



Clay County Free Press

Home of the Clay County Golden Delicious Apple



Volume 137 No. 33

Periodical Postage Paid at Clay, West Virginia 25043-0180

Thursday, August 20, 2026

\$1.⁵⁰

August 15 Declared “Shelia Stone Day” for Clay County

By Gary Lee Stuber

The Clay County Commission met in its first regular monthly session on Monday, August 10, with all Commissioners present. Commission President Joyce Johnson and Commissioner Duane Legg were present in person, while Commissioner David Schoolcraft participated by phone. County Clerk, Shelia Stone, presided as recorder for her last commission meeting.

The commission first took care of regular county business. They approved minutes from the previous meeting, bills, purchase orders, budget revisions, erroneous assessments as presented by the Assessor, and fiduciary appointments as presented by the County Clerk including: appointments of administrators, last wills and testaments, and affidavits and waivers of final settlements for estates.

Along that line they also set a hearing date for the Estate of Charles Edward Bird for 10:00 am on August 24th, following their next regular meeting. The commission also accepted the resignation of the two previous Executor/Administrators of the Estate of Doris J. Metheney. But the next proposed administrators were not present to challenge for the task, so the commission extended their deadline until 10:00 am later that morning.

The commission approved the use of the courthouse outside court and inside facilities for the Apple Festival coming in September. The general public will be able to come inside and get out of the heat and use the public bathrooms until at least 9 pm.

The commission reappointed Mike Scott (whose term ends June 30, 2030) and Daniel Tanner (whose term ends June 30, 2030) to the Clay County Deputy Sheriff’s Civil Service Commission. And reappointed Barry McCune as the Citizen Representative to the Regional Intergovernmental Council with his term ending June 30, 2030.

The commission approved Connie Truman’s request to hire Traci Porter as

a part-time paramedic for the 911 Ambulance Center at a starting wage of \$17.00 per hour. And they approved Circuit Clerk, Clarissa Hanshaw’s request to hire Krissie Walton as a full-time employee.

The commission also approved a request from Patricia White, Director of the 911 Ambulance Service, regarding general pay raises. The commission approved pay raises of 50 cents per hour for drivers, \$1 per hour for EMTs, and \$1.50 per hour for paramedics. This is a big deal since in the past few years pay raises have been denied over the presence of the county’s jail bill.

And speaking of the Regional Intergovernmental Council, Terry Martin was present to update the commission on a number of matters. First, he requested both a Budget Extension and a Time Extension for the Big Otter Water Line Extension Project for FAMCO. The contractors have encountered hard rock digging conditions for the Big Otter line, requiring more time and money to facilitate. They also approved a current bill for ARC for \$300K, with nearly a million still to come.

Terry also asked for and received a renewed Administrative Regional Council contract for the Clay County Commission 911 Center Construction. A contract valued at \$75,000 for what Commissioner Johnson says is “For things that we cannot do.”

And finally, Terry discussed Clay County Library Estimates but assured them no action was needed at this time.

The final act of the commission that morning was with a mixture of sadness and joy. The commission read a resolution for, and presented a certificate to, retiring County Clerk Shelia Stone, whose last day is August 15. They proclaimed August 15 “Shelia Stone Day” for Clay County.

The next commission meeting will be held on Monday, August 24, in the commission room of the Clay County Courthouse at 9:00 am.

When Personal Politics Outweigh Our Kids: A Pattern Clay County Can No Longer Ignore

By Amber Ferrebee

When I recently wrote about the Board of Education’s sudden introduction of steep participation fees for non-enrolled students, the underlying message was simple: we should always focus on what’s best for our kids. Policy should build bridges, invite participation, and celebrate the wins of every local student, regardless of where they learn.

Unfortunately, recent actions by Clay County leadership show a continuing shift away from that very idea, putting personal politics and grudges above the good of the community.

We saw this play out firsthand just a few days ago when Allen Tanner, former Clay County High School principal, and his co-host Dylan Vaughan announced they were abruptly removed from broadcasting CCHS sports on WVRC FM 104.7.

For the past year, Tanner and Vaughan poured countless hours of volunteer effort into spotlighting local athletes across football, volleyball, cross country, basketball, wrestling, baseball, and softball. Their broadcasts were a labor of love that brought our entire community together, giving grandparents, working parents on night shifts, and out-of-town relatives a meaningful way to cheer on local kids.

The response on social media was immediate and hard to ignore: *Why silence two passionate community voices who gave our local athletes the spotlight, pride, and visibility they deserved?*

While official explanations are rarely offered in these situations, our community isn’t blind. Many see this decision as part of a troubling, broader pattern of retaliatory behavior from district leadership. We saw this same dynamic play out at the board level when Tanner was voted out of his position as principal. Despite passionate support from school staff and dedicated teachers like Amanda Shelton, who openly spoke at the podium in de-

fense of his leadership, the board voted to remove him without publicly addressing the underlying tensions.

This is an educator whose dedication extended far beyond standard job duties, from personally tutoring sick students at home after long workdays to keeping talented teachers from leaving the education profession entirely. Our kids were the ones who ultimately lost out when Tanner was removed from our public schools.

Tanner was guided by his faith and a deep commitment to our community, but political drama has now followed him to the radio, leaving our youth caught in the middle once again.

When personal vendettas and institutional politics dictate who is allowed to celebrate our athletes, those in power have lost sight of their true purpose. Our schools do not exist to serve the egos of administrators or board members; they exist to support our kids.

Whether it is dropping unexpected, prohibitive fees on families days before sports sign-ups or quietly shutting down popular, student-centered voices on the radio, the result is always the same: our kids lose. Our athletes lose the platform they worked hard to earn. Our community loses two of its biggest cheerleaders. And parents are left asking why district leadership treats transparency and open communication as threats rather than priorities.

Clay County has always been about taking care of our own. We sit on the same bleachers, cheer for the same kids, and want what’s best for every child growing up in this county. Our school leadership ought to reflect that—plain, simple support for our kids, without all the extra drama.

It’s time to set personal issues aside, listen to the community, and put our local kids back where they belong—at the very top of the priority list.

Amber Ferrebee

Mountaineer Food Bank receives truckload of food from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Gassaway, W.Va. – The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) delivered a truckload of food to Mountaineer Food Bank’s Gassaway headquarters Thursday morning, marking a significant in-kind donation as the demand for food assistance continues to rise across West Virginia.

Food insecurity rose by more than 12% over the course of one year, according to the most recent data released by Feeding America in July, showing that more than 312,000 West Virginians face limited or uncertain access to adequate food.

“This donation from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is truly a godsend in helping us to get more food out to more people who need it,” said Mountaineer Food Bank CEO Chad Morrison. “We are hearing the same story from our partners across the state: that they are trying to serve more people with the same amount of funding and coming up short.

LDS has been a longtime partner and supporter of Mountaineer Food Bank’s work. Members of the church have volunteered more than 2,400 hours with the Food Bank over the last decade, and it’s served as one of our longest and largest food donors.

This especially generous donation is part of LDS’ America 250 Initiative, where they are donating 250 truckloads of food to more than 250 food banks to commemorate America’s 250th anniversary.



“We are honored and privileged to be able to share in God’s love by feeding our neighbors here in West Virginia,” said David Plate, representative of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. “And we can’t think of a better way to celebrate America than by lifting up organizations across this country, including Mountaineer Food Bank, that are helping the people most in need.”

Mountaineer Food Bank recently expanded its warehouse headquarters, greatly increasing its food storage capabilities and priming it to assist in times of emergency.

Following Thursday’s donation delivery, Mountaineer Food Bank staff and LDS members offered brief remarks before partaking in a tour of the Food Bank’s recently renovated and expanded facility.



BOOKED



REGIONAL JAIL MUGSHOTS

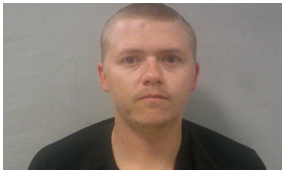
NICHOLAS COUNTY



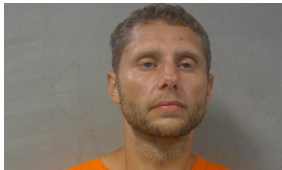
Roy Bruce Collins
Booked 8/14/2026
Possession of Controlled Substance



Patrick Anthony Craytor
Booked 8/14/2026
Possession of Controlled Substance



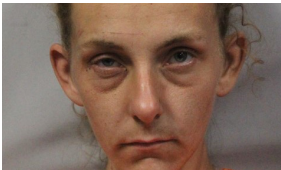
Jacob Christopher Dozier
Booked 8/14/2026
Domestic Battery



Anthony Lynn Denna
Booked 8/13/2026
Battery, Obstruction of Officer, Disorderly Conduct



Eric Andrew Barnett
Booked 8/12/2026
Probation Violation



Victoria Alexander Harrison
Booked 8/12/2026
Shoplifting

NICHOLAS COUNTY



Brandy Lynn Legg
Booked 8/12/2026
Breaking and Entering, Shoplifting, Possession CDS Without Prescription, Petit Larceny



Shane Brandon Marshall
Booked 8/11/2026
Domestic Battery 2nd Offense



Joshua Allen Specht
Booked 8/11/2026
Kidnapping, Wanton Endangerment, Use of Presentation of a Firearm During Commission of a Felony; Penalties, Conspiracy to Commit a Felony



Anita Jane Hamrick
Booked 8/15/2026
Possession of Meth, Grand Larceny

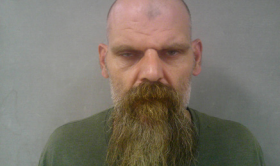


Daniel Okey McCumbers II
Booked 8/15/2026
Expired MVI, Driving Suspended 3rd, Altering Registration, Seat Belt Violation

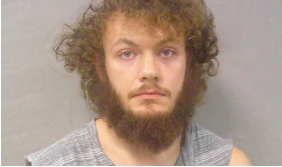


Troy Franklin Stevens III
Booked 8/15/2026
Domestic Assault, Destruction of Property

BRAXTON CTY.



Edward Stevens Hebert Jr.
–Booked 8/9/2026, Aiding Escape, No Registration, No Operators, No Insurance, Defective Equipment



Richard Wayne Triplett
Booked 8/14/2026
Assault, Petit Larceny, Destruction of Property

CLAY COUNTY

Puzzle Answers

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Super Crossword

Answers

REPOSE	STEP	ATT	PEPPA
EARTHY	HOMO	CAUSERIES	
GRATAE	ATOP	TVRATINGS	
IFYOUWERETO	OVERTAKE		
NUT	NENE	IPAREC	FRI
ALOW	ADRIVERON	THE ROAD	
	AIRE	MENSA	LYRES
BOORS	ANA	TACOMA	
ANDHEPROCEED	STOHONK		
FEDORA	ROLLE	LAI	IFS
TAILEND	PIECE	LOSESIT	
ALS	COM	SCALP	AIRSEA
	HISHORN	NATYOU	ANGRILY
	SHORTO	INC	MINDS
ATRIA	SPECS	CAAN	
WHATHAVEYOU	HEARD	GROG	
LOT	TIS	ORE	SUEZ
	ABLAST	FROMTHE	PASSED
ACTUARIAL	CIAO	TIPTOE	
TEARSINTO	USSR	ARIANA	
MOTTS	GEE	PEKE	TENSED

PUBLIC NOTICES

The Clay County WIC office located at 452 Main Street in Clay is open to serve the public every Monday and Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Attention Clay Panthers: The 60th Class Reunion for Class of 1966 will be held at the Clay Middle School on September 18th, from 4p.m. to 8:30pm, with dinner served at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$35 per person. RSVP Judy Dobbins, 623 Paxton Rd. Prociuous, WV 25164.

The Mollohan Family Reunion was held on July 11th this year. There were 21 souls in attendance as follows:

OH, Beloit: Nicholas Cincinat, Erin Phillips Jordan and son William; Brewster: Sharon Mollohan Cincinat.

WV, Charleston: Whitney Butler, Shawn Kenney

and Ashlynn Jean Kenney; Ted & Diana Mollohan Scott.

Clendenin: Tom & Glenna Mollohan Butler Weese.

Duck: Hilary Joyner & Reatha McCracken Robinson.

Hurricane: Susan McCracken.

Elkview: Ivan & Joanna Butler Porter Wheeler.

Milton: Tim & Deanna McCracken Allen.

Poca: Randall Butler, Paula Taylor Grose & daughter, Amanda

Due to low attendance, the Mollohan families are joining their cousins, the McCracken families on July 3, 2027, also being held at the Big Otter Community Center, 3433 Big Otter Hwy., Ivydale, WV 25113.

Thank you to Reatha Robinson and Sharon Cincinat for gift-table donations!

So “Save-the-Date” on your cellphones, mark your calendars, and spread the word near and far!!

Big Otter Elementary Receives Superintendent’s Cup

For the 4th year in a row, Big Otter Elementary School received the Superintendent’s Cup! This award is given to the top school based on attendance, academics, family engagement, and discipline. Big Otter Elementary is proud to help all students succeed! Big Otter Elementary School’s 5th Grade teacher Mrs. Jamie Smith was recognized as a 2026 Clay County Teacher of Excellence and Kindergarten Aide Mrs. Edna King was recognized as a 2026 Clay County Service Personnel of Excellence! Big Otter Elementary Principal, Mr. Anthony Boggs, was awarded the 2026 Clay County Principal of the Year! Congratulations, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. King, and Mr. Boggs! It’s a great day to be a Big Otter Brave!



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SUBSCRIPTIONS

subscriptions@claycountyfreepress.com

PUBLISHER

Michael Showell, Publisher

The Clay County Free Press (USPS 116-660) is published weekly at 291 Main Street, Clay, West Virginia. Subscription Rate: In County \$37.00; In-State \$47.00; Out-of-State \$50.00

Address all mail (subscription, change of address) to: P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901 or call 304-647-5724 or Fax 304-647-5767.

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More Beautiful

Joe Mazzella

I woke up just as the sun was rising the other day. As I walked my dogs I noticed the fireflies still shining their little lights while the sun turned the sky a brilliant gold. I looked at the green leaves and thick grass and watched as the dew on them sparkled in the morning light. It was so beautiful that it brightened my heart.

Later as I sipped my morning coffee I looked out the kitchen window and saw an orange cat and a black cat sitting under my Maple tree. They were looking across the road and patiently waiting for my daughter to open her door and set out their breakfast. About 50 feet away from them two female deer were eating the freshly grown grass in the meadow behind my home. I smiled when I saw them and said a prayer that I often say in the morning: “Thank you dear God for a beautiful day, a beautiful world, and a beautiful life.”

As I sipped my coffee I thought too of how out of all of God’s glorious creations we are the only ones who get to choose to make things either more beautiful or less. We are the only ones who can make this world lovelier or uglier, kinder or crueler, more peaceful or more violent, more loving or more fearful. It saddens me too when I watch the news and see how many times we make the wrong choice. But when life grows grim and looks ugly, I close my eyes, remember how much God Loves us all, and see again just how beautiful life can be. And I remember that for every act of cruelty in this life, there are a million acts of kindness.

May you always choose to make this world more beautiful then. May you plant flowers, grow trees, give hugs, and share smiles. May you be kind and caring. May you sing, dance, laugh, and share your joy with everyone you meet. God gave us all this beautiful gift of Life. And with our Love we can make that life our beautiful gift to God.

Home Country

Slim Randles

I always wondered what it would be like to putter. I don’t mean golf. I haven’t done that kind of puttering since I played miniature golf in high school. That wagon wheel always messed me up, so I decided to leave my golf career right there and participate in more active pursuits.

But now here I am puttering. This came about naturally because my doctor told me to slow down, and I plan to enjoy every snail-like minute of this advice. Part of it is my age (I’m in double figures now. And they ain’t small double figures.) and part is my doctor giving me advice I’ve been wanting to hear for a long time now.

This morning I was puttering around the ol’ back yard doing a few chores, but I did them slowly. Oh yes. Scoop some dog stuff and then rest. Water some baby trees, then take a time out, just like I’d done something wrong. Then there’s putting bird food in the feeders we have all over the yard.

I didn’t putter while feeding, either. No, I slowed it down even more and moseyed. Later, after the buzzards and finches had dined, I celebrated by meandering. Meandering simply means moseying, but without any destination in mind.

Getting on in years can mean being celebrated for sedentary pursuits, like contemplating stuff. I usually do my contemplations from a chair. It helps. What am I contemplating? Well, when I’m asked, I just get a look on my face that says I’m helping Stephen Hawking out by figuring out the Grand Imperial Theory of Dang Near Everything. But I don’t actually say that, because that would leave me open to some nosey person asking me a question about it. And the truth was, I was thinking about what to have for lunch, but it isn’t as cerebral as Hawking’s theory. It isn’t even as cerebral as a hemorrhage. Now there’s something worth a good contemplation. The spelling of hemorrhage, of course. One m and two r’s? Have to think on that a while. Might even reflect on it while I deliberate. No one said getting older was for amateurs.

Z-Z-Z-Z

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Keeping Up Is Hard To Do At My Age

James Snyder

There was a time in my life when keeping up was part of my daily routine. I started each day with a specific objective, and by the end of the day, I had completed it.

I took pride in completing my work on time. The secret was to plan carefully. Some projects required several days; therefore, I organized them accordingly.

That had been true throughout my life until a very serious enemy came into view and hindered me from finishing some projects. This enemy has been a curse in my life.

Comparing me with The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage, you will discover that she had no such enemy in her life messing with her schedule. If she wanted something done, she completed it on time. I, on the other side of the marriage table, had trouble along these lines, and even though I wanted something done, I never actually got it done when I wanted it.

You might ask what this enemy is. It was something I really never expected in my life, and voilà, there it is. That vicious enemy is “Old Age.” It has snuck up on me without any indication it was coming.

Although The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is technically two years older than me, she doesn’t have that same enemy messing up her daily schedule. No matter what, she finished a project exactly on time.

When I was younger, I was taught that “Old Age” was chasing me and would catch up sooner than I expected. Laughing, I always pushed it aside and said everybody gets old except me.

I looked at my father and mother and noticed they were getting old. I never really believed that I would actually come face-to-face with “Old Age,” and yet here it was.

Every time I celebrated a birthday, it never occurred to me that it meant I was one year older than the year before. Why do we celebrate birthdays every year? Don’t we realize that your birthday means you’re just older?

Sitting at my desk the other day, I noticed a pile of work I needed to complete. I never realized I had so much to do at my age and it was taking me longer to do it.

I had the superstitious idea that getting older didn’t mean you couldn’t accomplish all that you could years before. I just assumed that celebrating my birthday was just another click on the clock.

My birthday and The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage’s birthday are two days apart. We went to a restaurant to celebrate our birthday like we usually do.

At the restaurant, we told our waitress we were celebrating our birthday. Looking at me, she said, “How

does old feel?”

Without even looking at her, I reached across the table, took hold of The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage’s arm and gently squeezed it. Then I looked back at the waitress and said, “It doesn’t feel really that bad.”

The waitress didn’t know whether she should laugh or walk away. Unfortunately, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage knew exactly what to do, and it wasn’t to laugh. The look she gave me still burns in my head today.

My predicament is trying to get around that stupid remark to the waitress. As long as I have been married. I still have trouble dealing with my stupidity.

Through 55 years of marital bliss, I have worked hard to keep up with The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. When I think I’ve accomplished it, something happens that sets me back in a remarkable way.

I’m not quite sure how she can keep up with everything. If I knew her secret, maybe I could apply it to my life and get to the place where I’m actually keeping up with everything. However, if I asked her the secret, I’m not exactly sure how she would respond.

Looking back over the years of my life, I think I can say the only place I have actually kept up with everything was my relationship with The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. The fact that we’ve been married 55 years says quite a lot about both of us.

The secret I have discovered is The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage can fix anything wrong or broken.

About eight years ago, the bumper on my truck broke and was almost dragging on the ground. I had no idea what to do, and as I was looking at it, the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage came out and said, “What’s wrong?”

When I told her, she looked at it for a moment and then said, “I think I know how to fix that. Let me go inside and get something.”

She came out in a few moments with some large paperclips. She looked under the bumper, asked me to hold it up, and then put three paperclips underneath the bumper. That was eight years ago, and those paperclips are still doing their job of keeping the front bumper in place.

If she can’t keep up, nobody else can.

Thinking on this reminded me of a Bible verse. “See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.” (Ephesians 5:15-16).

I need to be careful each day, live as it pleases the Lord, and focus on what is important. Some things are worth doing, and I need to know the difference.

Appalachian high school teachers chosen for prestigious STEM academy *Educators collaborated with renowned scientists in exclusive professional development program*

Oak Ridge, Tenn. — Amy Arnold of Ivydale, West Virginia, was one of six high school teachers selected to attend the Appalachian STEM Academy at Oak Ridge this summer. The academy is a two-week program that provides teachers the unique professional development opportunity to be mentored by scientists from Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) and the Oak Ridge Institute of Science and Education (ORISE) REAC/TS Cytogenetic Biodosimetry Laboratory. The program is sponsored by the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) and managed by Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU).

Arnold, a teacher at Charleston Catholic High School, participated in inquiry-based, hands-on projects and explored real-world applications of STEM concepts. The program culminated in group presentations, where participants shared their research findings

and project outcomes with peers, mentors and program leaders.

Fully funded by ARC, the Appalachian STEM Academy is complimentary for all participants and is also open to middle school and high school students, broadening its impact across the Appalachian region.

“These exceptional educators are chosen through a highly competitive application process,” said Jennifer Tyrell, Associate Manager at ORAU. “Many of them serve in economically distressed counties, and this academy provides a unique opportunity to immerse themselves in applied science and STEM research. By participating, they gain valuable insights and inspiration that they can bring back to their classrooms, empowering the next generation of innovators.”

This year’s program took place from July 11-24 and was hosted by ORAU in Oak Ridge, Tenn.



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Published By Mountain Media, LLC
P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901

Publisher:
Michael Showell publisher@mountainmedianews.com

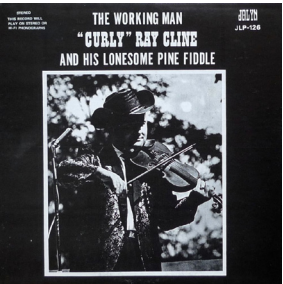
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THIS WEEK IN West Virginia History

1863: Union cavalry under Brigadier General William W. Averell destroyed the Confederate saltpeter works near Franklin. It was the first of a series of Union raids in West Virginia led by Averell that month.



Aug. 19, 1997: Fiddler Curly Ray Cline died. Born in Logan County, Cline was a member of the Lonesome Pine Fiddlers and Ralph Stanley’s Clinch Mountain Boys.

Aug. 20, 1794: The Americans’ victory over a tribal coalition at the Battle of Fallen Timbers, in Ohio, and subsequent treaty, ended the frontier-

era’s Indian Wars in Western Virginia and brought peace to the region for the first time in generations.

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: Singer 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. 21, 1946: Gerry Milnes was born in Pennsylvania. After moving to West Virginia in 1976, he became one of the state’s most prolific folklorists, musicians, and filmmakers. His five decades of documenting and preserving Appalachian traditions earned him the prestigious 2026 Bess Lomax Hawes National Heritage Fellowship from the National En-

dowment for the Arts.

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, 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 leg-

islature 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.

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Arm is raised. 2. Poster is smaller. 3. Weight is missing. 4. Cap is raised. 5. Line in sidewalk is moved. 6. Leg is moved.

Weekly SUDOKU

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

TOOTIN’ MAD

ACROSS

- 1 Lie down in rest
7 Pedometer unit
11 Trial fig.
14 Pig in a kids’ series
19 A bit coarse, as humor
20 — sapiens
21 Informal talks
23 Personae non — (unwelcome sorts)
24 At the summit
25 Nielsens, e.g.
26 Start of a riddle
29 Granola bit
30 Goose of Hawaii
31 Many a craft brew, in brief
32 — center (play area)
33 Thu. follower
36 “That’s — blow!”
38 Riddle, part 2
43 Suffix with billion
45 High-IQ crew
46 Harp relatives
47 Uncouth sorts
50 Ortiz of “Ugly Betty”

- 52 City near Seattle
56 Riddle, part 3
62 Hat for Indiana Jones
63 Esther of “Good Times”
64 China’s Chou En- —
65 Uncertainties
68 Very last part
70 Opus
72 Freaks out
75 Gore, Roker and Pacino
76 Relative of .edu or .org
78 Base for head hair
80 Like many Coast Guard rescues
81 Riddle, part 4
86 Feature of the word “jot”
87 Execs’ mag
88 Idea sources
89 Skyliit lobbies
92 Project deets
96 James of “Alien Nation”
98 End of the riddle
103 Pirate’s drink
107 Bunch
108 “Deck the Halls” contraction

- 109 Mined stuff
110 Egyptian canal
112 Year, in Brazil
113 Riddle’s answer
119 Like the work of insurance risk calculators
121 “Bye-bye!”
122 Walk really quietly
123 Lambastes
124 Pre-’91 empire
125 “7 Rings” singer
Grande
126 Applesauce brand
127 “Fancy that!”
128 Chinese dog, in brief
129 Became taut

DOWN

- 1 Singer Belle or Spektor
2 Lengthy reprimand
3 Beseech reverently
4 Preminger of film
5 Former teen idol Cassidy

- 6 Glasses and contacts
7 Unselfish sort
8 Carry around
9 Like theatrical behavior
10 Appear like a jack-in-the-box
11 Last part of some plays
12 Saloon
13 Castle tower
14 Org. against leather
15 Estrada of “CHiPs”
16 Miss terribly
17 Tent stake
18 Hoofed beast
22 Nickname for Louis Armstrong
27 Make beloved
28 Sculling tools
34 Comic Issa
35 SSNs, e.g.
37 Artist Andy
39 Iconic “Dragnet” line
40 Granola bits
41 Often-tickled Muppet
42 With 48-Down, “Barry Lyndon” star

- 44 French river or department
47 U.K.’s counterpart to an Oscar
48 See 42-Down
49 A bit strange
51 Neither’s partner
53 Ocean east of Ga.
54 Mined stuff
55 Columbus citizen
57 Mexican general Villa
58 Donovan of “Clueless”
59 Decide (to)
60 Decompose
61 “— Cousins” (Elvis Presley film)
66 Grazing area
67 Doesn’t leave
69 Mail slot spot
71 Plaza Hotel girl
73 Rho follower
74 Botching it up
77 “Rocky III” co-star
79 Wordplay bit
82 “That so?”
83 Persian ruler
84 Like a snoop

- 85 Build up, as interest
89 Piercing tool
90 Even if, in brief
91 Snare drum sound
93 Inadequate
94 Annual basketball contest on the Continent
95 Silk nightdress
97 Proficient in
99 Pong maker
100 Clamping down on
101 Lordly home
102 Beachward
104 Believers in Jah, informally
105 Common soccer score
106 Conk out, as a machine
111 Old name of the Congo
114 “Hooper” star Reynolds
115 Junior miss
116 Big ice mass
117 Bit of work
118 Revolve
119 It’s pressed for cash
120 Co. big shot

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10		11	12	13		14	15	16	17	18	
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			113	114	115				116				117					118			
119	120																				
123																					
126																					



The people who think alike
should vote alike.

"DUNDON" RED ASH COAL

Where all think alike, no one
thinks very much.



March 1957

Roving Reporter

"What would you do with a Virago?"

Dave Shaffer—"Give it to Mr. Krise, to put in a test tube."

Mr. Krise—"Feed it to Kyle Barnette."

Luther Young—"Turn it across my knee."

Mr. Baer—"Go to a doctor with it."

Miss Eakle—"Let it teach English."

Miss Ashley—"I'd get rid of it."

Reba Shaffer—"Put it in a pot and cook it."

Goldia Henderson—"If Reba can cook it I can eat it."

Eleanor Dodrill—"No comment."

Carolene Miller—"Sell it for what it is worth."

Barbara Eagle—"Dance with it."

Kyle Barnette—"Do with it the best I could."

Rosa Gibson—"Send it to the moon."

Mr. Leeson—"Watch it"

A Virago is a scolding woman—a shrew.

Plans for a High School Basketball tournament will be held from March 30 to April 1. A double header will be played on March 30th. Clay and Fola will play the first game and Widen and Brown, the second.

Junior Class Entertains Students In Assembly

The Junior Class of Widen High School gave the assembly on February 26, 1959. Devotions were read by Judy Sigman. The rest of the assembly was made up of four skits. Casts included Karen Donohue, Glen Salisbury, Lora Wilson and Victor Frame.

The Junior class gave going-away gifts to the seniors.

Judy Rapp received a rolling pin to keep Danny in line.

Carolene Miller received a rope to swing from Dille out on Wilson Ridge to see Jack.

Joyce Workman received a STOP sign to put in front of her house to stop all the boys because she is such a cute girl.

Rosa Gibson received weight-on pills so she can gain some weight.

Barbara Eagle received a document for a piece of land on the ball diamond.

Doris Young received a ring because they knew she'll never get one herself.

Betty Sigman received a Hershey Crackle bar because she cackles all the time.

Judy LaCorte received a book on how to write love letters so she can write to Tom.

Judy Shaffer was given a mechanical book so she can find out what makes her little car run.

Carol Neal received a short hand tablet so she could spend more time with "Eagle".

David Hamrick received a sling to put his arm in so he will keep it off all the girls shoulders.

David Wilson got a book with nothing in it because he knows it all.

Charles Sigman received a plastic bag to put all his pool pills in.

Pete Gibson got a pillow to sit on in Detention Hall so he won't get tired.

Jim Manning received beard and whiskers so he won't have to bother growing them himself.

Mrs. Leona Griffith (Senior Class Sponsor) received a maid (Mr. Leeson) so she won't have to go home and wash dishes and take care of the kids.

Reminiscences In A Detention Hall

The spring has sprung! The sun is shining in all its glory. The trees are beginning to bud, and brother is it hot in detention hall!

The warm air makes one drowsy and listless. It makes one's mind wonder back to that day of crises on Friday afternoon, February 27, 1959.

The sun was shining gally and the birds were singing merrily when four restless seniors, blinded by the dazzling sun, took the wrong fork in the road and found themselves not at school but axle deep in a mud hole near Cherry Run Road.

Despite strenuous and conscientious efforts to dislodge the vehicle, the four distraught teenagers were unable to achieve their goal, and so they spent the entire afternoon surveying the territory, observing wildlife, and discussing the evil effects of unpremeditated crime.

Meanwhile back at the ranch—concern for the lost seniors mounted to a high pitch. Mental searching parties probed the crevices, crannies, crooks, and gullies of the surrounding territories for traces of their lost companions.

Lookouts, stationed at strategic points, reported brief glimpses of a strange mobile unit, green in color, cruising merrily along the dusty highways.

Towards evening the cruiser was anchored in a lesser mudhole on Sugar Tree Run. After tear-smearing confessions and heart-rendering remorse, the starved quartet enjoyed a buffet lunch and vowed to be good children the rest of the year.

WHS's First Librarian, English Teacher Dies

Mrs. Opal Kessler Deskins, 56, Williamson, West Virginia—Widen High School's first librarian and English Teacher, died suddenly February 22, 1959.

Mrs. Deskins, a former Richwood teacher, came to Widen when the High School opened for the first time in 1938. She was married to W. Brooklyn Deskins in December of that year and taught since in the schools of Mingo County until her retirement in 1957. Miss Phala Woods took her work in Widen for the remainder of the school year.

English classes were then held in Room 14 of the High School and the library was along its side-wall.

Some names on Mrs. Deskins seventh grade home room roll were: Helen Gibson, Olive, Vaughan, Marie Griffith, Patricia Hinchelwood, Rosalia Given, Irene Dorsey, Columbia Given, Harry Belt, Mike Estranovitch, Oviq Hickman, Fred Young, Howard Wilson, Vernon Butcher and Charles Wilson.

Mrs. Deskins is survived by her husband, a daughter and one grandchild.

GUEST SPEAKER

Mr. Jules Rivillin, Head Basketball Coach of Marshall College will be guest speaker at the annual Rotary Sponsored Basketball Banquet which will be held on April 9, 1959 at the Club House. Guests of honor are the Widen High School Basketball Squad, Coach Stover, and the High School Cheerleaders.

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

The Student Council had a bake sale Saturday, March 14. It plans to buy the school a new American flag with the money raised.

The trip that some of the members planned to make to Morgantown was cancelled.

BAND NEWS

The Widen High School Band has been working towards a festival to be held at Glenville State College, on the 11th of April. The festival is held to rate concert bands. The highest rating is superior and the other ratings in their order are, excellent, good, and fair. We are hoping to get a superior. The judges will be Saule Fisher, Director of Buckhannon-Upshur High School Band, and Wilbur Pursley, Director of the Marshall College Brass Ensemble.

The four numbers we will play at the regional festival are "All-eluis" by Mozart, "Magnolia" by J. Olivadoti, "The Homesteaders Overture" by Moine A. Nyquist, and "Air and March" by Henry Purcell.

The band is also scheduled for a trip to the Huntington Band Festival on May 1 and 2. The band will play the four numbers mentioned above and will be judged by an out of state adjudicator. Adjudications will take place sometime Friday, May 1, and the grand finale of the whole event is the parade featuring around 60 bands, which will take place Saturday Afternoon, May 2, at 1:00 P. M. The parade will form at the Sixth Avenue block adjacent Oley Junior High School and proceed to the down town section of Huntington, and end at Laidley Field, 2 miles across town. The first part of the parade will be televised by station W S A Z, channel 3.

The band has acquired four new members. They are: Molly Dorsey, flute; Warren Donohue and Larry Buck, alto saxophones; and Sandra Holiday, bell lyre. The band has an enrollment of 55 members.

The majorette section will receive new majorette capes before the trip to Glenville. All the capes will be red corduroy with a white lining except the drum majorette's whose cape will be white corduroy lined in red.

The band had a bake sale February 28 and made \$46.50. The money from the sale will be used to buy new music.

STUDENTS SEE

EDUCATIONAL MOVIES

During the month of March the following movies were shown to the various members of the student body: Valley of Still Water—Jackson; World at War—Leeson; Face of Lincoln—B. Hathaway; Incredible Journey—Griffith; The Pilgrims—Ashley; and A Date with W. Va.—B. Hathaway.

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MISCELLANEOUS

PUBLIC AUCTION! HUGE - NO RESERVES. William A. Hazel, Inc. Equipment & Trucks. Friday, Aug 14. 10am. Bid Onsite & Online. Winchester, VA. Motleysindustrial.com. VAAL #16/ NCAL #5914

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

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UP TO \$15,000.00 OF GUARANTEED

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

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

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

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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
012	2024080021	S308-004-13.25 00	STBG-0004(219)D	RESURFACING CLAY-WHETSTONE 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

Tariff Form No. 8-C
(Tariff Rule 14.2 et seq. (Historical Rule 30-C))
Case No. 26-0703-G-30C

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, Morgan, 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, 2026, unless otherwise ordered by the Public Service Commission, and will increase revenue approximately \$3,051,865 annually, an increase of approximately 1.9%. The average monthly bill for the various classes of customers of MOUNTAINEER GAS COMPANY who purchase their gas from MOUNTAINEER GAS COMPANY will be changed as follows:

	INCREASE	INCREASE
Residential	\$ 0.86	0.91%
Commercial	\$ 4.29	1.12%
Industrial	\$ 35.60	0.64%
Resale	\$ 101.65	1.50%

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

Rate Schedule	Present	Proposed	Increase \$	Increase %
RS	\$ 3.960	\$ 4.049	\$ 0.089	2.25%
RS Demand	\$ 2.59	\$ 20.91	\$ 0.320	1.55%
GS	\$ 7.381	\$ 7.534	\$ 0.143	1.93%
LGS	\$ 3.960	\$ 4.049	\$ 0.089	2.25%
WS	\$ 7.074	\$ 7.211	\$ 0.137	1.91%
IS	\$ 3.960	\$ 4.049	\$ 0.089	2.25%
LIS	\$ 3.960	\$ 4.049	\$ 0.089	2.25%

Resale customers of MOUNTAINEER GAS COMPANY include Canaan Valley Gas Company, Cardinal Natural Gas Company, Hope Gas, Inc., 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	\$ 15.861	\$ 16.112	\$ 0.251	1.58%
Storage Balancing Fee	\$ 0.609	\$ 0.625	\$ 0.016	2.63%
Firm Standby Fee	\$ 2.648	\$ 2.684	\$ 0.036	1.36%
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 his 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 2532 .

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.

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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 October 20, 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
004	2016000427	S308-44-1.25 00	STBG-0044(046) D	STRUCTURE REPLACEMENT O'Brion Creek Bridge Midpoint COUNTY: CLAY

BRIDGE: 08A067 **BridgeClass**

SPANS: **STRUCTURE STEEL:**

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.

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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

(2024-C-000266 - CLAY COUNTY - ELEMENTAL RESOURCES)

To: ROBERT J. WILMINK, ROBERT J. WILMINK, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an unguaranteed interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT UNION MAP 9999 PARCEL 0000 0520 3002

You will take notice that ELEMENTAL RESOURCES, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2024-C-000266**, located in UNION District, 101.15 AC N S ELK O&G (SWARTZ) 87.857 15% INT, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of WILMINK ROBERT J, 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 10, 2025. ELEMENTAL RESOURCES requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after October 1, 2026, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before September 30, 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 2023 - 19229.	\$ 105.85
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 2024 - 19253.	\$ 43.26
Additional taxes with interest.	\$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$ 110.74
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$ 623.10
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$ 359.47
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$ 1,242.42

You may redeem at any time before September 30, 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 29, 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



UNITED HOSPITAL CENTER

UHC welcomes Andrea M. Garrison, DO to Medpointe Family Medicine

Andrea M. Garrison, DO, is joining Medpointe Family Medicine, coming from Summa Health, part of Akron City Hospital, Akron, Ohio.

As an internist in the greater Akron area, she provided comprehensive primary care services, focusing on the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of adult health conditions. Dr. Garrison’s osteopathic training emphasizes a whole-person approach to healthcare, considering how different body systems work together to promote overall wellness.

Her educational journey began with a Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training from West Liberty University, West Liberty, graduating summa cum laude.

She went on to receive her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, Lewisburg. Dr. Garrison’s internship in Internal Medicine was at Summa Health, followed by her residency in Internal Medicine, also at Summa.

She has been serving as a clinical instructor in Internal Medicine at Northeast Ohio Medical University, Rootstown, Ohio.

In addition to her medical training, Dr. Garrison has a long history of vol-



Andrea M. Garrison, DO, Medpointe Family Medicine

unteering for community organizations, schools, and medical facilities.

She is a member of the American Osteopathic Association and the American College of Physicians. Among her accomplishments are presentations at medical conferences as well as participating in research projects. Dr. Garrison can be reached at Medpointe, 469 Emily Drive, in Clarksburg by calling 304.423.5180.

UHC welcomes Dipanjan Debnath, MD to UHC Oncology

Dipanjan Debnath, MD, is joining Zeeshan Ahmad, MD; Paul M. Brager, MD; Salman S. Osman, MD; and Ather Syed, MD, at UHC Oncology, coming from Allegheny Health Network Cancer Institute in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dr. Debnath’s educational journey began with a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery (MBBS) from the Armed Forces Medical College, Pune, India.

He went on to his residency in Internal Medicine at MedStar Georgetown University Washington Hospital Center, Washington, DC. His fellowship at AHN Cancer Institute was in hematology and oncology. His area of interest includes plasma cell disorders, lymphoid malignancies and breast cancer.

His contributions to professional publications have been extensive as has his involvement in presentations at medical meetings. Among his writings, Dr. Debnath has published research on immunotherapy in pancreatic cancer and the effects of electronic cigarettes on the gastrointestinal system, with his work garnering several citations.

He is board certified in internal medicine and board eligible in medical oncology and hematology. Professional organizations in which he is a member include American College of Physicians, American Society of Hematology and the American Society of Clinical Oncology. Dr. Debnath’s office is located at 327 Medical Park Drive, in Bridgeport. Please visit uhcvwv.com or call 681-342-1800 for more information.

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

About WVU Medi-



Dipanjan Debnath, MD, UHC Oncology

cine United Hospital Center United Hospital Center (UHC) is the result of a merger between St. Mary’s and Union Protestant hospitals in 1970. This bold move provides North Central West Virginia with a regional community hospital that offers a vast array of services. The new UHC opened in 2010 and is located along I-79 in Bridgeport. The 736,403 square foot structure rises eight stories. It is designed around the environment with patients, family, employees, and community in mind, which includes enhanced patient privacy, a high level of technological integration, and improved access to care. The acute care facility has 292 private inpatient rooms and a medical staff that consists of more than 366 physicians, advanced practice providers, and allied health professionals. UHC has more than 2,613 employees and is a member of WVU Medicine (West Virginia United Health System). For more information about UHC, please visit uhcvwv.org.

Governor Morrisey, Legislative Leaders Announce Unified Plan for Responsible Data Center Development in West Virginia

Framework backed by House Bill 2014 establishes a 20-year strategy focused on ratepayer protection, tax reduction, grid modernization, and national security.

CHARLESTON, W.Va. - Today, Governor Patrick Morrisey joined Senate President Randy Smith, House Speaker Roger Hanshaw, and leadership from the West Virginia Department of Commerce today at a joint press conference to announce a unified legislative and executive vision for the state’s digital and economic future: the West Virginia Responsible Data Center Development Plan.

“Today, as the world stands on the cusp of a new digital and economic frontier, West Virginia is stepping forward once again to lead, not by repeating the mistakes of other states, but by implementing a proactive, 20-year development strategy on our terms,” said Governor Morrisey.

The framework, developed in partnership with the West Virginia House and Senate, leverages the legislative authority of House Bill 2014, the Power Generation and Consumption Act, to establish state-level oversight and strict development criteria for hyperscale data centers.

Prior to the passage of HB 2014, more than 50 West Virginia counties lacked regulatory mechanisms to approve, condition, or deny large-scale data center projects. The new framework provides state and local officials with the tools to screen developers, attract high-value facilities to optimal locations, and protect local communities from unsuitable developments.

Key Principles of the West Virginia Responsible Data Center Development Plan:

Comprehensive State Planning:

West Virginia is leveraging a clean slate, starting with zero active hyperscale facilities, to build a 20-year comprehensive plan managed by the Data Economy Office under HB 2014. Developers must demonstrate baseline financial capacity, committed capital, and clear power load projections to qualify for certification, ensuring smart, location-optimal growth that rejects unsuitable projects.

Direct Tax Relief for Citizens:

None of the revenue generated through the High Impact Data Center (HIDC) designation process enters the state general revenue fund, and host county budgets cannot be negatively impacted. By law, 50 percent of project revenue is dedicated directly to reducing and ultimately eliminating the State Personal Income Tax. Local host counties receive 30 percent for schools and government operations, 10 percent is distributed across all remaining West Virginia counties, and 10 percent is allocated to local water, wastewater, and electrical infrastructure upgrades.

Ratepayer Protection:

House Bill 2014 shields families and small businesses from utility cost increases. Under the Ratepayer Protection Pledge, developers must build, bring, or procure their own energy re-

sources and fully fund their own infrastructure and microgrid costs. Utility customers will not bear construction, operational, or grid upgrade expenses, allowing strategic development to help modernize the grid and drive down residential rates over time.

Water Asset Protection:

Full environmental oversight under the Water Resources Protection and Management Act and WVDEP regulations remains fully intact. To further safeguard resources, the state is pioneering a shift toward next-generation technologies - including closed-loop systems, liquid immersion cooling, and reclaimed water integration - positioning West Virginia as a national leader in Water Usage Effectiveness (WUE).

Community Leadership & Local Oversight:

A Data Center Advisory Council, comprising experts from local government, academia, conservation groups, industry, and utilities, will conduct meetings to recommend statewide standards for setbacks, noise mitigation, site security, and proximity to sensitive areas. Projects will rely on voluntary market transactions, require explicit burden-mitigation strategies for nearby properties, and must strictly adhere to all environmental regulations under West Virginia Code Chapter 22.

Grid Reliability & Asset Integration:

Developers must coordinate capacity requirements directly with utilities and comply with regional PJM, FERC, and NERC reliability frameworks. Facilities will operate under a structured demand-response model, utilizing on-site backup generation or curtailing power during peak stress periods to act as net assets to the grid and safeguard system resilience for surrounding communities.

National Defense & Economic Security:

Hyperscale facilities serve as foundational infrastructure in the global competition for leadership in artificial intelligence and advanced computing. Expanding domestic computational capacity within West Virginia secures critical digital infrastructure against strategic foreign adversaries like the People’s Republic of China, directly strengthening national security while catalyzing high-tech economic ecosystems at home.

“This shared framework gives us the exact blueprint we need to attract billions in private investment, create thousands of high-paying construction and technology jobs, lower taxes for our citizens, and revitalize economically distressed regions, all while preserving the wild and wonderful state we call home,” Governor Morrisey concluded.

Local organizations donate produce boxes to outpatient cancer patients at United Hospital Center

Progressive Women’s Association of Clarksburg, West Virginia Italian Heritage Festival, and Green Acres Farm join together for August 14 donation event

Bridgeport, WV— The Progressive Women’s Association of Clarksburg, the West Virginia Italian Heritage Festival, and Green Acres Farm will donate produce boxes to outpatient cancer patients at United Hospital Center on August 14 at 1:00 p.m.

The donation is intended to provide fresh, nutritious produce to patients receiving outpatient cancer care while demonstrating com-

munity support for individuals and families navigating treatment.

Representatives from the participating organizations will gather at United Hospital Center for the donation, highlighting a shared commitment to helping meet practical needs in the local community.

“We are grateful for the opportunity to support outpatient cancer patients with fresh produce and a visible reminder that their community

is behind them,” said Betty Waddy of The Progressive Women’s Association of Clarksburg. “This donation reflects what can happen when local groups work together to care for their neighbors.”

For more information contact: Matt Chisler, Director of Public Relations, 681.342.1611 Jon Petersen, Senior Marketing Strategist & Visual Design Lead, 681-342-3440



Representatives from the Progressive Women’s Association of Clarksburg, West Virginia Italian Heritage Festival, and Green Acres Farm present produce donations. Pictured (from left) are Lisa Sutton, Sophia McMillion, Patricia Espinosa, Franchesca Aloï, Betty Waddy, Weege Vargo, Rosalyn Queen, and Iris Canfield.

BACK TO SCHOOL SAVINGS ON **NORTHSIDE DRIVE**

PREMIUM PRE-OWNED UNDER \$25K ON NORTHSIDE DRIVE! 172-POINT INSPECTION ON EVERY PRE-OWNED!



2016 Jeep Patriot Sport
Stock #126139B | Miles: 90,821
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$12,574



2021 GMC Terrain SLE
Stock #4G038A | Miles: 66,510
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$18,570



2022 Ford Edge SEL
Stock #127001A | Miles: 96,354
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$20,569



2023 Nissan Rogue SV
Stock #800209 | Miles: 53,953
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$21,270



2024 Chevrolet Trax LT
Stock #126349B | Miles: 33,003
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$21,570



2023 Ford Escape ST-Line Elite
Stock #U13964 | Miles: 48,219
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$22,072



2022 Hyundai Santa Fe SEL
Stock #126300A | Miles: 72,139
RDoc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$22,173



2025 Chevrolet Trax 2RS
Stock #U14067 | Miles: 52,998
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$22,541



2022 GMC Terrain SLE
Stock #U14293 | Miles: 33,355
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$23,417



2024 Mitsubishi Eclipse Cross LE
Stock #800268 | Miles: 15,839
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$23,570



2025 Kia K4 GT-Line
Stock #U14201 | Miles: 23,563
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$23,994



2025 Jeep Compass Limited
Stock #U14080 | Miles: 29,251
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$24,085



2025 Hyundai Kona SEL
Stock #U14451 | Miles: 28,525
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$24,331



2023 GMC Terrain SLT
Stock #17536A | Miles: 42,615
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$24,570



2025 Ford Escape ST-Line
Stock #17622 | Miles: 24,688
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$24,570

QUALITY PRE-OWNED THAT FITS THE WHOLE FAMILY!



2022 Subaru Forester Touring
Stock #U14241 | Miles: 39,044
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$28,924



2022 Subaru WRX Premium
Stock #U14364 | Miles: 32,216
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$29,191



2022 Mercedes-Benz GLE 350 4MATIC
Stock #426316B | Miles: 71,455
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$32,569



2024 Nissan Pathfinder SL
Stock #17550 | Miles: 52,034
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$32,570



2023 Subaru Forester Wilderness
Stock #17621 | Miles: 19,082
RDoc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$31,570

BUILT TO WORK. PRICED TO MOVE. SHOP QUALITY PRE-OWNED TRUCKS!



2019 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT
Stock #126249A | Miles: 88,240
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: \$27,570



2024 Ford Maverick Lariat
Stock #U14258 | Miles: 23,220
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: \$32,569



2020 Ford F-150 Lariat
Stock #U14309 | Miles: 93,445
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: \$34,985



2021 GMC Sierra 1500 SLT
Stock #426389A | Miles: 102,948
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: \$35,573



2023 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT
Stock #800260 | Miles: 44,021
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: \$37,369



2020 GMC Sierra 1500 Denali
Stock #3G062B | Miles: 78,786
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: \$37,570



2023 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT
Stock #800259 | Miles: 30,790
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: \$37,974



2023 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT
Stock #800263 | Miles: 27,703
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: \$39,074



2025 Ram 1500 Big Horn/Lone Star
Stock #17586 | Miles: 10,544
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: \$40,070



2025 Toyota Tacoma TRD Off-Road
Stock #800232 | Miles: 14,221
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: \$40,169



2023 Ford F-150 XLT
Stock #U14336 | Miles: 42,746
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: \$42,866



2024 Ram 2500 Tradesman
Stock #3G183A | Miles: 33,627
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: \$43,070



2024 Ram 2500 Big Horn
Stock #426314A | Miles: 49,433
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Crew Cab
Big Jon Price: \$43,574

VERSATILE SUVs FOR EVERY ROAD, EVERY SEASON, EVERY ADVENTURE!



2025 Ford Bronco Sport Badlands
Stock #U13962 | Miles: 19,586
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$30,510



2021 Jeep Wrangler Rubicon
Stock #4G140A | Miles: 32,682
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$31,870



2024 Jeep Gladiator Sport
Stock #U14155 | Miles: 26,074
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$31,971



2026 Jeep Wrangler Sport
Stock #U14004 | Miles: 13,263
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$34,307

TURN HEADS AND ENJOY THE RIDE WITH SPORTY PRE-OWNED FAVORITES!



2023 Ford Mustang Mach-E GT
Stock #U14251 | Miles: 21,361
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$35,133



2008 Ford Mustang Shelby GT500
Stock #U14117 | Miles: 9,683
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$43,874



2024 Ford Mustang GT Premium
Stock #U14297 | Miles: 10,367
Doc Fee: \$575 | 4D Sport Utility
Big Jon Price: \$48,951



681-355-2055 | 870 Northside Dr. | Summersville WV | www.midstatefordwv.com

FORD SUMMER SALES EVENT IS HEATING UP!



2026 Ford Bronco Sport Big Bend
Stock #N13779 | MSRP: \$34,485
Ford offers: \$2,250 | Big Jon discount: \$1,675
Big Jon Price: \$31,135



2026 Ford Maverick XLT Crewcab
Stock #N13742 | MSRP: \$34,985
Ford offers: \$1,000 | Big Jon discount: \$2,561
Big Jon Price: \$31,999



2026 Ford Ranger XL
Stock #N14090 | MSRP: \$38,945
Ford offers: \$2,000 | Big Jon discount: \$1,034
Big Jon Price: \$36,486



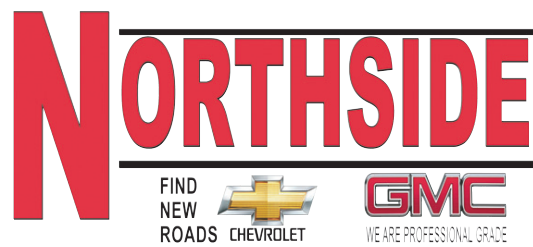
2026 Ford Bronco
Stock #N13652 | MSRP: \$44,290
Ford offers: \$4,000 | Big Jon discount: \$3,512
Big Jon Price: \$37,353



2026 Ford Explorer Active
Stock #N14079 | MSRP: \$50,350
Ford offers: \$4,000 | Big Jon discount: \$2,926
Big Jon Price: \$43,999



2026 Ford F-150 XLT Crewcab
Stock #N13914 | MSRP: \$59,625
Ford offers: \$4,000 | Big Jon discount: \$6,201
Big Jon Price: \$49,999



800-714-7352 | 807

Northside Dr. | Summersville WV
www.northsidewv.net

BEST DEALS ON NEW CHEVY AND GMC'S IN THE AREA!



2026 Chevy Trax
Stock #126381 | MSRP: \$25,300
Everybody rides discount: \$1,568
Everybody Rides Price: \$24,307



2026 Chevy Trailblazer LS AWD
Stock #126415 | MSRP: \$29,785
Everybody rides discount: \$1,928
Everybody Rides Price: \$28,432



2026 Chevy Silverado 1500 Custom
Stock #126346 | MSRP: \$50,764
Chevy offers: \$2,750 | Everybody rides discount: \$5,590
Everybody Rides Price: \$42,999



681-355-5973 **THIS SUMMER EVENT IS ALMOST OVER! HUGE DISCOUNTS!**

812 Northside Dr. | Summersville WV | www.northsidechryslerjeepdodge.com



2026 Jeep Compass Latitude Altitude
Stock #4G021 | MSRP: \$33,925
Chrysler offers: \$2,500 | Everybody rides discount: \$3,241
Everybody Rides Price: \$29,009



2026 Jeep Cherokee Laredo
Stock #4G166 | MSRP: \$40,490
Chrysler offers: \$2,500 | Everybody rides discount: \$1,642
Everybody Rides Price: \$36,923



2026 Jeep Wrangler Sport
Stock #4G032 | MSRP: \$46,845
Chrysler offers: \$4,250 | Everybody rides discount: \$2,930
Everybody Rides Price: \$40,240



2026 Ram 1500 Tradesman
Stock #3G136 | MSRP: \$58,060
Chrysler offers: \$6,997 | Everybody rides discount: \$3,738
Everybody Rides Price: \$47,930



2026 Ram 1500 Big Horn Crewcab
Stock #3G063 | MSRP: \$61,515
Chrysler offers: \$8,882 | Everybody rides discount: \$5,168
Everybody Rides Price: \$48,040

DISCLAIMER: This offer is from the dealer. All rebates, incentives, and \$575 doc fee applied. Prices do not include tax, title, and license. Dealer not responsible for typographical errors. Offer Expires 8-17-26