1897: Musician William Jennings "Billy" Cox was born near Charleston. Cox, known as the "Dixie Songbird," ranked as one of West Virginia's premier country music vocalists and songwriters during the 1930s.

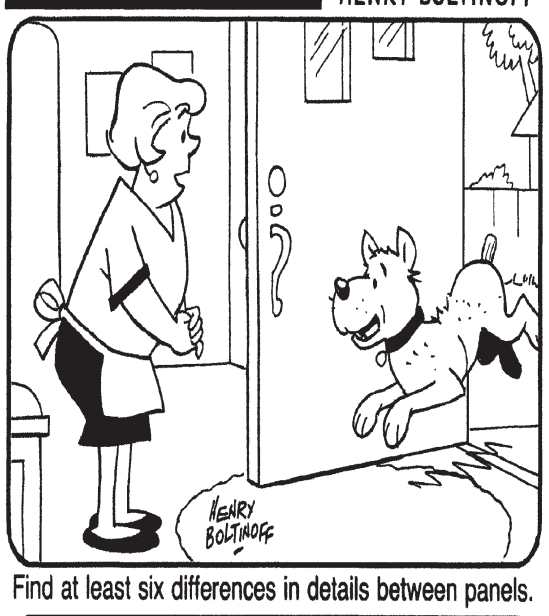
Aug. 4, 1930: Lewisburg set the record for the state's hottest temperature ever: 112. Six years later, Martinsburg would tie it.

Aug. 5, 1958: Jennings Randolph defeated former governor William Marland in the Democratic primary for U.S. Senate. Randolph soon became the senior senator from West Virginia and served for 26 years.



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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Differences: 1. Dog's leg is moved. 2. Woman's leg is moved. 3. Bush is reversed. 4. Arms are higher. 5. Dog's ear is different. 6. Fence has more boards.

6. Fence has more boards.

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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!

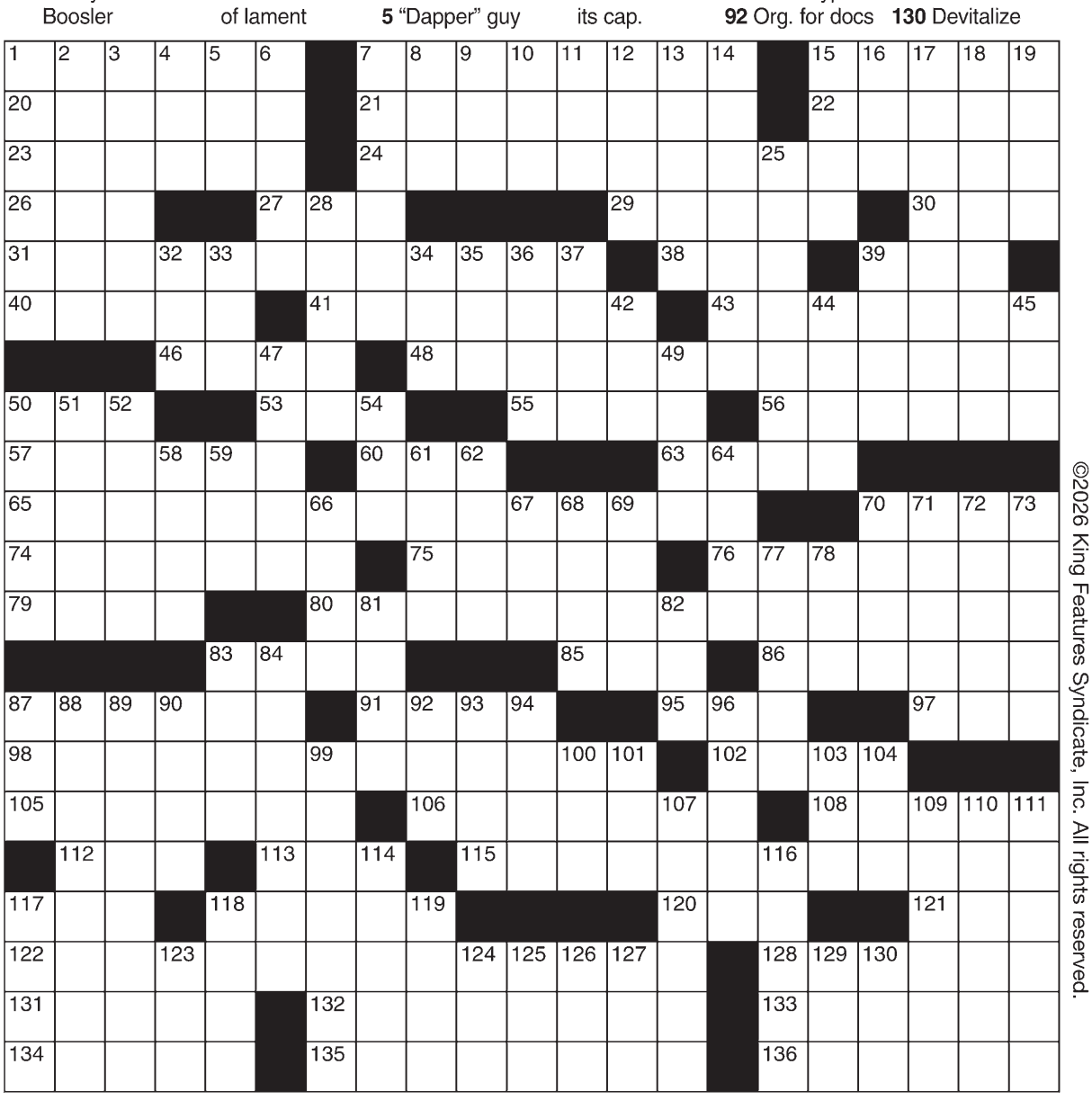
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Super Crossword

LEAVE AT THE END

ACROSS
1 Lambastes
7 Poppycock
15 Earth model
20 Larynx locale
21 Tango cousin
22 "Whoopee!"
23 Altered totally
24 For an extended period of time
26 Angry feeling
27 Prefix with chic or tour
29 Papas' mates
30 Grafton's "— for Evidence"
31 Video game in which players ride in skateparks and splash color around
38 Use a pew
39 "Dino" star Mineo
40 Filmmaker Perry
41 Feature of a carrot-top
43 Views more text, perhaps
46 Salamander
48 Make distress less painful
50 Hype (up)
53 Volcanic stuff
55 Large couch
56 Funnywoman Boosler
57 Whigs' rivals
60 Wane
63 "Devil Inside" rock band
65 Is completely harmless
70 Volcanic stuff
74 Enlarged
75 On terra —
76 Neighbor of Peru
79 Some dark breads
80 Exactly even division
83 Brilliant feat
85 Med. scan in a large tube
86 Pesto herbs
87 Mythical twin of Pollux
91 They go with oohs
95 Two after uno
97 Cove's cousin
98 Portable boat engine
102 Literary Leon
105 Covert movement
106 Like fatty tissue
108 New, in Italy
112 Atop, to bards
113 Yiddish cries of lament
115 Appetizer made with vegetable "hearts"
117 81-Down download
118 Guy who's a spin doc
120 Ring great Muhammad
121 Sinus-probing doc
122 Having paid to be freed from custody
128 Old dog star
131 Not reactive
132 Luminosity
133 Expunges
134 Pack-carrying beasts
135 Stopped from wobbling
136 What the last words of eight key answers in this puzzle are slangy synonyms of

DOWN
1 Not lenient
2 Sundae topper
3 Difficult experience
4 Bathroom, in Bristol
5 "Dapper" guy
6 Blade metal
7 Make a pick
8 Bathroom, in Bristol
9 "Honest" prez
10 Golfing goal
11 Stuff making a big bang
12 Former NPR talk show host Diane
13 Domains
14 Hand-reading fortuneteller
15 Ob- — (delivery docs)
16 Time delay
17 "No kidding?"
18 Broth made by stewing
19 Vast periods
25 Old breakfast cereal brand
28 Things rolling in the aisle
32 Hankering
33 Mine find
34 IRA choices
35 "So that's your game!"
36 Lummoxes
37 Mambo great Puente
39 Japanese noodle
42 Match arbiter
44 Kinfolk: Abbr.
45 Stockholm is its cap.
47 Failed to be
49 Toe feature
50 In battle
51 Given to sulking
52 Puritanical type
54 Sly chuckle
58 Bits of land in la mer
59 Fielder Roush
61 Well-muscled
62 "I say!" sayer
64 Russian "no"
66 Cubes in miso soup
67 Give it a whirl
68 Dual radio designation
69 Decent
70 Indy circuits
71 Off-the-cuff
72 "Ta-da!"
73 Dilettantish
77 Prefix with pet or punk
78 D.C.'s home
81 Apple tablet
82 In shape
83 Trendy
84 Speechifiers
87 Bus. entities
88 Devices reproducing signatures
89 Spires
90 Ski lift type
92 Org. for docs
93 "Today" co-host Kotb
94 Move slightly
96 "The Fisher King" actress Mercedes
99 Rappers and poets, e.g.
100 Make a pick
101 French for "king"
103 Squid's squirt
104 Act litigiously
107 Climbed up
109 City in west Texas
110 Having more climbing plants
111 Best-suited
114 Anwar with a Peace Nobel
116 Greased up
117 Opera tune
118 Butter slices
119 Lymph bump
123 Sooner than, in poetry
124 Actress Vardalos
125 Sinful
126 Folk rocker DiFranco
127 Cola cubes
129 Exist
130 Devitalize



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Puzzle Answers Page 2

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THE WIDEN NEWS

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March 1957

Red and White Review

STAFF

EDITOR ..... Judy Shaffer
ASSISTANT EDITOR ..... David Wilson
CLASS AND OFFICE EDITOR ..... Rosa Gibson
CLUB EDITOR ..... Pete Gibson
SPORTS EDITOR ..... Charles Sigman
CIRCULATION ..... Betty Sigman
TYPISTS ..... Judy Shaffer, Victor Frame, Rosa Gibson Pete Gibson, Ruby Rapp

Essence of Easter

Easter again meets us this year. It's time for the famed Easter frock and the all-time favorite Easter egg hunt.

But, let's look at Easter as it was originally meant to be. God's only son, Jesus Christ, was sent to the earth as a savior for all of us. On Good Friday, before Easter, He was hung on a dogwood cross where He stayed until the life left His body. *Jesus was buried in* a cave, and the mouth of the cave closed by a huge stone. He had told His disciples He would rise from the dead in three days. On the third day, Easter Sunday, when Mary went to the grave she found it empty.

Jesus had accomplished His mission—He died for our sins. He made an unselfish decision so that we might better our lives. We should, on this Easter Sunday, pay a more sincere and heartfelt thanks to Him who gave His life for us.

Widen School Students Spelling Improves

In addition to trying to improve reading in the Widen School, we are also making every effort to improve students' spelling. Usually a good reader is a good speller and Vice Versa; spelling and reading are closely related to each other.

This year the teachers of *grade* 5 through 8 inclusion are going to pick a champion from each of their rooms on April 15. On April 16 those people selected will participate in our elimination contest which is conducted by the school principal to determine the school champion. The Clay County Principal Association is sponsoring a county wide spelling contest on April 1 at 9 a.m. in the Clay High School. Our school champion as well as others from the different elementary schools of the county will *also take part to find* out who the county winner is going to be.

Prizes in the county level offered by the Principals Association are: First pllace: a $25 United States Saving Bond; second place, $15 cash; third place, $10; and fourth; $5. Prizes on the local level will be given by the Widen school's P.T.A. and they are first place winner $5, second, third, and fourth place winner $1.00 each.

Certificates are also to be awarded to each room winner and the school champion.

The teachers and students involved in this spelling program have been putting forth an effort during the school term. We should hope to see considerable improvement in the students' spelling.

High School Teen Poll

Most Popular Boy—Dave Hamrick
Most Popular Girl — Judy La Corte
Prettiest Girl—Carolene Miller
Best Looking Boy—Gary Craft
Best Boy Student—Dave Hamrick.
Best Girl Student—Ruby Lee Rapp
Best Boy Athlete—Dave Hamrick
Best Girl Athlete—Carol Neal
Wittiest Boy—Bob Miller
Wittiest Girl—Erie Belle Gibson
Most Courteous Boy — Charles Barrett
Most Courteous Girl — Nancy McMillian
Best Boy Dancer—Jim Manning
Best Girl Dancer—(Tied) Mary Hamrick and Dawne Backus
Prettiest Smile—Lora Lou Wilson
Best All Around Boy—Dave Hamrick
Best All Around Girl—Judy La Corte
Most Ambitious Boy — Dave Hamrick
Most Ambitious Girl—Carolene Miller
Most Talkative Boy — Ronald Conner
Most Talkative Girl — Karen Mick.
Most Talented Boy—Dave Hamrick
Most Talented Girl — Dawne Backus
Neatest Boy—(Tied) Dave Shaffer, Gary Craft, Dave Wilson, Kyle Barnette
Neatest Girl—Nancy McMillian

March Birthdays

Grade School

Patsy Adkins	13
Shelia Boggs	24
Frankie Donohue	3
James Dorsey	23
Molly Dorsey	22
Elizabeth Gibson	21
Herby Gibson	19
Bonita King	27
David Marple	14
Sandra Miller	19
Mike Morris	26
Lynn Kay Mullins	1
Douglas Rinehart	10
Carol Workman	24
Daniel Wood	16

High School

Kyle Barnette	14
Roger Baughman	16
Cerita Bego	8
Selena Bego	14
Jo Ann Brown	6
Raymond Dodrill	1
Juanita Forte	6
Joyce Houghton	30
Harold Johnson	18
Marylen Lewis	27
Betty Windon	10
Karen Woods	13
Joe Woods	22
Barbara Young	31

The High School Class Tournaments will be held April 7 through 14 at the Community Building—Coach Stover will officiate.

Mystery Students



Girl:
I think that I shall never see
A girl quite as cute as she.

Who wears her hair in short brown curls
And you can find her with *Sophomore girls.*

She's a great Connie Francis fan;
She sings "My Happiness" again and again.

She's 98 pounds and full of joy,
And for her, there is no steady boy.

Boy:
Now, listen my students and you shall hear
The description of a boy close here.

This handsome young man has pretty black hair,
He sings of a "Lonesome Town", but where?

He was born in September of 1944.
Any girl would be happy tosee him at her door.

His brown eyes attract girls both far and near,
And in everything he's opposite the rear.

He is a member of the Freshman class,
And you better guess now 'cause this is the last.

Mystery students for last month were Barbara Eagle and Bob Miller.

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LEGAL

(2025-C-000145 - CLAY COUNTY - DANNY W COCHRAN AND ARMSTRONG)

To: GARY J TANNER, WANDA J TANNER, JENNY L TANNER, JULIE A TANNER, JANET L FITZWATER, JOSEPH TANNER, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT PLEASANT **MAP** 14 **PARCEL** 0004 0000 0000

You will take notice that DANNY W COCHRAN AND ARMSTRONG, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2025-C-000145, located in PLEASANT District, 102.55 AC BIG SYCAMORE SUR, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of TANNER KATHLEEN EST, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of CLAY County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on the April 21, 2026. DANNY W COCHRAN AND ARMSTRONG requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2026 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2024 - 15839.	$	398.84
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number	$	0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2025 - 15978.	$	308.50
Additional taxes with interest.	$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	$	209.95
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	$	828.92
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	**$**	**1,746.21**

You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

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

Given under my hand July 16, 2026

Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Nonentered Lands of CLAY County, State of West Virginia

Please return this letter and payment to the
West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections
Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568

LEGAL

Legal 3 col x 5-1/4"
0723 0730 0806

(2025-C-000192 - CLAY COUNTY - ABRAHAM OSBORNE)

To: KENNETH E NOTTINGHAM, HEIRS OR ASSIGNS, HEIRS OF KENNETH NOTTINGHAM, STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, KENNETH NOTTINGHAM, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT UNION **MAP** 15 **PARCEL** 0005 0000 0000

You will take notice that ABRAHAM OSBORNE, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2025-C-000192, located in UNION District, .48 AC JACKS BEND LOT 33 SUR, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of NOTTINGHAM KENNETH E, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of CLAY County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on the April 21, 2024. ABRAHAM OSBORNE requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 1, 2026, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before December 31, 2026 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2024 - 18446.	$	106.35
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number	$	0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2025 - 18606.	$	33.35
Additional taxes with interest.	$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	$	113.69
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	$	658.78
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	$	419.68
Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	**$**	**1,331.85**

You may redeem at any time before December 31, 2026, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

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

Given under my hand July 6, 2026

Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Nonentered Lands of CLAY County, State of West Virginia

Please return this letter and payment to the
West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections
Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568

LEGAL

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF WEST VIRGINIA
CHARLESTON

Case No. 26-0544-G-390P
HOPE GAS, INC.
Annual Pipeline Replacement and Expansion Program (PREP) Application, pursuant to W. Va. Code § 24-2-1 k.

NOTICE OF FILING AND HEARING

On May 29, 2026, Hope Gas, Inc. (Hope) filed its Annual Pipeline Replacement and Expansion Program (PREP) Filing with revised PREP Rates, pursuant to W.Va. Code § 24-2-lk, which authorizes the Public Service Commission of West Virginia (Commission) to approve cost recovery of projects to replace, upgrade, and expand natural gas utility infrastructure that are deemed to be just and reasonable and in the public interest.

In its PREP Filing, Hope projects PREP capital investment for calendar year 2027 of $115.0 million, as part of its General Program (core distribution system) and Field/Gathering Facilities Program (field lines and gathering facilities), under its multi-year plans. The PREP Filing also contains a true-up for actual versus projected 2025 calendar year PREP capital investment activity for both the General Program and the Field/Gathering Facilities Program. The PREP covers several categories of plant asset replacements and improvements, including mains, service lines, regulator stations, and other plant equipment. These plant investments are proposed to be made in Hope service territories throughout the State. These projects are identified in the PREP Filing, which is on file and available for public inspection at the Commission's offices at 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia.

Hope proposes to recover costs associated with these investments through an increment within the fixed or volumetric, base rate component of its rates depending on the applicable rate schedule under which service is rendered, to be effective on November 1, 2026. Hope projects that the average monthly bill for the various classes of customers will be changed on November 1, 2026, as follows:

HOPE GAS, INC. - PROPOSED		
TYPE OF CUSTOMER	$ INCREASE	% INCREASE
Residential Sales (Rate Class RS)	$4.37	4.07%
Small Commercial Sales (Rate Class SGS)	$11.47	3.33%
Small Commercial Transport (Rate Class SGS)	$98.35	4.69%
Large Commercial Sales (Rate Class LGS)	$412.91	2.97%
Large Commercial Transport (Rate Class LGS)	$395.21	2.66%
Large Commercial-Industrial - Distribution Sales (Rate Class LCI-D)	$1,247.34	2.08%
Large Commercial-Industrial - Distribution Transport (Rate Class LCI-D)	$1,193.86	2.64%
Large Commercial-Industrial - Direct Service Transport (Rate Class LCI-DS)	$161.12	4.60%
Resale Sales (Rate Class WS)	$498.50	1.75%
DGP Gathering (Rate Class PGAS)	$12,980.75	13.45%
Equitrans Gathering (Rate Class PGAS)	$3,420.21	11.38%

The increases shown are based on averages of all customers in the indicated classes. 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 rates and charges are only a proposal and are subject to change (increase or decrease) by the Commission in its review of this filing. Any increase in rates and charges will not become effective until authorized and approved by the Commission.

The Commission will hold a hearing on this matter at 9:30 a.m. on September 23, 2026, at the Commission headquarters, 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia.

If the Commission receives no opposition to the PREP Filing within one week of the hearing date, the hearing may be waived, and the Commission may issue a final Order within 150 days of the filing date.

Anyone desiring to intervene should file a written petition to intervene within twenty (20) days following the date of this publication unless otherwise modified by Commission Order. All requests to intervene should briefly state the reason for the request to intervene and comply with the rules on intervention set forth in the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. The Commission will receive public comments until the beginning of the hearing. All written comments and requests to intervene should state the case name and number and be addressed to Karen Buckley, Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323. Public Comments may also be filed online at http://www.psc.state.wv.us/scripts/onlinecomments/default.cfm by clicking the "Formal Case" link.

HOPE GAS, INC.



LEGAL

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF CLAY COUNTY,
WEST VIRGINIA

IN RE: Civil Action No. 2026-D-34
The Marriage of:
Christopher Reneau and Andrea Reneau

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

THE OBJECT OF THIS SUIT IS TO OBTAIN A DIVORCE.
THIS IS A PUBLICATION BY CLASS II LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT.
To the Above-Named Respondent:

It appearing by evidence filed in this action that Andrea Reneau is a non-resident of the State of West Virginia or has an unknown address. It is hereby Ordered that Andrea Reneau serve upon Christopher Reneau, Petitioner, whose address is 186 Upper Two Run Rd., Clay, WV 25043, an Answer, including any related counterclaim or defense you may have to the Petition For Divorce filed in this action on or before August 27, 2026 at 1 p.m. If you fail to Answer for Petition for Divorce, a judgment may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition.

A copy of said Petition can be obtained from the undersigned Clerk's Office.

Entered by the Clerk of said Court July 21, 2026

Clerk of the Court

LEGAL

ORDER OF PUBLICATION
IN THE MAGISTRATE COURT OF CLAY COUNTY,
WEST VIRGINIA

Cabana V Properties LLC
Plaintiff
v. Civil Action No. 26-M08C-00013
Stanley W. Ratliff, et al.
Defendant

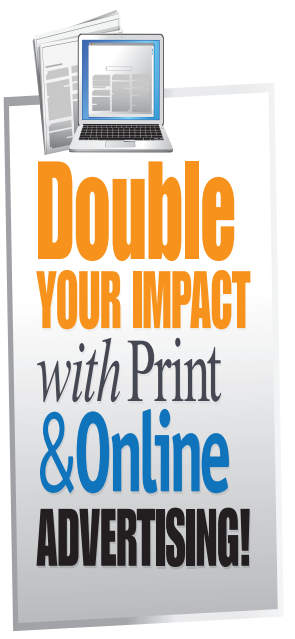
The object of the above entitled action is to evict Defendant Stanley W. Ratliff from the property commonly known as 1497 Ossia Road, Duck, WV 25063 after Foreclosure by Cabana V Properties LLC.

And it appearing by an affidavit filed in this action that Sheriff's Officer has failed to establish personal service on Defendant Stanley W. Ratliff after three attempts.

It is ordered that Stanley W. Ratliff do serve upon Scott Bass, magistrate, whose address is 225 Main Street, P.O. Box 393, Clay, WV 25043, an answer or other defense to the complaint filed in this action on or before 30 days after the first publication, otherwise judgment by default will be taken against Stanley W. Ratliff at any time thereafter. A copy of said complaint can be obtained from the undersigned Clerk at her office.

Entered by the Clerk of said Court - Clay County Magistrate Court.

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



LEGAL

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Division of Highways
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service (www.bidx.com) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia, until September 15, 2026 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the constructions of the following project(s):

Call	Contract	State Project	Federal Project	Description
003	2023080003	S308-016/00 17.04 00	HWI-0016(330)D	BOX CULVERT Pierson Lumber Bridge Midpoint **COUNTY:** CLAY

Proposals will be received from prequalified and West Virginia licensed contractors only except that on Federal-Aid Projects a contractors' license is not required at time of bid, but will be required before work can begin. Registration is required with the Department of Administration, Division of Purchasing, in accordance with Chapter 5A, Article 3, Section 12 of the West Virginia Code. All contractors submitting bids on project(s) must include one of the following forms properly executed with each proposal: Proposal Guaranty Bond, Cashier's Check, or Certified Check for $500.00 or 5% of the total bid, whichever is greater.

The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways reserves the right to defer, delay or postpone the date for receiving and publicly opening proposals for any project designated in this advertisement, without the necessity of renewing such advertisement. The deferment, delay, postponement, and the date that proposals will be received and publicly opened will be available on www.bidx.com.

The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex or national origin in consideration for an award.

LEGAL

WV Secretary of State Kris Warner issues a statement regarding Delegate David Elliott Pritt's candidacy status for the General Election

Secretary Warner calls on West Virginians to support flood cleanup and recovery efforts

July 27, 2026
By Diane Nester
For The Office of WV Secretary of State Kris Warner

Charleston – WV Secretary of State Kris Warner, along with his legal team, is aware of and has thoroughly researched the serious allegations raised against Delegate David Elliott Pritt.

Secretary Warner released the following statement:

"Our Office has received numerous calls from West Virginia citizens regarding Delegate Pritt's status on the general election ballot in light of the reprehensible allegations raised against him. As we all are aware, these serious allegations have received significant public attention.

A felony conviction is a disqualifying factor for candidates seeking elected office. However, candidates awaiting trial who have not been convicted of a disqualifying offense remain eligible to seek elected office, assuming no other disqualifier exists, such as no longer residing in the district they seek to represent. Under our system of justice, every person charged with a crime is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

If a candidate voluntarily withdraws from the ballot, that creates a vacancy that cannot be filled by the candidate's political party. This is a new provision of West Virginia election law enacted through House Bill 4350 (2024), which became effective January 1, 2025. In that circumstance, the candidate's political party would not have a nominee for that office on the general election ballot.

Accordingly, if Delegate Pritt withdraws from the ballot, the Republican Party cannot appoint a replacement candidate.

A political party may appoint a replacement nominee only if a vacancy results from a candidate's disqualification, such as ineligibility to hold office, before the 84th day prior to the General Election—which is August 11, 2026—or if the vacancy results from the candidate's death.

A candidate's disqualification must be determined either by a court of competent jurisdiction, such as through a qualifying conviction, or by the State Election Commission upon a written request establishing that the candidate is ineligible to hold office. To allow a political party to fill the vacancy for the 2026 General Election, that disqualification must occur no later than August 11, 2026.

We share the deep concerns of West Virginia citizens regarding the nature of the allegations against Delegate Pritt. My legal team will continue to monitor the situation closely and will respond as appropriate under West Virginia law."

Capito, Colleagues Introduce Bill to Support Alzheimer's Research

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Recently, U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.), Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS), joined U.S. Senators Edward Markey (D-Mass.), Susan Collins (R-Maine), and Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.) in introducing legislation to reauthorize the United States Postal Service (USPS) Alzheimer's research stamp for an additional six years, allowing more funds to be raised for Alzheimer's research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Semipostal stamps are sold by the USPS and are priced above the cost of postage to raise funds for causes of public interest, as directed by Congress. The U.S. Postal Service first issued the Alzheimer's semipostal stamp in 2017 and has since sold over 13 million stamps, raising $1.7 million dollars in support of Alzheimer's research.

"Reauthorizing the Alzheimer's semipostal stamp will both maintain a source of funding for critically important Alzheimer's research and will also help honor the memory and courage of those who have faced this heartbreaking disease directly. I have long been dedicated to pursuing a cure for Alzheimer's disease, and I'm proud to join my colleagues to continue this initiative through the USPS," Senator Capito said.

U.S. Senators Mark Warner (D-Va.), Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-Miss.) Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.), Steve Daines (R-Mont.), Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.), Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.), Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.), Jim Justice (R-W. Va.), Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.) and Kevin Cramer (R-N.D.) co-sponsored the legislation.

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- Lincoln County Cloggers

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Friday, August 7 | 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Saturday, August 8 | 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM

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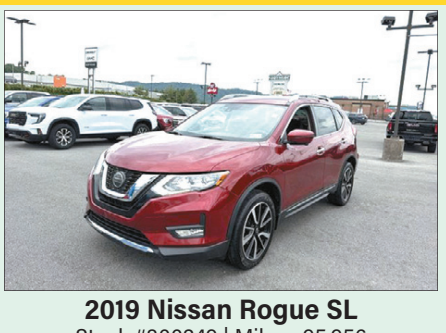
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2016 Jeep Patriot Sport
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2019 Nissan Rogue SL
Stock #800249 | Miles: 95,956
Body: 4D Sport Utility | Doc Fee: $575
Retail Price: $16,999 | Discount: $2,002
Final Price: $15,572



2021 Chevrolet Equinox LS
Stock #U14247 | Miles: 69,780
Body: 4D Sport Utility | Doc Fee: $575
Retail Price: $21,999 | Discount: $4,175
Final Price: $18,399



2024 Nissan Sentra S
Stock #U14312 | Miles: 29,355
Body: 4D Sedan | Doc Fee: $575
Retail Price: $23,999 | Discount: $4,789
Final Price: $19,785



2024 Chevrolet Trax LT
Stock #800222A | Miles: 43,747
Body: 4D Sport Utility | Doc Fee: $575
Retail Price: $21,200 | Discount: $1,870
Final Price: $19,905



2022 Hyundai Tucson SEL
Stock #17524 | Miles: 24,291
Body: 4D Sport Utility | Doc Fee: $575
Retail Price: $23,995 | Discount: $4,402
Final Price: $20,168



2023 Nissan Rogue SV
Stock #800209 | Miles: 53,953
Body: 4D Sport Utility | Doc Fee: $575
Retail Price: $23,995 | Discount: $3,000
Final Price: $21,570



2022 Hyundai Santa Fe SEL
Stock #126300A | Miles: 75,181
Body: 4D Sport Utility | Doc Fee: $575
Retail Price: $21,995 | Discount: $397
Final Price: $22,173



2025 Chevrolet Trax 2RS
Stock #U14067 | Miles: 52,998
Body: 4D Sport Utility | Doc Fee: $575
Retail Price: $25,325 | Discount: $3,593
Final Price: $22,307



2025 Jeep Compass Limited
Stock #U14080 | Miles: 29,251
Body: 4D Sport Utility | Doc Fee: $575
Retail Price: $31,875 | Discount: $7,946
Final Price: $24,504



2025 Jeep Compass Limited
Stock #17533 | Miles: 28,641
Body: 4D Sport Utility | Doc Fee: $575
Retail Price: $31,995 | Discount: $9,000
Final Price: $23,570



2023 GMC Terrain SLT
Stock #17536A | Miles: 42,615
Body: 4D Sport Utility | Doc Fee: $575
Retail Price: $26,995 | Discount: $2,996
Final Price: $24,574

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Body: 4D SuperCrew | Rebates: $4,000
MSRP: $61,405 | Discount: $4,981
Final Price: $52,999



2026 Ford F-150 XLT
Stock #N14046 | Doc Fee: $575
Body: 4D SuperCrew | Rebates: $4,000
MSRP: $64,585 | Discount: $5,161
Final Price: $55,999



2026 Ford F-150 STX
Stock #N14028| Doc Fee: $575
Body: 4D SuperCrew | Rebates: $4,000
MSRP: $52,615 | Discount: $2,797
Final Price: $46,393



2026 Ford F-150 Lariat
Stock #N13941 | Doc Fee: $575
Body: 4D SuperCrew | Rebates: $4,000
MSRP: $67,685 | Discount: $5,261
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Final Price: $30,701



2026 Jeep Cherokee Laredo
Stock #4G122 | Doc Fee: $575
Body: 4D Sport Utility | Rebates: $2,500
MSRP: $40,785 | Discount: $1,665
Final Price: $37,195



2026 Chrysler Pacifica Select
Stock #2G004 | Doc Fee: $575
Body: 4D Passenger Van | Rebates: $5,500
MSRP: $47,990 | Discount: $2,566
Final Price: $40,499



2026 Dodge Durango GT
Stock #3G191 | Doc Fee: $575
Body: 4D Sport Utility | Rebates: $1,000
MSRP: $43,980 | Discount: $1,989
Final Price: $41,566



2026 RAM 1500 Tradesman
Stock #3G136 | Doc Fee: $575
Body: 4D Crew Cab | Rebates: $6,967
MSRP: $58,060 | Discount: $3,738
Final Price: $47,930

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Body: 4D Sport Utility | Rebates: $750
MSRP: $25,599 | Discount: $532
Final Price: $24,892



2026 Chevrolet Trailblazer ACTIV
Stock #126312 | Doc Fee: $575
Body: 4D Sport Utility
MSRP: $35,179 | Discount: $2,755
Final Price: $32,999



2026 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 RST
Stock #126320 | Doc Fee: $575
Body: 4D Crew Cab | Rebates: $6,000
MSRP: $61,984 | Discount: $6,560
Final Price: $49,999



2026 GMC TERRAIN AT4
Stock #426228 | Doc Fee: $575
Body: 4D Sport Utility | Rebates: $1,000
MSRP: $x | Discount: $3,407
Final Price: $41,002



2026 GMC SIERRA 1500 ELEVATION
Stock #426326 | Doc Fee: $575
Body: 4D Sport Utility | Rebates: $4,250
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