



Clay County Free Press

Home of the Clay County Golden Delicious Apple



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Thursday, September 17, 2026

\$1.⁵⁰

Lady Panthers smoke Lady Bison in a barn burner

Allen Hamrick

The CCHS Lady Panthers hosted the Bison of Buffalo this past week, and it was definitely a kiss a booboo night as the Lady Panthers had Buffalo chops and gravy barbecue. They always like to come to our home turf and attempt to take us down, but it was not to be this week. The Lady Panthers were well prepared for the game and had the spit ready to shish kabob some Bison bites. The Lady Panthers made very few mistakes which, in the volleyball game, usually determines the fate of a team.

The Lady Bison came out swinging in the first game of the set and let the Lady Panthers know they were there to play. The first game ended Clay 21- Buffalo 25. The Lady Panthers put an end to their offense and settled into the task of sending them back to the plains. It was

the best of three out of five games for bragging rights until their next matchup. The CCHS pit let their hair down and showed no mercy while cheering for the Lady Panthers. All the Lady Panthers looked as though their skills were set, oiled and greased up for the rest of the season. Some of the big guns returned from last year packing some pretty good powder.

The Lady Panthers answered that game loss with a win of their own 25-21. In the third game the Lady Panthers turned up the offense and were getting the breaks on some long volleys winning that game 25-19. Then it got into one of those games that make you want to bite heads off of nails. The match went back and forth with both teams in scoring mode. They kept the game tight but in the end the Lady Panthers took the loss 28-30. That brought on the fifth and final game to determine

bragging rights.

The Lady Bison couldn't match the Lady Panther offense and were taken to the slaughterhouse with a final score Lady Panther 15 Lady Bison 10. Lady Panthers will be back in action on September 15th against Ravenswood. Come out and support the team.

In other volleyball news CCMS volleyball teams, from the JV to the Varsity, bring all they have to the court when they play. After coming off wins against Ravenswood and Summersville, the Lady Mustangs went head-to-head with GW and Spencer and lost both matchups in some tough play. They will be back in action this week against Braxton in an away game and Webster on Wednesday at home. If you get the opportunity and want to see some smoking hot volleyball action, go to a Lady Mustang game. You won't be disappointed.



Alivia Gilliland digs deep. Allen Hamrick Photo.



Lila Duffield and Emma Stephens on the JV Lady Mustang team, form the blockade. Allen Hamrick Photo.



Autumn Rapp gets the dig. Allen Hamrick Photo.



Roxy Schoolcraft unloads the kill shot. Allen Hamrick Photo.



Laney Sears makes the kill shot. Allen Hamrick Photo.



Jaedon Delwarte saves a point Olympic style. Allen Hamrick Photo.

UHC welcomes William Crystal, MD to Clarksburg Family Medicine

William Crystal, MD, has joined Clarksburg Family Medicine, where he practices Family Medicine alongside William G. Bowles, DO; Jo A. Longenecker, MD; and Lea Singzon, MD.

His medical journey began with a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry from the University of Santo Tomas, Espana, Manila, Philippines, followed with his Doctor of Medicine, also from the University of Santo Tomas.

He then completed his Family Medicine residency at WVU Medicine-United Hospital Center. Prior to his residency, he had professional experience at several locations in Hawaii providing pediatric and primary care.

Dr. Crystal focuses on caring for patients of all ages, from infants to seniors, offering preventive care, routine health maintenance, and treatment for common medical conditions. His clinical expertise includes managing urge incontinence, helping both male and female patients address bladder control concerns. He works closely with patients to develop treatment plans for these common but often undertreated conditions. Dr. Crystal's office is located at Clarksburg

Family Medicine, 2673 Davisson Run Road, Suite 101, Clarksburg, WV. To schedule an appointment or learn more, call **681-342-3470**. About WVU Medicine 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 uhcwv.org.



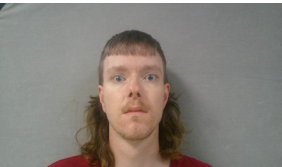
William Crystal, MD. Courtesy Clarksburg Family Medicine

BOOKED



REGIONAL JAIL MUGSHOTS

CLAY COUNTY



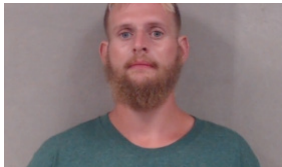
Nathanael Jacob Smith
Booked 9/8/2026, Posses-
sion of Child Pornography
300+ Images or Violence or
Bestiality-1, Harrassment by
Electronic Device



James Edward Neal Jr.
Booked 9/9/2026, DUI
Cause Death W. Reckless
Disregard-2, DUI Causing
Serious Bodily Injury, Child
Neglect Resulting in Death,
Child Neglect with Risk of
Death or Injury

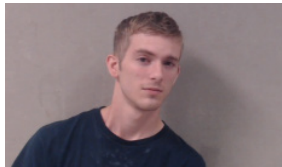


Logan Allen Sigman
Booked 9/10/2026, Bond
Revocation-1

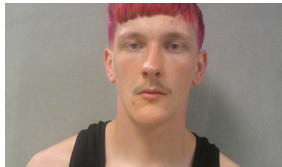


Charles Allen Shaffer II
Booked 9/12/2026, Receiv-
ing Or Transferring Stolen
Goods, Grand Larceny-1

NICHOLAS COUNTY



Austin Tyler Kyle
Booked 9/10/2026, Bond
Violation-1



Cody Ryan McCoy
Booked 9/10/2026, Domestic
Battery, Strangulation-1

NICHOLAS CTY.



Cody Ray Mullins
Booked 9/11/2026, CA-
PIAS-1

BRAXTON COUNTY



Jessica Renee Bird
Booked 9/10/2026, Proba-
tion Violation-1



Sabrina Eye Bookheimer
Booked 9/12/2026, Obstruct-
ing an Officer-3, Refuse to
Fingerprint, Destruction of
Property, Battery, Assault,
Domestic Assault-3rd, Do-
mestic Battery 3rd Offense,
Fleeing on Foot



David Franklin Jones
Booked 9/12/2026, Domestic
Assault-1, Domestic Battery





PUBLIC NOTICES

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 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.

AKC-Registered English Bulldog Puppies Looking for Loving Homes! 🐾 We have adorable 14-week-old male and female English Bulldog puppies looking for sweet, caring homes. ❤️ They're ready to bring lots of love, cuddles, and companionship to their new families! ✉ Interested? Please contact me for more information, photos, and details: malyschristine65@outlook.com

Puzzle Answers

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Super Crossword

Answers

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

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symbol for the top part. If the bottom of a container is recyclable, does that mean that the top of the container is also recyclable?

Dear Recycle Lady,

I just heard that topping off the gas tank when putting in gas is bad for the environment. How can that be true? I thought added gas meant added mileage.

Dear Doubting Thomas,

Topping off the gas tank is bad not only for the environment, it is also bad for your car and you. According to John Ibbotson, Consumer Reports' chief mechanic, "Fuel systems have become more sophisticated over time to keep up with increasingly stricter emission laws." That extra bit of fuel could damage the Onboard Refueling Vapor Recovery (ORVR) system that helps reduce hydrocarbon emissions by about 95 percent during refueling" and could ruin the engine that would be expensive to repair. Not only is topping off harmful to the fuel system, it is also harmful to humans as gasoline fumes are toxic. They can cause both respiratory and neurological problems. According to <https://www.healthline.com/>, gasoline exposure can cause problems with your lungs, mouth, and stomach. It can get gasoline on your hands or clothing and burn your skin depending on the length of time and amount of exposure. Gasoline fumes are also toxic to the ozone layer as they release air pollutants that are toxic, flammable, and carcinogenic. Additionally, when you hear the gas pump click indicating the tank is full, some of the gas you pump after that is going into the hose for the next customer, not in your gas tank. Thus, topping off actually costs you money! For additional information check out: <https://www.consumerreports.org/cars/car-maintenance/should-you-top-off-your-cars-gas-tank-a1176503026/>

Dear Recycle Lady,

Today I washed a container and its top to prepare it for recycling. The bottom of the container had a "1" inside the recycle triangle, so I knew it was recyclable. However, I could not find any number or recycle

Dear Recycle Lady,

Last week you said that tree-corridors exist in fragmented forests. My understanding is that there can also be corridors that connect any isolated green spaces.

Also Loves Trees

Dear Also Loves Trees,

Thanks for writing. You are correct in saying that corridors can connect any isolated spaces. However, these corridors are more commonly called green corridors. Green corridors are strategically planned networks that connect any green spaces or perhaps are links in landscaping. They may also be called biodiversity or ecological corridors which are corridors designed to protect the biological diversity of large portions of land. Pathways may be found in cities, roads, crops or logging activities as they help mitigate urban development's impact on the environment. Corridors of all kinds serve as pathways for wildlife and allow the free movement of animals, facilitate seed dispersal and expand vegetation cover.

Interesting Info: Turtles have existed for about 230 million years. Today there are about 330 different species of turtles ranging from those that will fit in the palm of your hand to ones that weigh up to 1,800 pounds!

Have questions about recycling, or interesting information about recycling? Send questions or requests recycleladywv@gmail.com. Dear Recycle Lady is sponsored jointly by the Greenbrier Recycling Center and Greenworks Recycling.



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See You Through It

Joe Mazzella

Several weeks ago I contracted Lyme Disease. This is the disease you get from a tick bite that floods your body with a bacteria. Now I didn’t see or feel it when the tick bit me. The bull’s-eye rash that was supposed to appear didn’t. All I knew was I was feeling bad. I had chills, shakes, and bouts of sweats. I felt exhausted, fatigued, and in pain. My body ached, my joints hurt, and I even felt nerve pain in one of my legs. It was the worst I’d hurt in a long time.

Thinking this was just some unknown virus I stupidly didn’t go to the doctor right away. I’d always had a strong immune system and thought it could fight this off with time. After 2 weeks, though, I just kept getting worse. I noticed skin rashes spreading over parts of my body too. I still had no idea what was causing this. I prayed for God to heal me and finally one morning felt the gentle urging in my heart to stop being stubborn and go see the doctor. Thankfully the doctor knew what it was right away even though my rashes looked nothing like the ones you see on TV when they talk about the disease. She put me on antibiotics that day and finally I am on the mend and feeling like my old self again.

I regret not going to the doctor sooner but I am grateful that God gave me enough gentle urging in my heart to finally do so. I prayed for Him to heal me and He answered my prayer even if it wasn’t in the way I expected. Like every other difficulty I have gone through in my life God in His love has seen me through it. And hopefully it will help me to help others too.

God’s Love for us is unconditional. He sees us through all the pains and suffering in this life. The question is do we use these sufferings to grow bitter or better? Do we let them make us kinder, more compassionate, and more loving? Do we use them to help others? Do we use them to grow into the person God meant for us to be? I hope your answer is always: Yes!

Home Country

Slim Randles

Every once in a blue moon, I learn something from the computer. Not often, of course, because they change the rules on how to use it about three times a day, and I never was that fast.

But I love that YouTube channel. Oh man. And I believe, after watching ‘way more episodes than my eyes and brain could handle, that I’ve stumbled on a hidden truth.

How to mess around in dirt and rocks and get filthy, and create something that the headline assured me would be worth millions. And in my spare time!

So I’m sharing this with all of you. First of all, you have to move to southeast Asia ... somewhere. Shrieking monkey calls are optional, but still a good idea.

Then you look in the house or the trash bin or the county dump until you find a container of some sort. You know, an old flat tire or a Remington noiseless typewriter, or maybe a wastebasket that you want to change into a million bucks.

Then you dig a hole near your jungle home and pour water in it. A lot of water and a lot of that gray stuff that comes in a paper bag with Cambodian writing on it so you can’t guess what it says. But boy, does it work! You get some window screen that no one wants, line the wastebasket with it, and pour in the concrete.

While it’s still setting up, you take a railroad spike and use it to carve million-dollar symbols on the wastebasket. When it dries, you flip it upside down and plant flowers in it.

I can’t wait to start. All I really need is a southeast Asian kid about 12 years old who doesn’t mind getting his hands dirty. Why didn’t they tell us these things earlier, so it wouldn’t take so long to make that million bucks.

Oh well ...

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A Cookie in the Hand Is Worth Two in the Cupboard

James Snyder

For the last few years, I have been on a rather strict diet, according to The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. I have some health issues, and I’m not allowed to eat anything with sugar in it. It seems everything has sugar in it.

Believe me, she’s been very vigilant in supervising my daily menu. She also supervises all the medicine I have to take every day. It seems I have become a drug addict. The doctor prescribed the medicine I am to take every day. I have been very faithful in keeping to her strict diet.

Every once in a while, maybe once or twice a month, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage will give me a sugar-free cookie. She says it’s because I’ve been good in my diet.

Occasionally, I remember the good old days when I ate as many cookies as I could every day. And believe me, they weren’t sugar-free cookies at that time. I should congratulate the people who developed sugar-free cookies because now I can have one occasionally.

According to her, I can’t even think of an Apple Fritter; they are pure poison for me. I’m really not sure I believe that. But then, I’m not really in control of my menu.

It took me quite a while to realize that The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage had hidden away a bunch of sugar-free cookie boxes. I never even thought about it until recently. Occasionally, she gives me a sugar-free cookie and tells me I’ve been faithful to my diet, so it’s okay for this one.

If she can bring me one sugar-free cookie, it must mean that there is a store of cookies somewhere in the house. If anybody can hide anything without me finding it, it is you know who.

So, the question is, where is she hiding this store of sugar-free cookies? It’s got to be somewhere in the house, and for me to find my way to my office and then to the bathroom is quite a chore. But it began to work on me until I had to find out where that stash was.

Every year for a week The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and several of her daughters go to St. Augustine and hop around at all of the thrift stores in the neighborhood. They have been doing this for several years.

I had a thought in my mind. While she is on this trip, I will spend time looking through the house to find that hidden stash of sugar-free cookies.

The first thing I asked myself was, “Where would I hide those cookies?” Then I struck all those places off my list.

The next thing I asked myself was, “Where would she hide those cookies?” That was my list for the week. I went all over the house, looking in places she might hide them.

I started in her craft room. It took me at least one day to go through her craft room, looking at every place where a bunch of cookies could be hidden. Finally, I exhausted my search and found absolutely nothing resembling a sugar-free cookie.

I then searched the rest of the house carefully looking in every possible place. I must say I’m not very good at activities like this. However, I put a spirit of diligence into my efforts to uncover it.

The day before they were to return from St. Augustine, I finally hit the jackpot.

Behind the washer and dryer, shelves were filled with the stuff she needed to do the laundry. I almost didn’t look there, but I had no other place to go, and this was my last place. I looked very closely at every aspect of that little room, and then I hit the jackpot. In the corner, I discovered six boxes of sugar-free cookies, very well hidden from sight.

I couldn’t believe my fortune. I took the opportunity to open one of those boxes, took out two cookies, put the box back and went to my lazy chair to enjoy them. After all, one cookie in my hand is worth two in the cupboard.

A week later The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage came into my office, stood at the door, and just stared at me for a few moments. I had no idea what she was up to because I was deep in my work for the day. Then she said, “You did not find the boxes of sugar-free cookies, did you?”

To lie to The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is as close to the death penalty as anybody could get. I looked at her for a few moments and then said, “I’m not sure what you’re talking about.”

“You know exactly what I’m talking about,” she said rather strongly.

At this point I realized I was caught red-handed. I had to confess and promise never to do it again.

Several days later, when she was out shopping, I went to the closet looking for those cookies and, to my surprise, they were all gone. I don’t know if I’ll ever find them again, but I won’t give up looking.

I recalled a verse in Jeremiah 33:3, “Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.”

God has some wonderful treasures for me and His great delight is in revealing them to me as I need them.

OBITUARY



Donald Sanders

Donald Curtiss “Don” Sanders, 94, went home to be with Jesus on Saturday, April 4, 2026, surrounded by his loving family in Maggie Valley, North Carolina. After a life well lived, Don was reunited with his beloved wife, Dolla, who preceded him in death in 2012. Their reunion brings comfort to those who loved them both and knew how much they meant to one another. Don was born on November 3, 1931, in Glenn, West Virginia, to Charles Roscoe Sanders and Clara Easter Jones Sanders. One of three children, he grew up alongside his brother, Carl, and sister, Josephine. The values of family, faith, hard work, and service that shaped his early years remained important to him throughout his life. Don proudly answered the call to serve his country in the United States Navy. During his first two years of service, he was stationed in the Panamanian jungle. He later served aboard the USS *Lindenwald* during the Korean War, attaining the rank of Radioman Second Class, a

Petty Officer specializing in communications. His years in the Navy were a source of great pride and reflected the sense of duty and dedication that characterized so much of his life.

Following his military service, Don began a long and accomplished career as an electronics engineer in the defense industry. He worked for ITT, Emerson Electric, and McDonnell Douglas, and had the remarkable opportunity to contribute to the Gemini Space Program. Being part of America’s early space exploration efforts was an achievement of which he and his family could always be proud.

But Don’s life was about much more than his accomplishments.

He was a man who valued family, service, faith, and the simple pleasures of life. He devoted many years to leadership with the Boy Scouts of America, sharing his time, knowledge, and guidance with younger generations. He also enjoyed spending time on the golf course and the friendships and fellowship that came with it.

Don made his home in Conway, South Carolina, and his Christian faith remained an important and steady presence throughout his life. It was a faith that helped guide him through both joyful times and difficult ones and gave him the assurance that this life was not the end of his journey.

At the heart of Don’s life was his family. He and his beloved wife, Dolla Mae Sanders, built a life together and raised their two sons, Craig and Brian. Don treasured his role as a husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. His family was a source of tremendous pride, and the memories they created together will remain a lasting part of his legacy.

Don was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Dolla Mae Sanders; his brother, Carl Sanders; and his sister, Josephine Childers.

He is survived by his sons, Craig Sanders of Maggie Valley, North Carolina, and Brian Sanders of Florissant, Missouri; six grandchildren, including Danielle Sanders of Wilmington, North Carolina; and ten great-grandchildren. Each carries forward a part of the family and the legacy Don and Dolla created together.

Those who knew Don will remember him not only for what he accomplished, but for the man he was—the quiet strength he carried, his dedication to his family, his service to his country and community, and the kindness he showed throughout his life.

Ninety-four years gave Don the opportunity to witness an extraordinary amount of change in the world, and in his own way, he was part of that history—from serving his country during the Ko-

rean War to contributing to America’s journey into space. Yet his greatest legacy cannot be measured by a military rank, a career accomplishment, or the number of years he lived. It is found in the family he loved, the people he influenced, and the memories that will continue to be shared for generations.

Don will be deeply missed, lovingly remembered, and forever carried in the hearts of those who knew and loved him.

SERVICE INFORMATION

A graveside service celebrating Don’s life will be held at **1:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 17, 2026**, at Sunset Cemetery, 741 Brown Hollow Road, Bickmore, West Virginia 25019.

In a fitting and meaningful tribute to the life they shared, Don and his beloved wife, Dolla, who preceded him in death in 2012, will be interred together during the service.

Pastor Johnny Osborne of Middle Creek Baptist Church will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that memorial donations be made in honor of **Don and Dolla Sanders** to Lizemore Methodist Church, 13938 Clay Highway, Lizemore, West Virginia 25125. For information regarding donations, the district office overseeing the church may be reached at (304) 872-1800.

Together in life, together again in eternal rest.

THIS WEEK IN West Virginia History

Sept. 16, 1876: The town of Milton in Cabell County was incorporated and named in honor of Milton Rece, a large land-owner at the time.

Sept. 16, 1922: Walter Allen became the only person found guilty of treason in charges related to the Battle of Blair Mountain. He soon skipped bail and was never heard from again.

Sept. 16, 1926: Writer John Knowles was born in Fairmont. He attained literary fame in 1959 with his first novel, *A Separate Peace*.

Sept. 16, 1950: Scholar Henry Louis Gates Jr. was born in Keyser. Gates is one of the leading Black intellectuals in the United States. His books include *Colored People: A Memoir*; about growing up in Mineral County. He hosts the popular PBS program *Finding Your Roots*.

Sept. 17, 1848: Artist Lily Irene Jackson was born in Parkersburg. She was best known as a painter of animal portraits and floral arrangements, and as an advocate for the arts.

Sept. 17, 1897: Ruth

Ann Musick was born in Missouri. For many decades, she was a professor at Fairmont State College (now University) and West Virginia’s most prolific folklorist. She wrote regular folklore newspaper columns and four major books, including *The Telltale Lilac Bush* and *Other West Virginia Ghost Tales*.

Sept. 18, 1947: Historian and journalist Minnie Kendall Lowther died. Born in Ritchie County, she was one of the first women in West Virginia to become a newspaper editor.

Sept. 18, 1989: Playwright Maryat Lee died in Lewisburg. She established Eco Theater in Summers County as an indigenous mountain theater, using local people as actors.

Sept. 19, 1862: The two-day Battle of Shepherdstown opened with an artillery exchange between Union and Confederate troops. Following the Battle of Antietam, it ended Robert E. Lee’s Maryland Campaign and helped convince Abraham

Lincoln to issue his Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation.

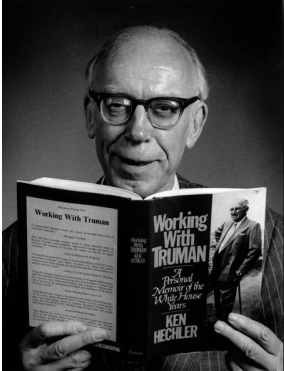


Sept. 19, 1892: William “Bill” Blizzard was born along Cabin Creek, Kanawha County. Blizzard became one of West Virginia’s most influential and controversial labor leaders, playing a key role in the Battle of Blair Mountain and later serving as UMWA District 17 president.

Sept. 20, 1910: Dorothy Johnson Vaughan was born in Kansas City but moved at a young age to Morgantown, where she was valedictorian of Beechurst High School. Like fellow West Virginian Katherine Johnson, Vaughan became a mathematician and computer expert for NASA and made significant contributions to the U.S. space program.

Sept. 20, 1911: Musician Frank De Vol was born in Moundsville. He

scored more than 50 movies and earned five Oscar nominations but is best remembered for his theme music to the TV shows *My Three Sons*, *Family Affair* and *The Brady Bunch*.



Sept. 20, 1914: Ken Hechler was born on Long Island, New York. Hechler served 18 years in the U.S. Congress and four terms as West Virginia’s secretary of state.

Sept. 21, 1921: Musician Rex Parker was born in Maplewood, Fayette County. He performed on radio stations WCHS in Charleston and WJLS in Beckley. In 1941, he married Eleanora Niera, and they performed on radio and TV as Rex and Eleanor Parker until his death in 1999.

Sept. 21, 1937: The West Virginia Conservation Commission acquired 6,705 acres in Kanawha County to create Kanawha State Forest. Redevelopment of the land, which had been heavily mined and timbered, began the next year by the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Sept. 21, 1970: Filming began in Moundsville on the movie *Fools’ Parade*, based on the novel by Davis Grubb. The filming concluded one month later when Grubb came to Moundsville for a dinner, accompanied by his dog, making the \$750 round trip from New York City in a taxi.

Sept. 22, 1856: Albert Blakeslee “A. B.” White was born in Cleveland, Ohio. He was West Virginia’s 11th governor, serving from 1901 to 1905. He was the fourth person to serve as governor from Wood County, his adopted home.

Sept. 22, 1893: Elizabeth Simpson Drewry was born in Virginia but soon moved to Elkhorn, McDowell County. In 1950, she became the first Black

woman elected to the legislature. In 1956, she introduced a constitutional amendment that allowed women to serve on juries in West Virginia.



Sept. 22, 1948: Musician Buddy Griffin was born in Richwood. He performed on the *Grand Ole Opry* more than 200 times and contributed to over 150 recordings during a career spanning more than four decades. He also helped establish an accredited bluegrass music program at Glenville State College (now University).

Sept. 22, 1975: Charleston native Sara Jane Moore failed in her attempt to assassinate President Gerald Ford in San Francisco. She later served prison time at the Alderson Federal Prison Camp.

Super Crossword

JUST ADD WATER

ACROSS

- 1 “May I talk to you briefly?”
8 Placed
12 Motor oil additive
15 TV character whom you “better call”
19 Certain outlet accessory
20 River of Aragon
21 Weeding tool
22 Singer Amos
23 Like a gallery that has five dozen paintings by artist Antoine?
25 Sort of
27 Shar — (wrinkly dogs)
28 What a hailstorm is doing when composer Jean-Philippe is caught
30 Hawaiian for “appetizer”
32 Little League precursor
33 Calling device in a forest east of Paris?
41 Banquet, e.g.
45 Four eighths
46 Let borrow again
47 Monte —

- 48 Oil from flower petals
49 Wine enjoyed near a hearth?
53 Aliens, briefly
54 August hrs.
55 Guilty feeling
56 Garage oil
58 Hilo hellos
64 Giving the go-ahead for
68 Atmosphere
69 Raised, flat land that you are visiting today?
72 Rapa — (Easter Island)
73 Bookish sort
75 Giorgio of fashion
76 Apartment policy about animals
78 Island porch
80 Goat’s cry
82 Application file extension
83 Festive antique hat?
91 Slanting
93 “Nay” sayers
94 Shower sponges
95 100-page story, maybe
97 Portend
98 That powerful essayist Henry David?

- 101 Sea’s edge
102 Have — (lose it)
103 Flat-bottomed vessel sailing across the River Styx from Hades?
111 Notion, in Paris
115 An hour before midnight
116 Teasing tribute held at the Green Bay Packers’ stadium?
119 Sold out, say
120 “Rock and Roll, Hoochie —” (1973 hit)
121 Leg, e.g.
122 Tom Cruise/ Dustin Hoffman film
123 Puts in place
124 Pastor’s talk: Abbr.
125 Legs’ counterparts
126 Iran neighbor

DOWN

- 1 [I’m in shock!]
2 Comics dog
3 Metered car
4 Bldg. units in complexes
5 Pig’s home
6 “Ick!”

- 7 Deep-fried crustacean appetizers
8 Riga native, old-style
9 Aid in crime
10 “Dies —” (Latin hymn)
11 Gloomy
12 Tibias
13 Native of Nuku’alofa
14 Eye care chain
15 Fruit discard
16 Top-tier
17 — Major (constellation)
18 In — of
24 Tightly strung
26 Mineo of “Exodus”
29 “— to Be You” (pop standard)
30 Bartlett, e.g.
31 “Friendly skies” carrier, for short
33 Python’s kin
34 — -coated aspirin
35 Large central feature of the Astros’ logo
36 — apso
37 Be mistaken
38 Singer Brenda
39 Chicago Loop trains
40 Luau paste

- 41 British bud
42 Previous to
43 Taking after
44 Singer Rawls
47 Chevy pony car
50 “Let’s just leave — that”
51 Toy train, when repeated
52 “— Matata” (“The Lion King” song)
54 Part of FDR
56 Car tankful
57 Spreads out, as fingers
59 Meadowland
60 Crew tool
61 Engine noise
62 Org. for cavity fillers
63 It rises daily
65 Kicked out of a country
66 Chocolaty spread brand
67 U.S. soldiers
70 — Sea (salt lake in Asia)
71 “Sands of Iwo —”
74 Basic trick for a skateboarder
77 Actor O’Toole
79 Baseless bit of gossip
81 Ditzzy relative of Samantha on “Bewitched”

- 83 Sharp punch
84 Singer Yoko
85 “Inc.” relative
86 Orbiter with a tail
87 — polloi
88 Olympic code for Kabul’s country
89 Oom- — band
90 “C’— la vie”
91 State firmly
92 Fraternity “T”
96 “Well now!”
98 Flat, hollow sounds
99 Crested bird with black-and-white wings
100 Harvard rival
101 Submission encl.
103 Pleads
104 Balm plant
105 Camp shelter
106 Nights before
107 Stewpot
108 Impartial
109 “I wonder ...”
110 Recedes
111 Actress Skye
112 Accurse
113 Morales of film and TV
114 Volcano in Sicily
117 Egypt and Syr., once
118 Crater’s edge

Weekly SUDOKU

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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THE WIDEN NEWS

The people who think alike
should vote alike.

"DUNDON"
RED ASH COAL

Where all think alike, no one
thinks very much.



April 1959

Morris Harvey Man To Give Commencement Address At Widen



William J. Briggs, Jr., Admision Counselor from Morris Harvey College, will give the Commencement Address at Widen High School, in Widen, on May 14. "The Age of Unlimited Opportunity" will be Brigg's topic. Briggs is a graduate of Concord College and West Virginia University and has done post-graduate work at Ohio State University.

A former employee of the Procter and Gamble Company, Briggs changed from a business career to one in education. He has taught in junior high school and at the college level. He also holds a Life Time Certificate in Secondary Education.

Briggs is an alumni member of Sigma Tau Gamma National Fraternity, a member of West Virginia Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, the American Association of College Admissions Counselors, and the Kanawha City Lions Club.

Widen Woman's Club To Honor Students

Sixteen young men and women from the Widen High School, who have remained on the honor roll throughout the year, will be feted at a tea dance to be early in May.

The Woman's Club planned the affair to honor those who worked to keep high averages and to encourage others to do the same. The Club hopes to make this an annual affair.

Each honored student may invite a guest to the dance. Those whose names are on the honor roll list are:

Ruby Lee Rapp, David Hamrick, Judy LaCorte, and Rosa Gibson from the Senior Class; Dawne Backus, Lillie Nash, Karen Donohue, and Lora Wilson from the Junior Class; Terry Shaffer, Charles Barrett, Robert Baughman, Virginia Nettles, and Juanita Forte from the Sophomore Class; Sandra Henderson, Marian Gibson, and Pat Manning from the eighth grade.

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Morris announce the birth of a son, David Brent, on April 6 in a Charleston hospital. He weighed six pounds and seven ounces.

Committee Arranges For Burial Fund Payments

TO ALL SUBSCRIBING MEMBERS OF THE BURIAL FUND OF ELK RIVER COAL AND LUMBER COMPANY AND THE BUFFALO CREEK AND GAULEY RAILROAD COMPANY:

The Burial Fund Committee today made arrangements for payment of the monthly burial fund charges by members who are no longer employed by the above companies and who desire to continue to pay their charges and to retain their eligibility for burial fund benefits.

All payments should be made direct to Mr. A. S. Richardson at the Widen Office either by mail or personally. The payment for the current month should be in his hands by the 15th day of the same month. Claims for benefits by persons paying charges to Mr. Richardson should be filed with Mr. Richardson.

Any person who contributed to the burial fund while employed by either of the companies and who has been laid off and wishes to continue participation in the fund should contact Mr. Richardson promptly and arrange to bring his payments up to date. Persons who become employed by employers other than these two companies automatically lose their eligibility to participate in this burial fund.

S. E. Young
Chairman

Widen, West Virginia
April 4, 1959

Mrs. J. R. Gillespie, Flower Show Judge Speaks To Widen Woman's Club April 2nd

The regular monthly meeting of the Widen Woman's Club was held at the Legion Hall, Thursday night, April 2, 1959.

Devotions were in charge of Mrs. Marie Donohue, devotional chairman who also led the club in the pledge of allegiance to the flag. The President, Mrs. Cecil Butcher presided at the business meeting. Miss Hazel Baughman gave a report of the state convention which was held at the Greengrass, White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., March 19, 20, 21, 1959.

Mrs. John Henley, Chairman of the nominating committee, presented a slate of the following new officers: Mrs. Leo Lykins, 2nd Vice President; Mrs. James F. Dorsey, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Scott Williams, Treasurer. These officers will be installed at the anniversary dinner, May 5, 1959.

Mrs. J. R. Gillespie from Clendenin, West Virginia gave a very interesting talk on flower arranging and during her talk made several lovely arrangements using spring flowers.

Following the business session a social hour was enjoyed by the following members: Mesdames Cecil Butcher, Ronald Brown, Newman Butcher, Melvin Conner, Marie Donohue, Harold Beattie, Farrell Henderson, John Henley, Joe LaCorte, Leo Lykins, Rob. Osborne, William Patton, Joe Potasnik, Carmel Ramsey, B. E. Taylor, Scott Williams, George Kitzmiller, Earl Donohue, Larry Kitzmiller and Charles Barrett. Misses Hazel Baughman and Leola Mick. Delicious refreshments were served by Mrs. Lloyd Butcher, Jr., Chairman, Mrs. Edward Mullins and Mrs. Adam Roberts.

The Widen Woman's Club will sponsor two local girls to summer camps. One girl will go to Rhododendron Girls State at Jackson's Mills and the other will go to Camp Horseshoe near Parsons, W. Va. Selections will be made by a

Selections will be made by a member of the school faculty. Scholastic records as well as conduct are basic factors in the selections. This has been a project of the club for many years.

Services Held For Marvin Houghton

Marvin Luther Houghton, 64 years, five months, 11 days of age, of Hookersville, Nicholas County, expired Sunday morning March 29, 1959 in a Charleston hospital following a long illness.

He was the son of the late H. N. and Henderson Houghton and was born at Strange Creek on the eighteenth day of October, 1894. He was employed by the Elk River Coal and Lumber Co. on the twentieth of August, 1920 and was retired in 1953 after thirty-three years of service. He was secretary of the Widen League of Miners for five years previous to his retirement. He was a member of the Walnut Grove Methodist Church at Strange Creek.

He was a veteran of World War I having served as a Private in the infantry, he enlisted on the 31st day of March, 1918 at Sutton and was honorably discharged on the 13th day of June, 1919 at Camp Lee, Virginia. He was united in marriage to Nora Ethel Sigman at Strange Creek on the 25th day of December, 1919. She preceded him in death.

Surviving are three daughters: Mrs. J. P. Duffy of Hookersville, Mrs. James Anderson of Malden and Miss Betty Lou at home; two sons, Ira Richard Houghton of Hookersville and Arlie James Houghton of Widen; two sisters, Mrs. Alice Goad of Strange Creek and Mrs. Albert Dean of Anjean; seven brothers, Charles and Ernest, both of Charleston, Lester of Akron, Ohio, Minter of Toledo, Ohio, Flem and Virgil of Strange Creek and Earl of Birch River. There are four surviving grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 P.M. at the Walnut Grove Methodist Church at Strange Creek with the Rev. George Griffith officiating assisted by the Rev. Glen Phillips and burial followed in the church cemetery, under the direction of Waters Funeral Chapel of Summersville.

LEGAL

(2025-C-000146 - CLAY COUNTY - RED SHOULDER LLC)
To: GARY TANNER, JERRY TANNER, JEAN BARTLEY AKA WANDA BARTLEY, JANET FITZWATER, JULIE TANNER c/o JANET FITZWATER, SANDRA KNOPP, OCCUPANT, WV STATE TAX DEPT, 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 0004 0000
You will take notice that RED SHOULDER LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, Cert. No. 2025-C-000146, located in PLEASANT District, 3 AC WTS 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. RED SHOULDER LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2027 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 - 15840.	\$ 551.53
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 - 15979.	\$ 493.61
Additional taxes with interest.	\$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$ 210.50
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$ 329.15
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$ 1,584.79

You may redeem at any time before January 31, 2027, 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 August 28, 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

The Kanawha Drug Company

WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS

CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA

AT ALL

ELK RIVER COAL AND LUMBER COMPANY STORES

WIDEN

SWANDALE

LEGAL

Notice of Administration to Creditors, Distributees & Legatees

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

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

Publication Date: Thursday, September 17, 2026

Claim Deadline: Monday, November 16, 2026

ESTATE NUMBER	904
APPOINTMENT DATE	09/11/2026
ESTATE NAME:	VESTA LOVING DYSON
ADMINISTRATRIX	KATHY N WILLIAMS
	327 HAWKS MOOR CT.
	CHARLOTTE, NC 28262

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

LEGAL

(2025-C-000193 - Clay County - GARNET GAS CORPORATION)
To: BRENDA MCCUNE ESTATE C/O HEATHER ATKINS, PROFESSIONAL DIRECTIONAL ENTERPRISES D/B/A PRODIRECTIONAL, PROFESSIONAL DIRECTIONAL ENTERPRISES, UNIVERSAL WELL SERVICE, INC., C/O PATTERSON-UTI, CUNNINGHAM ENERGY, LLC C/O VICKIE CUNNINGHAM, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, CREDITORS & ASSIGNS OF CHESSIE C. CONNER, RALPH NOEL CONNER, LAWRENCE P. CONNER, HAROLD C. CONNER, CLAUDE M. CONNER, PEGGY CONNER, JANE ANN MARTINEZ, JACK ALLISON CONNER, JAMES RALPH CONNER, MARK STEPHEN ANDERSON, KATHY NORMAN, KATHLEEN ALLISON CONNER, ERIN CONNER, DONNA CONNER, CUNNINGHAM ENERGY, LLC, UNIVERSAL WELL SERVICE, INC., PROFESSIONAL DIRECTIONAL ENTERPRISES, BRENDA MCCUNE ESTATE, HEATHER ATKINS, PROFESSIONAL DIRECTIONAL ENTERPRISES, 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 18 PARCEL 0001 0000 3001
You will take notice that GARNET GAS CORPORATION, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2025-C-000193**, located in UNION District, 10 AC LIL SYC SUR 3/8 OF 5/8 INT, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of CONNER CHESSIE HRS, 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. GARNET GAS CORPORATION requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2027 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 - 17098.	\$	95.19
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 - 17233.	\$	30.66
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	105.01
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	305.21
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	536.07

You may redeem at any time before January 31, 2027, 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 August 27, 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

(2025-C-000156 - CLAY COUNTY - ELEMENTAL RESOURCES)
To: SANDRA K HOOVER BOSELY, ROBERT HOOVER JR, ROBIN ANDERSON, BETTY HUNTER, HAROLD HOOVER, ROBERT L HOOVER, ROBERT LEE HOOVER, ROBERT LEE HOOVER JR, SANDRA KAY HOOVER BOSLEY, SANDRA KAY HOOVER BOSELY, MARGARET HOOVER, MARGARET MAY ABsher HOOVER, ROBIN ELIZABETH HOOVER, BARBARA ELLEN MAE HOOVER, ALICE HOOVER, MILDRED HOOVER BROWN, DOROTHY HOOVER COMER, CHRISTOPHER ALLEN ROOP, ROBERT HOOVER JR., LORA HOOVER, ROBIN ANDERSON, ROBIN LANDERSON, BETTY L HUNTER, DELICE HOOVER, DELCIE HOOVER, DELCIE REID HOOVER, BOBBY GENE HOOVER, HAROLD HOOVER, KIM HOOVER, TEQUILA ROOP, ADAM ROOP. FABIN COTTRELL, HERBERT R HOOVER, NETTIE MULLINS HOOVER, BOBBY G HOOVER JR., SUE HOOVER, DAVID HOOVER, AMANDA HOOVER, CRYSTAL HOOVER, JERRY BROWN, JOHNNIE HUNTER, JAMES HOOVER, BARBARA DOOLING, CINDI HOOVER, MICHAEL MORRIS, AMANDA MORRIS, RAY HOOVER, HUNTER HOOVER, NAYANNA HOOVER, HEATHER HOOVER, GAGE CANTERBURY, PARIS HARPER, BROOKLYN COMER, ROWAN MORRIS, LAYNIE RAMSEY, CLAY COUNTY MAGISTRATE COURT RE: JGMNT 22/467 AND 22/468 (SANDRA BOSLEY), CLAY COUNTY MAGISTRATE COURT RE: JGMNT 22/467+468 (SANDRA BOSELEY) , 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 21 PARCEL 0030 0003 0000
You will take notice that ELEMENTAL RESOURCES, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2025-C-000156**, located in PLEASANT District, 10 AC WTS BIG SYC SUR, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of HOOVER ROBERT L, 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. ELEMENTAL RESOURCES requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2027 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 - 14169.	\$	275.16
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 - 14331.	\$	195.07
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	210.50
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	850.21
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	1,530.94

You may redeem at any time before January 31, 2027, 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 August 19, 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

(2025-C-000194 - CLAY COUNTY - GARNET GAS CORPORATION)
To: BRENDA MCCUNE ESTATE C/O HEATHER ATKINS, PROFESSIONAL DIRECTIONAL ENTERPRISES D/B/A PRODIRECTIONAL, PROFESSIONAL DIRECTIONAL ENTERPRISES , UNIVERSAL WELL SERVICE, INC., C/O PATTERSON-UTI, CUNNINGHAM ENERGY, LLC C/O VICKIE CUNNINGHAM, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, CREDITORS & ASSIGNS OF CHESSIE C. CONNER, RALPH NOEL CONNER, LAWRENCE P. CONNER, HAROLD C. CONNER, CLAUDE M. CONNER, PEGGY CONNER, JANE ANN MARTINEZ, JACK ALLISON CONNER, JAMES RALPH CONNER, MARK STEPHEN ANDERSON, KATHY NORMAN, KATHLEEN ALLISON CONNER, ERIN CONNER, DONNA CONNER, CUNNINGHAM ENERGY, LLC, UNIVERSAL WELL SERVICE, INC., PROFESSIONAL DIRECTIONAL ENTERPRISES, BRENDA MCCUNE ESTATE, HEATHER ATKINS, PROFESSIONAL DIRECTIONAL ENTERPRISES, 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 18 PARCEL 0003 0000 3001
You will take notice that GARNET GAS CORPORATION, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2025-C-000194**, located in UNION District, 18 1/4 AC LIL SYC FEE 3/8 OF 5/8 INT, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of CONNER CHESSIE HRS, 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. GARNET GAS CORPORATION requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2027 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 - 17099.	\$	111.53
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 - 17234.	\$	45.37
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	107.31
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	305.21
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	569.42

You may redeem at any time before January 31, 2027, 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 August 27, 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

(2025-C-000001 - CLAY COUNTY - GARNET GAS CORPORATION)
To: SANDRA HARPER, DEANNA TAYLOR-PITMAN, STEVEN Q. PITMAN, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, CREDITORS & ASSIGNS OF ELLEN NARDELLA (NORDELL), ESTA GILL, BUSTER GILL, LOU WILLIAMS, WATSON RAMSEY, JOSEPHINE JOHNSON, WAITMAN RAMSEY, GOLDIE FACEMIRE, JIMMY RAMSEY, RUBY MYERS, SAMUEL RAMSEY, DORIS SLOAN, BETTY HALL, FRED A MILDRED TAYLOR, SANDRA HARPER, DEANNA TAYLOR-PITMAN & STEVEN Q. PITMAN, 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 BUFFALO MAP 6 PARCEL 0003 0000 3001
You will take notice that GARNET GAS CORPORATION, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2025-C-000001**, located in BUFFALO District, 14 AC IVYDALE SUR 540/768 INT, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of NORDELL ELLEN, 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. GARNET GAS CORPORATION requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2027 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 - 1508.	\$	112.27
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 - 1501.	\$	76.55
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	109.68
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	263.51
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	562.01

You may redeem at any time before January 31, 2027, 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 August 28, 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

(2025-C-000161 - CLAY COUNTY - ELEMENTAL RESOURCES)
To: JOEANNE PURVIS, OCCUPANT, JOEANNE PURVIS, JOEANNE GALLAGHER, JOEANNE SMITH, ALLEN H NEAL, ALAN H NEAL, BRANDY GRAVES, CHRISTINA HAMRICK, JAMES GALLAGHER, JOANNA GALLAGHER, CHRISTI GALLAGHER, DAWN LAWRENCE, JENNIFER CLOHESY, MICHAEL CLOHESY, JOHN GALLAGHER, JACK W RADER, GREG B FINK, JERRY G COPELAND, BONNIE L COPELAND, ELK LAND COMPANY, INC., HENRY T STONE, RUBY E STONE, GRACE GUDENBURR, W B STONE, CLIDA HOLCOMB, J D STONE, HENRY STONE, IDA KOTTONG, JOHN KOTTONG, JOHN P KOTTONG, ARTHUR KOTTONG, LEILA K CLEMENTS, P N STONE, ADAM PURVIS, TRACEY N PURVIS, SAMUEL R PURVIS, SAMUEL P MORALES, SAVANNAH GALLAGHER, SONIA L GALLAGHER, CHARLES R GALLAGHER, 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 26 PARCEL 0096 0001 0000
You will take notice that ELEMENTAL RESOURCES, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2025-C-000161**, located in PLEASANT District, 5.22 AC BELL CREEK SUR, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of PURVIS JOEANNE ETAL, 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. ELEMENTAL RESOURCES requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2027 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 - 15305.	\$	172.87
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 - 15453.	\$	101.64
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	210.50
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	785.72
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	1,270.73

You may redeem at any time before January 31, 2027, 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 August 19, 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

(2025-C-000203 - CLAY COUNTY - GARNET GAS CORPORATION)
To: BRENDA MCCUNE ESTATE C/O HEATHER ATKINS, PROFESSIONAL DIRECTIONAL ENTERPRISES D/B/A PRODIRECTIONAL, PROFESSIONAL DIRECTIONAL ENTERPRISES , UNIVERSAL WELL SERVICE, INC., C/O PATTERSON-UTI, CUNNINGHAM ENERGY, LLC C/O VICKIE CUNNINGHAM, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, CREDITORS & ASSIGNS OF CHESSIE C. CONNER, RALPH NOEL CONNER, LAWRENCE P. CONNER, HAROLD C. CONNER, CLAUDE M. CONNER, PEGGY CONNER, JANE ANN MARTINEZ, JACK ALLISON CONNER, JAMES RALPH CONNER, MARK STEPHEN ANDERSON, KATHY NORMAN, KATHLEEN ALLISON CONNER, ERIN CONNER, DONNA CONNER, CUNNINGHAM ENERGY, LLC, UNIVERSAL WELL SERVICE, INC., PROFESSIONAL DIRECTIONAL ENTERPRISES, BRENDA MCCUNE ESTATE, HEATHER ATKINS, PROFESSIONAL DIRECTIONAL ENTERPRISES, 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 9999 PARCEL 0000 0074 3001
You will take notice that GARNET GAS CORPORATION, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2025-C-000203**, located in UNION District, 18 AC PORTER MIN 3/8 OF 1/3 INT, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of CONNER CHESSIE HRS, 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. GARNET GAS CORPORATION requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2027 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 - 17100.	\$	87.62
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 - 17235.	\$	23.76
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	103.93
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	305.21
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	520.52

You may redeem at any time before January 31, 2027, 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 August 27, 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

(2025-C-000123 - CLAY COUNTY - GARNET GAS CORPORATION)

To: SHIRLEY ARTYMOVICH, PEGGY STARR, ROBERT H. MCCrackEN, HAILEY MCCrackEN , THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, CREDITORS & ASSIGNS OF HAM MCCrackEN, LARRY BUTCH MCCrackEN, LARRY MCCrackEN, JR., BRANDY L. MCCrackEN, JESSE MCCrackEN, SHIRLEY ARTYMOVICH, PEGGY STARR, ROBERT H. MCCrackEN & HAILEY MEAGAN MCCrackEN, 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 OTTER MAP 9999 PARCEL 0000 0873 0000

You will take notice that GARNET GAS CORPORATION, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2025-C-000123, located in OTTER District, 80 AC WTS O’BRION MIN 1/2 O&G OUT 1/5 INT, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of MCCrackEN HAM HRS, 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. GARNET GAS CORPORATION requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2027 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 - 10633.	\$	87.62
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 - 10775.	\$	23.76
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor’s Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	103.93
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	277.41
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	492.72

You may redeem at any time before January 31, 2027, 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 August 28, 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
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Charleston, West Virginia 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568**

LEGAL

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF WEST VIRGINIA
CHARLESTON

CASE NO. 26-0607-WS-DSIC
WEST VIRGINIA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY
2027 Distribution System Improvement Charge

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF CHANGE IN RATES and
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

On June 30, 2026, West Virginia-American Water Company (WVAWC) filed an application for approval of a Distribution System Improvement Plan and Charge (Application) pursuant to the direction of the Public Service Commission of West Virginia (Commission) in its February 24, 2016 Order that resolved WVAWC’s 2015 rate application, Case Nos. 15-0675-S-42T and 150676-W-42T.

WVAWC proposes to invest approximately \$68.3 million in water and \$26.7 million in wastewater infrastructure replacement, system upgrades, and troubled systems in 2027. The investment will include the replacement of mains, services, valves, hydrants, meters, and troubled water system acquisition investments, as well as investment in wastewater infrastructure including the replacement of collection mains, services, manholes, valves, and troubled wastewater system acquisition investments. WVAWC is requesting to recover the costs related to the investment through its Distribution System Improvement Charge (DSIC). The projects proposed for 2027 are identified in the Application, which is on file and available for public inspection at the Commission’s offices at 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia, and may be viewed on the Commission’s website, www.psc.state.wv.us.

As with the DSIC currently in place, WVAWC proposes to recover costs associated with these investments through a surcharge on customer bills, calculated as a percentage of the total monthly bill for service (comprised of both the minimum meter charge and the volumetric rate component). WVAWC proposes to include a Wastewater System Improvement Charge (WSIC) as a subcomponent of the DSIC to recover qualified investments in wastewater utility plant, as authorized by the Commission Order issued March 1, 2024 in Case No. 23-0558-WS-DSIC. The proposed DSIC rate combines WVAWC’s DSIC qualified wastewater revenue requirement with its water revenue requirement to calculate a single DSIC rate that is the same percentage adder for both water and wastewater customers.

WVAWC projects that if the DSIC and WSIC revenue requirement are approved as requested, the 2027 DSIC/WSIC adders will recover \$5.8 million through a DSIC Rate Component of 2.79%. The average monthly bill for various classes of customers when compared with current authorized base rates, will change as follows:

Water			Wastewater		
DSIC RATE OF 4.87% (Effective 01/01/2027)			WSIC Rate of 4.87% (Effective 01/01/2027)		
Customer Class (Average Monthly Usage)	(\$) Increase	(%) Increase	Customer Class (Average Monthly Usage)	(\$) Increase	(%) Increase
Residential (3K gallons)	\$ 2.30	2.79%	Residential (3K gallons)	\$ 2.38	2.79%
Commercial (16K gallons)	\$ 10.28	2.79%	Commercial (16K gallons)	\$ 11.39	2.79%
Industrial (650K gallons)	\$ 278.31	2.79%	Industrial (650K gallons)	\$ 450.73	2.79%
OPA (33K gallons)	\$ 29.44	2.79%	OPA (33K gallons)	\$ 23.17	2.79%
Sale for Resale (5,652K gallons)	\$1,797.86	2.79%	Sale for Resale (5,652K gallons)	N/A	N/A

If approved, the 2027 DSIC and WSIC rate increments will also directly or indirectly affect customers of the following public service districts, regional development authorities, municipalities, or other governmental subdivisions who, under agreements approved by the Commission, are charged water service or wastewater service rates that are in whole or in part based on the rates of WVAWC:

Water

Boone County Public Service District
Cumberland Public Service District
Jumping Branch-Nimitz Public Service District
Kanawha County Regional Development Authority
Lashmeet Public Service District
Lewis County Economic Development Authority
New Haven Public Service District
Oakvale Road Public Service District
Putnam County Building Commission
Salt Rock Public Service District
Webster County Economic Development Authority

Wastewater

New Haven Public Service District

The increase and percentage increase for customers of the above listed utilities will be approximately the same as those shown for the WVAWC customers.

Some of the customers receiving service from these entities under Operation and Maintenance Agreements with WVAWC also pay a surcharge in addition to the rates that mirror WVAWC rates. These surcharge amounts were approved by the Commission in prior cases, and those surcharges will not increase or otherwise be affected by this filing.

Wholesale resale customers of WVAWC subject to the DSIC surcharge include Bluefield Valley Water Works Company, Flatwoods Canoe Run Public Service District, and South Putnam Public Service District.

The increases shown above 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. The requested rates and charges are only a proposal and are subject to changes (decreases or increase) by the Commission in its review of the filing. No rate change will become effective unless and until approved by the Commission.

The Commission set a hearing date on the Application which will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, December 10, 2026, in the Howard M. Cunningham Hearing Room at the Commission’s offices at 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia. The Commission may cancel the hearing for good cause shown. Interested persons intending to attend the hearing should monitor the web docket.

Anyone desiring to protest or intervene should file a written protest or request to intervene that briefly states the reason for the protest or request to intervene. Requests to intervene must comply with the rules on intervention set forth in the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure and must be filed on or before October 9, 2026. The Commission will receive public comments throughout the entirety of the proceeding. 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.

WEST VIRGINIA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY

LEGAL

(2025-C-000216 - CLAY COUNTY - ELEMENTAL RESOURCES)

To: MARK DILS, MARTHA ENGLERT, CAROL FRYE, TERESA ARTHUR, VIRGIL STANLEY, HELEN V. STANLEY, C.G. CONRAD, VIVIAN CONRAD, MARK E. DILS, MARTHA J. ENGLERT, CAROL E. FRYE, TERESA MAE ARTHUR, NORMA SUE MEADOWS, CORBLY G. CONRAD, CUNNINGHAM ENERGY LLC, RAVEN RIDGE ENERGY LLC, 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 9999 PARCEL 0000 0506 0000

You will take notice that ELEMENTAL RESOURCES, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2025-C-000216, located in UNION District, 133 AC WTS LIL SYC O&G 2/4 INT, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of STANLEY VIRGIL ETAL, 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. ELEMENTAL RESOURCES requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2027 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 - 18969.	\$	99.44
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 - 19118.	\$	34.56
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor’s Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	150.50
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	822.41
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	1,106.91

You may redeem at any time before January 31, 2027, 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 August 19, 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

(2025-C-000052 - CLAY COUNTY - RED SHOULDER LLC)

To: KRISTIN DAWN DUNCAN AKA KRISTIN YOUNG, 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 HENRY MAP 12 PARCEL 0016 0005 0000

You will take notice that RED SHOULDER LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2025-C-000052, located in HENRY District, 4 AC WTS LAUREL SUR, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of DUNCAN KRISTIN DAWN, 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. RED SHOULDER LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2027 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 - 4129.	\$	1,082.23
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 - 4168.	\$	152.25
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor’s Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	187.38
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	235.70
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	1,657.56

You may redeem at any time before January 31, 2027, 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 August 28, 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

(2025-C-000142 - CLAY COUNTY - RED SHOULDER LLC)

To: JANET FITZWATER, WV STATE TAX DEPT, OCCUPANT, 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 5 PARCEL 0054 0000 0000

You will take notice that RED SHOULDER LLC, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert. No.** 2025-C-000142, located in PLEASANT District, 21.13 AC BIG SYC SUR, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of FITZWATER KARL K ETUX, 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. RED SHOULDER LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after February 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 31, 2027 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 - 13818.	\$	595.72
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 - 13988.	\$	518.27
Additional taxes with interest.	\$	0.00
Auditor’s Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$	210.50
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.	\$	254.63
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.	\$	0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$	1,579.12

You may redeem at any time before January 31, 2027, 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 August 28, 2026

Christal G. Perry

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

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Governor Morrisey Announces Major Declines in Crime, Overdose Deaths Across West Virginia

Violent crime down 5.6 percent, property crime down 13.5 percent as law enforcement steps up operations statewide
CHARLESTON, W.Va.

- Governor Patrick Morrisey today announced significant declines in violent crime, property crime, and drug overdose deaths across West Virginia as his

administration continues an aggressive approach to public safety and the drug crisis.
“Nothing matters more to me than you and your

family’s safety,” said Governor Morrisey. “In West Virginia, we’re taking an aggressive approach to protect your loved ones: crime down, enforcement up. We’re fighting the drug crisis on every front, and we’re seeing real results.”

In 2025, reported violent crime fell 5.6 percent statewide, from 4,310 offenses to 4,070, putting West Virginia’s rate 31 percent below the national average. Reported property crime fell 13.5 percent, from 19,289 offenses to 16,685. Drug overdose deaths dropped 12 percent, representing 99 fewer deaths.

Governor Morrisey has paired prevention and recovery efforts with stronger laws and aggressive enforcement aimed at taking deadly drugs and violent criminals off West Virginia streets. In April 2025, Governor Morrisey signed Lauren’s Law, establishing mandatory minimum sentences for transporting fentanyl, heroin, methamphetamine, and cocaine into West Virginia, creating new drug kingpin and delivery-resulting-in-death offenses, and increasing penalties for serious drug crimes.

The West Virginia First

Foundation, created following the historic opioid settlement secured during Governor Morrisey’s tenure as Attorney General, has committed nearly \$40 million to 171 community projects across the state through the end of 2025.

State, federal, and local law enforcement agencies have also carried out major operations targeting drug trafficking and violent crime across West Virginia:

Mercer County Fentanyl Seizure: West Virginia State Police, the Southern Regional Drug Task Force, and Appalachia HIDTA seized 54 pounds of suspected fentanyl, 70 pounds of crystal methamphetamine, 15 firearms, and three brick presses in one of the largest fentanyl seizures in state history.

Operation Down The Road: State Police and the McDowell County prosecutor executed eight search warrants across Mercer, McDowell, and Cabell counties, seizing 12 pounds of fentanyl, crystal methamphetamine, brick presses, firearms, and approximately \$300,000 in narcotics.

Charleston-Area Drug Trafficking Takedown: A federal investigation targeting a major drug traf-

ficking organization resulted in 16 indictments for fentanyl and methamphetamine distribution, with 11 guilty pleas secured to date.

Operation Monarch: State, county, and local law enforcement conducted a month-long violent-crime warrant roundup in the Eastern Panhandle, arresting 34 individuals wanted for offenses including armed robbery and malicious wounding and recovering illegal firearms.

Operation Spring Sweep: State Police and the U.S. Marshals CUFFED Task Force arrested 72 violent fugitives and noncompliant sex offenders across Kanawha, Putnam, and surrounding counties, conducted more than 200 compliance checks, and recovered two missing children.

“Our troopers, deputies, and officers are making it clear that crime has no safe haven in our state,” said Governor Morrisey. “We will never stop giving them the backing they need to enforce our laws and protect our families. We are saving lives, securing our future, and building a stronger West Virginia every single day.”



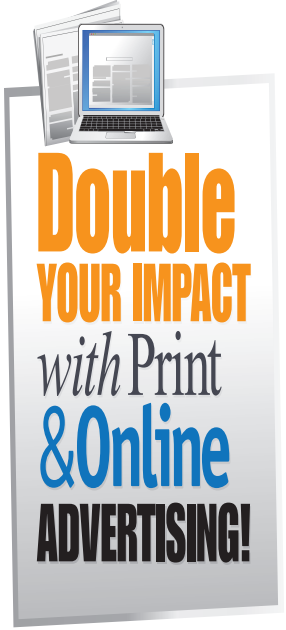
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2026 Buffalo Creek Invitational was held at Dundon

Allen Hamrick

The annual Buffalo Creek Run was held at Dundon this past week. High schools and middle schools from around the state brought teams to compete. This course, as you can imagine, is a true cross-country course. Many of the events are just grass tracks with a little gravel and maybe some blacktop. Not this race; it was a race that has it all - mountainous terrain, dirt, mud, uphill, downhill, sand, water, and paths in the woods. All of those involved in the event put on an excellent race, and many of the people in attendance said they would definitely be back next year.

This race would be a tough one to win as the course tested some of the best runners in the state

with the last 200 yards requiring the crossing of Buffalo Creek followed by a sprint to the finish line. The middle school competitors ran first, and as you would expect, the CCMS Mustangs have grown in strength and weren't going to stand by and let the other teams win without a fight. Danae Stricker crossed the finish line first with a time of 12:56.24. Dolores Poland finished 10th with a time of 16:50.42. For the boys it was Holden Reed who took 2nd place in the event with a time of 10:35.97. Congratulations to these CCMS runners.

The high school girls were up next, and they ran their legs off coming in first as a team and Marissa Atha taking first overall with a time of 21:17.38. So-

phia Berberich placed 7th overall while Abigail Grandon was in 8th place with a time of 26:36.63. For the boys it was Isiah Woods with a time of 20:49.01 placing 8th and Toby Yeager placing 9th with a time of 21:29.26.

This is a great race that will likely draw schools from all over the state next year. The coaching staff, along with their army of volunteers, were on the scene early getting everything set, laying out the track, parking cars, and making sure everything went off without a hitch. It was a well-oiled event with all the people involved making it a race that schools will want to come to in the future. Once again, congratulations to both the CCMS and the CCHS teams on their finishes



L-R Coach Matt Stricker, Miranda Morris, Sophia Berberich, Marissa Atha, Abigail Grandon and Tara Conley. Allen Hamrick Photo.



L-R Danae Stricker and Dolores Poland. Allen Hamrick Photo.



Holden Reed shows off his 2nd place medal. Allen Hamrick Photo.



Isiah Woods hits the water. Allen Hamrick Photo.



Toby Yeager crosses Buffalo Creek. Allen Hamrick Photo.

Panthers and Mustangs both have a tough week on the grid iron

Allen Hamrick

It was hot and muggy Friday evening as the Roane County Raiders came to town looking for the taste of vengeance from last year's defeat by the Panthers. That defeat kept the Raiders out of the playoffs, and they came to turn Panthers into kitty cats. Going into the game, the Panthers were ready. They were coming off back-to-back wins with both an offense and a defense that would rival the best, but... Bradley Field was packed with fans on both sides to see the Panthers and the Raiders duke it out - it was going to be a good one.

The game started, and the first round of rib busting by both defenses heated up. Then it was as if the Raiders could do no wrong and the Panthers couldn't do anything right. The Raiders got on board throwing a right hook into the jaw of the Panthers, and the Panthers never did get up off the mat from there. The Panther offense couldn't get the yards as they were stopped by the Raiders on most plays. It seemed at one time the only forward advance for the Panthers was from penalties. That was until Brody Scarbro had a great run for the only Panther TD with an extra point by TJ Pritt. It looked like the Panthers had got their mojo back, but on the ensuing kickoff the Raiders ran the ball in for yet another TD. This deflated the balloon of the Panthers, and they never recovered. The Raiders kept adding numbers on the board like a calculator, and by half time the only positive was that there was another half to try and over-

come the first half.

The Panthers came out in the second half now the underdog, and it would prove to be a tough road to get points. The Raiders came out with a game plan and stuck to it running the ball down the throats of the Panthers as the Panther defense was handled by the Raider offensive line. It is not to say that the Panther defense wasn't doing a good job, but the Raiders made no mistakes on offense and ran their plays by the book. The Panthers played hard on every down and never gave up, but there are times that fate just doesn't give any ground and even the best teams lose at some point. The final score in the game was Clay County 7, Raiders 55.

The Panthers will be on the road this week at Sissonville. They will have to pull the bandages off this loss, get down to the business of football and shake off the loss - there is always the chance of playoffs and a possible meeting of these two teams again. Maybe the next time it will be the Panthers out for vengeance. Get out this week and support the Panthers against the Indians; it promises to be a great game.

In other football news, the Mustangs were home again against Sherman this past week. Once the game started, one could tell that the Mustangs hadn't got the fire lit in the oven yet as Sherman seemed to score at will. The Mustangs got on the board though with some good running by Torin Shirey who carried the ball 14 times for 255 yards and three TDs. Brice Nichols also

kicked in the after burners carrying the ball 10 times for two yards and two TDs. Most of the action for the Mustangs came after the first half, but by that time Sherman was so far ahead that it was gonna be an almost impossible road to a win. In the second half the Mustangs came out and pounded the ball down the throat of Sherman and outscored them 30 -12 in. But it was too little too late. The final score was Mustangs 36 Sherman 48. This game is a true testament to the grit of the Mustangs' desire to win and determination to never give up. This Thursday they will travel to Summersville to take on the Bears. If you get the chance, come show your support.



Never give up #10 Cooper Collins packs Raider defense for some tough yards. Allen Hamrick Photo.



Brody Scarbro looks for the end zone. Allen Hamrick Photo.



Chris Elswick makes the tackle for a loss. Allen Hamrick Photo.



Torin Shirey breaks the defense with some good blocks up front. Allen Hamrick Photo.

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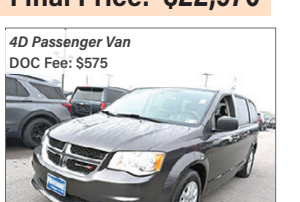
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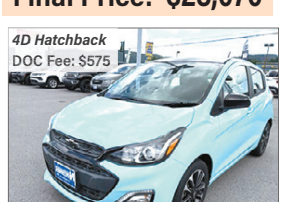
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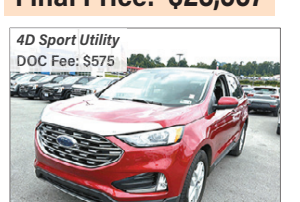
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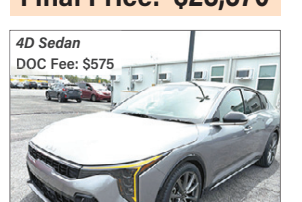
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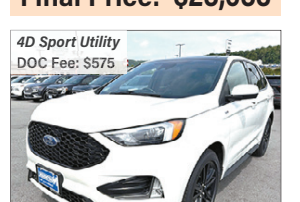
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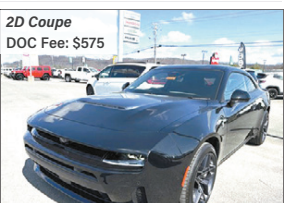
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