



Happy
 Mother's
 Day

May 12

Proudly Serving Grant County for 128 Years

Sample Ballots

Make sure to check out the ballots before you get in the voting booth! To view the ballots for the upcoming May 14 (and ongoing early voting), see pages 4B-7B.

Celebrate National Hospital Week

Celebrating and appreciating the local hospitals that save lives and strive to bring health to the community. See page 8A.

Polls open for early voting in W.Va.

Early voting is taking place now through May 11 on the first floor of the Grant County Courthouse. Hours are Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Support the Petersburg Food Pantry

As always, you may drop off your non-perishable donations to the Petersburg Interfaith Pantry at the Grant County Press. Monetary donations will also be forwarded to the food pantry.



COVID-19 UPDATES

The Grant County Health Department now has the following immunizations. Call 304-257-4922 for an appointment.

PUBLIC NOTICE

- Juvenile Cases
 - Strey Schoolhouse Right-of-way
 - Region 8 POC
 - Region 7 Fiscal Administrator
 - Region 7 One-stop Operator
 - DEP Water Pollution Control Permit
 - Estate Notices
- Pages 4B-5B



Obituaries

Nelson Poe Sr.

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Sports	1B-2B
Classifieds/Legals	9B
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Sample Ballots	4B-7B

poll question

Do you research the candidates prior to casting your vote in elections?



Let us know on our Facebook page



Multiple leaks and a series of issues leave some without water

Crews from the Grant County Public Service District (GCPD) have been working overtime this past week as a series of unrelated incidents left a section of the county without water.

The trouble began Friday, April 26, when PSD supervisor Lorie Barbe was completing her monthly water-usage reports and noticed unusual water usage in the Jordan Run Road area of the county.

The GCPD maintains more than 360 miles of line throughout the county and provides water to approximately 3,000 customers.

The GCPD also manages 20 tanks and 19 pump stations in the county and are soon going to be increasing those numbers further with the addition of

one more tank and pump station following an expansion in the Knobley Road, Eston Carr and Buckbee Hollow area. This project is set to be completed later this year.

“On Friday I noticed that that section had an abnormally high usage on the master meter,” explained Barbe. “So, it was Friday that we started looking for a leak but we couldn’t find anything.”

The following day, Barbe said they received a call from a customer in the area reporting low water pressure.

Crews continued to search for a leak as reports of low pressure and even full water outages began to be reported along Jordan Run Road. Overall, 15 residents lost water with more reporting

low pressure.

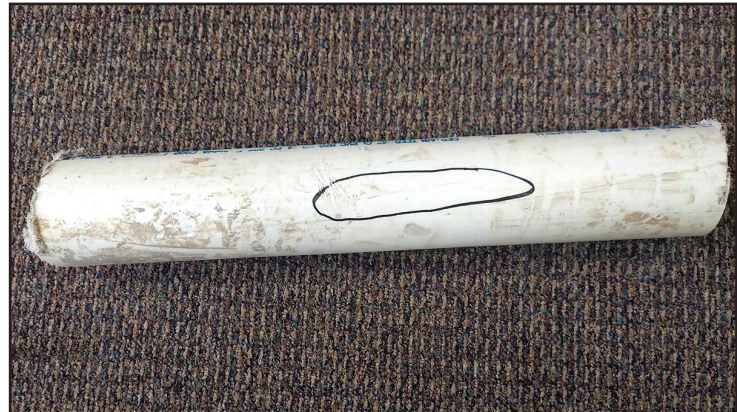
During the search, the PSD identified a customer who had recently connected to the system but due to damage, was leaking a large amount of water.

Barbe explained that the leak was located past the meter onto the customer’s property, meaning the leak was on the custom-

er’s side.

In total, this leak caused approximately 42,000 gallons of water to be lost from the PSD’s system, contributing to the water pressure issues. However, while this was a serious leak, it was not the leak that they had orig-

See Water, page 7A



Top Right: The little section of damaged pipe that created a big problem. **Above:** Crews from the Grant County Public Service District dealt with a back-to-back series of leaks, damaged equipment and interrupted water service as they worked to repair the waterlines along Jordan Run Road. **Left:** Grant County Public Service District supervisor Lorie Barbe, who worked alongside repair crews to identify, find and later fix the issues that caused low water pressure and disrupted service.

Woman charged after exposing herself to traffic

A Grant County woman is facing multiple charges after an incident on Virginia Avenue in which she allegedly exposed herself to traffic, the officer on scene and unsuspecting passersby.

The incident began April 15, when Police Chief Mal-low with the Petersburg Police Department received a call concerning a woman on Virginia Avenue that was exposing herself and yelling.

When the officer arrived at the scene, she encountered Elizabeth Lafollette, 30, of 166 Dusty Apple Lane.

While attempting to speak with Lafollette, she reportedly pulled her shirt down multiple times exposing her breasts. The officer noted that there was heavy traffic on Virginia Avenue and multiple people walking down the sidewalks as Lafollette continued to expose herself.

When the officer attempted to question Lafollette, she was allegedly incapable of providing answers.

During the conversation with the officer, Lafollette then pulled down her pants and exposed herself again to the public and to the officer.

Due to her mental state, the officer contacted Grant County Ambulance to provide emergency medical services (EMS).

When the medical responders arrived on the scene, they were also unable to effective-

See Crime, page 7A

Chamber seeks new business ideas for StartUp! grant

The Grant County Chamber of Commerce is accepting their annual StartUp! program applications, inviting hopeful business owners to submit their proposal and potentially be awarded funds to help make their dream become a reality.

According to the chamber, StartUp! is a business development grant incentive program designed to encourage growth and success of small businesses located in or looking to create a business in Grant County.

“We want to encourage and grow new businesses, especially entrepreneurs in Grant County,” the chamber explains. “StartUp! is designed as a competition to showcase ideas, enthusiasm, and a desire to start a new busi-

ness or add a new business line to an existing business.

The program began a few years ago, awarding \$5,000 to a local business owner for the expansion of their existing business.

Last year, three winners were awarded \$5,000 each, tripling the first year’s award amount.

According to the StartUp! application, grant funds are for the purpose of assisting with start-up or expansion expenses and can be awarded for the following uses: Purchase of supplies, equipment, or inventory, and/or downpayments towards the lease or purchase of a commercial location, renovations or minor repairs to a commercial location, utility connection fees,

and/or advertising and marketing expenses.

Applications will be evaluated by chamber members, who will judge each presentation on their proposed use of the grant funds, business and marketing plan, readiness to undertake the project, current number of employees/projected number of employees within two years, current and projected revenue within two years and creativity and originality of product or business.

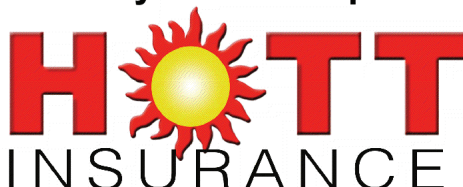
For more information on the program or for information on how to submit an idea, visit the chamber’s website at grant-wvchamber.com, call 304-257-2722 or email office@grant-wv-chamber.com.

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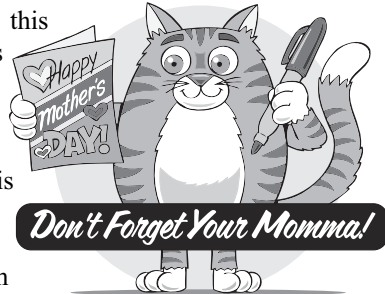
John Paul Hott II
 Owner

BOGAL FLAVOR

By Camille Howard
I am happy to report, whether you care or not, that we now have upgraded from a mini-fridge to a full size refrigerator!
This may not seem like a big deal unless you have to rely on a mini-fridge which may hold a quart of milk, a stick of butter and three slices of cheese.
In car salesman verbiage, it's a preowned model, however, it is exactly what I wanted at a decent price, and gives me time to squirrel away a few dollars to get a new one when needed.
I hope it hangs in there for a few more years!
In regards to our cats' hunting escapades, I came home one day last week and found bluejay feathers in the living room. I was relieved to find out that even though the poor bird had to go through the trauma of being captured by one of our feline stalkers, it managed to escape and was rescued and released outside.
This "catch and release" program needs to stop. I'm afraid of what they might bring in next.
.....
I've had to update myself on my Monster Truck knowledge since our one grandson is a truck fan. Re-

ally any truck is a big deal for him.
He waits at the window on Monday for the city trash truck to come by, and I don't know who had a truck with big tires in the Spring Mountain Festival, but it was a monster truck to him.
We also have to play with monster trucks now and crash them together.
Our other grandson, who will soon be two, is obsessed with tractors and when he's not busy in the barn watches YouTube videos about farm tractors.
Anything with wheels is what they like. The bigger the better.
.....
Over the weekend Craig participated in pulpit exchange Sunday, where pastors in our Covenant Brethren region preach at another CBC church.
Shawn Champ from the Petersburg Memorial Church was at Brake and Craig was at Oak Dale and Brick Covenant Brethren churches in place of their pastor, Randy Cosner.
It was so nice visiting with both congregations and seeing friendly faces. We were even treated to a puppet show at Brick Church.
I like visiting oth-

er churches during this event, but I sure miss our own people when we're not there.
.....
Mother's Day is just around the corner and you may be planning on taking mom out for dinner or cooking up something special.
I'm not picky. I'm happy with a hot dog or grilled cheese sandwich if someone else is going to fix it! Dessert is another story, though.
A good, dark chocolate cake is on my list of favorites along with a warm slice of fruit pie and a scoop of ice cream. I think tart cherry pie would be my first pick but a berry pie comes in a very close second.
I recently found a recipe



that looks simple and has the interesting additions of honey and cream cheese.
Since my crew likes baked corn so much, this might become another favorite.
Happy Mother's Day to all you moms, young and old. For so many of us, we couldn't have achieved half as much without our moms' help and many, many prayers. Thanks, Mom.
Have a great week!

HONEY BUTTER SKILLET CORN
2 tablespoons butter
2 tablespoons honey
1 bag (16 ounces) frozen corn
2 ounces cream cheese, cut into chunks
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon black pepper
In a skillet pan, melt the butter and honey over medium-high heat. Once melted, add the

frozen corn and cook 5-8 minutes, stirring occasionally, until corn is cooked through.
Add the chunks of cream cheese, salt and pepper. Stir everything together and let cook for another 3-5 minutes, stirring occasionally, until cream cheese is melted and mixture is well combined.
Serve immediately. Makes 6 servings.

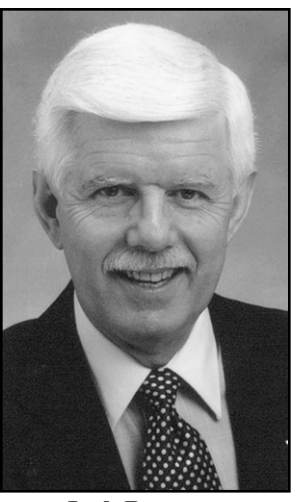
TO ALL MEMBERS OF AMERICAN LEGION POST 78
Annual nomination of officers, new or old, will be held May 9, at 7 p.m. at the Petersburg American Legion.

ELECT
 ★★★★★★
DOUG LAMBERT

GRANT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 — Milroy District —
 "Every Student Matters ... Every Moment Counts"

Scan QR code for Facebook Page
 PAID FOR BY CANDIDATE

Petersburg native and prize-winning author will present third novel at the Moomau Library



Jack Bowman
Forest Jackson "Jack" Bowman will return to his hometown of Petersburg to present his third novel, "The Richmond Exchange." It is set as the Civil War is grinding down and an attempt is planned to kidnap President Lincoln.
One reviewer stated that his "intimate knowledge of Civil War history, the

1865 layout of the cities of Washington, D.C. and Richmond, Va., the complexity of espionage, the mechanics of period firearms, and the charms of cunning beautiful ladies has enabled him to narrate a spellbinding story that just gets better and better as the pages zip by!"
"The Richmond Exchange" received a Silver Medal from Global Book Awards.
His presentation will begin at 1:30 on Wednesday, May 15, at the Moomau Grant County Library. He will have books available for purchase and signing.
He has previously published "The Secret of the 48th Foot" and "All Our Yesterdays: A Tale of Cunning and Grit," which was the 2023 winner of the Kindle Book Award in the Mystery/Thriller category.
The novel has also re-

ceived a Five Star Review from Reader Reviews and a Global Book Award bronze medal.
Mr. Bowman grew up in Petersburg and graduated from Petersburg High School, Class of 1956. He is the Jackson Kelly Professor of Law Emeritus at West Virginia University and a passionate student of American history and rural life.
A native of Petersburg and proud life-long West Virginian, in his retirement from teaching he has pursued his deep interest in history and its accompanying mysteries. An accomplished teacher, during his 23 years on the WVU faculty he was named "Professor of the Year" by an unprecedented seven graduating classes. In 1988 he was recognized as "Professor of the Year" for all of higher education in West

Virginia by the Faculty Merit Foundation of West Virginia.
A veteran of the United States Army, he served over four years as an officer in the Judge Advocate Generals Corps, Regular Army and from March 2007 - February 2011 he served as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army for the state of West Virginia.
While teaching he also presented seminars in 31 states and two Canadian provinces on time and stress management, leadership, effective communication and numerous legal issues. Today he offers presentations on various historical issues and speaks to organizations about his novels.
He and his wife of 62 years, Myla, have two sons and have three grandchildren.

HELP WANTED
911 Dispatcher/ Telecommunicator Position
Would you like to join a team dedicated to making a difference and helping others in time of need?
Are you searching for a meaningful career?
 The Grant County Commission is accepting applications for one (1) full-time E911 Telecommunicator in the Office of Emergency Services and 911. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and have a high school diploma or equivalent. To be considered for employment you must have good communications skills, computer skills, ability to type at least 30 wpm, the ability to read, write, speak English without impediment, be able to multi-task, pass a background check and be available to work different shifts and holidays. Salary begins at \$13.75 per hour and after completion of all required training pay goes up to \$15.00 per hour.
 All training is provided by the department and employees will be required to travel for some training. Employees must pass at least the following courses: APCO 40 hour Telecommunicator PST 1, EMD (Emergency Medical Dispatch) and WEAPONS (West Virginia Automated Police Network), NIMS 100 and 700, and an onsite local map test.
 Applications and further details are available from the Office of Emergency Services, located at 155 Technology Lane, Suite 2, Petersburg, West Virginia 26847.
 Previous experience is preferred and wage dependent upon previous experience and certifications.
Peggy Alt, Director,
Grant County OES & 911
155 Technology Ln, Suite 2,
Petersburg, WV 26847
Phone: 304-257-2140 • Fax: 304-257-9028
Email: grantcooes@citlink.net
The Grant County Commission is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Community Meetings & Events

The Potomac Highlands Beekeepers Association (PHBA) will meet Thursday, May 9, 7 p.m. upstairs at the Romney Fire Department, 175 S. High Street. All meetings are open to the public.
Civil Air Patrol: The Potomac Highlands Composite Squadron meets Thursday from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the Grant County Airport, Johnson Run Road, Petersburg.
Convention of States meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at

the Petersburg American Legion.
Grant County Board of Education meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at 5:30 p.m. at the board office on Jefferson Avenue.
Grant County Historical Society board of directors meetings will be posted on the Society's Facebook page. Members are welcome to attend.
Grant Memorial Hospital board meetings are held the fourth Monday at 7 p.m. in the administrative

conference room at Grant Memorial Hospital.
New Beginnings Community Outreach, Thursday, 6-9 p.m. at First Baptist Church.
Patterson Creek Ruritan Club meets the second Thursday of each month, 6 p.m. at Forman Community Center in Lahmansville.
Petersburg City Council meets the first Monday of the month at 6 p.m. at City Hall on Mt. View St.
T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets at 5:30 p.m. every Tues-

day at Living Hope Baptist Church, North Fork Highway, Petersburg, (just after the post office on left). Call Wendy DeiCas at 304-257-2349. for more information.

ANSWERS FROM PUZZLES IN SECTION B

Cryptquote
 Good health is not something we can buy. However, it can be an extremely valuable savings account. — Anne Wilson Schaefer

Go Figure!

70	=	16	=	14
5	-	1	÷	2 = 2
x	÷	x	÷	x
8	+	9	-	3 = 14
6	+	7	-	4 = 9

King Crossword

1. Wafer, Wager
2. Expect, Expert
3. Elite, Elite
4. Shore, Short
5. Kernel, Kennel
6. Limber, Lumber
7. Jerry, Terry
8. Retail, Retain
9. Local, Loyal
10. Pallet, Pellet

SNOWFLAKES

ANSWERS

ANSWERS

King Crossword

1. Wafer, Wager
2. Expect, Expert
3. Elite, Elite
4. Shore, Short
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ANSWERS

Go Figure!

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5	-	1	÷	2 = 2
x	÷	x	÷	x
8	+	9	-	3 = 14
6	+	7	-	4 = 9

Hawse Health

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PANEL 2: PANEL 1+ PSA (MEN ONLY) \$25.00
PANEL 3: VITAMIN D \$15.00
PANEL 4: VITAMIN B-12 \$10.00

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GRANT COUNTY ASSESSOR
 Your Vote & Support is appreciated!

Highmark West Virginia honors 2024 WVSOM grad Cheyenne Earle, with Farson-Smith-Earley Award

Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield West Virginia has announced that Cheyenne Earle, a 2024 graduate of the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM) in Lewisburg, has been selected as the recipient of its 10th annual Farson-Smith-Earley Award.



“Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield West Virginia established this partnership with WVSOM 10 years ago in an effort to improve the accessibility and delivery of primary health care services in the rural areas of our state,” said Jim Fawcett, president of Highmark West Virginia. “We’re honored to provide this award to Cheyenne, and we commend her for her passion for serving as a rural health advocate for underserved West Virginia communities through her practice following the completion of her residency.”

Earle served as presidents of Blue Cross Blue Shield from 1973 to 1995, 1995 to 2009 and 2009 to 2016, respectively. The annual recipient receives a permanent honorary plaque at the WVSOM campus and a \$3,500 stipend. Earle, a native of Grant County, plans to fo-

cus as a primary care provider in her hometown of Petersburg. Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield West Virginia serves approximately 250,000 members through the company’s health care benefits business and hundreds of thousands of additional members through the BlueCard® program.

PETERSBURG MIDDLE CHEER PRESENTS
Mother's Day BINGO

FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2024
 Maysville Fire House
 Doors Open 5 p.m. • Games Start 6 p.m.
\$25 IN ADVANCE • \$30 AT THE DOOR
 Advanced tickets can be picked up at Heritage Hearing offices in Petersburg and Moorefield or contact Joy at 304-257-5625
 Concessions will be available

Petersburg Lions Club holds first pickleball tournament



The Petersburg Lions Club held their first pickleball tournament last weekend at the Spring Mountain Festival. Winners Daniel Lewis and Owen Miller from Keyser and runners-up Dave and Theresa Barlow from Bridgeport were congratulated by Lions Club member Doug Pixler.

Sign up now for this summer's Energy Express program

Energy Express is a free six-week, half-day summer program which will be held at PHS and is open to all youth rising first - sixth graders. Dates are June 17 – July 26, from 12 - 3:30 p.m. in addition to the morning SAIL program through Grant County Schools. Ap-

plications must be submitted by May 31. All children are eligible to apply. There will be a limited number of slots available, so it is essential to return your applications by the due date. First preference will be given to children eligible for free or reduced lunch and children

who need help to improve reading. There will also be a waiting list. Paper applications are available in the WVU Extension office, board office, and school offices if you prefer. An online application may be found at extension.wvu.edu under the Youth & Family tab.

Join us for our **BETTER HEARING EVENT!**
 May 13th-17th
 INCLUDES:
 HEARING SCREENING
 EAR CANAL EXAM
 HEARING AID DEMO
(304) 935-5828



May is Better Hearing Month!

Join us for our Better Hearing Event to learn about the importance of hearing health and get a complimentary hearing evaluation. Hearing care is brain care: untreated hearing loss can speed up cognitive decline by 30-40% and increase dementia risk by up to five times.

If you're experiencing signs like difficulty in conversations or ringing in the ears, call (304) 935-5828 to schedule your appointment.

Let us help you on your path to better hearing!

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Elect Jason SITES

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

For Grant & Mineral County Circuit Judge

BORN AND RAISED



Choosing the state's next governor

We don't usually recommend any particular candidate for office even though we do weigh in on ballot measures such as changes in the state constitution, levy calls, etc.

There is a plethora of candidates this time around, some we are familiar with and some who have familiar names. There are six Republicans on the ballot:

- WV Attorney General Patrick Morrisey
- WV Secretary of State Mac Warner
- Car Dealership/Businessman Chris Miller
- Former WV Delegate Moore Capito
- Kevin "KC" Christian
- Mitch Roberts

On the Democratic ballot:

- Steve Williams, former Mayor of Huntington

The Mountain Party candidate is:

- Chase Linko-Looper, veteran, former FBI analyst

Here's a synopsis from Mountain State Spotlight plus some additional information on the contenders.

There's more to these candidates than what's written here. Do a little digging, especially on those candidates who haven't been in the public eye as much, such as Capito and Miller. Both of them have a parent in Washington: Shelly Moore-Capito, our U.S. Republican Senator and Carole Miller a Republican in the U.S. House of Representatives for Congressional District 1.

Those two gubernatorial candidates are worthy of an online look no matter who endorses them or who their parents/family are. If you aren't familiar with Patrick Morrisey or Mac Warner, you've been asleep at the wheel for several years. As for the remaining Republican candidates, good luck at finding out much about them.

When Mountain State Spotlight put out interview questions only one candidate responded: Mac Warner. You can find his interview at mountainstatespotlight.org

PATRICK MORRISEY

In 2015, Morrisey, West Virginia's first Republican Attorney General since the Great Depression, was only two years into his term, and already floating a run for governor.

Prior to his election, Morrisey had been typical of the new blood that flooded into Jefferson County in the 2000s. Born in New York and raised in New Jersey, he moved to Harper's Ferry and made the commute to D.C. to work as a lobbyist.

Every so often, he'd stop at The Journal in Martinsburg to regale the editors with his plans for fighting the federal government. After one of those meetings, an article in The Journal recounted Morrisey's decision to remain attorney general so he could keep fighting in court. Morrisey said he wanted to litigate U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulations, improve the business climate and fight substance abuse.

For the next nine years, Morrisey largely delivered.

He won a major victory in beating back Obama-era efforts to force coal-fired power plants to reduce greenhouse emissions. He successfully defended the state's anti-union "Right to Work" law. He litigated a case that overturned a federal law that banned states being barred from giving tax cuts if they received certain Covid relief dollars.

Morrisey helped negotiate landmark settlements against opioid companies for the pills they pumped into West Virginia. Those settlements — which opponents have attacked as being too little and paying trial lawyers too much — worked out to be the nation's highest per capita, with \$554 for every man, woman and child in the state.

Morrisey waded into the national stage, joining lawsuits over immigration, transgender kids in sports and vaccine mandates. His face is plastered across the right-wing media ecosystem, with interviews on Fox and Newsmax.

This exposure might explain why Morrisey is currently getting donations from folks across the country. A look at campaign finance records show he's received small donations from a fireman in Boston, a construction worker in Colorado and a cashier in Idaho.

The sound bites drive the campaign for Morrisey. When it comes to economic development, he's going to have a "backyard brawl" with neighboring states by slashing regulations and taxes to spur business recruitment. He's going to "keep woke ideas out of West Virginia" and "fight the deep state."

Just how exactly he'll do it gets murky. Mountain State Spotlight asked him for specifics, and shared questions from our readers, but his campaign wouldn't answer them.

MAC WARNER

Mac Warner, West Virginia's two-term secretary of state, sits in his campaign headquarters in downtown Charleston. It's 10 a.m. and he's the only one in the office — adjacent is a wide open room, with stacks of paper lining a divider wall. In the background, a printer shoots out a ream of paper.

Warner, with his shirtsleeves rolled up and tie slightly askew, looks like a candidate running for office.

Next governor continued on Page 5A



Senate Majority Caucus weighs in on Lincoln Middle School track protest

By Matt Harvey
The Exponent Telegram
Clarksburg

The state Senate's Majority Caucus weighed in last Tuesday night on a decision by Lincoln Middle School to sideline girl shot putters after they forfeited during the county's middle school championship meet.

The forfeits were in protest of a court decision that cleared the way for a transgender athlete to compete against the shot putters.

The protests were followed by the students appearing with political figures at a press conference, including state Attorney General Patrick Morrisey, Auditor J.B. McCuskey, and several state senators and delegates.

Senate President Craig Blair, R-Berkeley, issued the Senate Majority Caucus' statement, which came after a lawsuit was filed in Harrison County Circuit Court on behalf of four of the five protesting students. Prior to that, Morrisey filed

a friend of the court brief.

The lawsuit's focus is whether Lincoln Middle School officials violated the students' free speech rights in making the athletes ineligible for the next meet following the protest.

Harrison Circuit Judge

cuit Court of Appeals ruling shot down a 2021 West Virginia law that restricted biological males from participating in female sports.

The opinion made it clear that the 4th Circuit majority saw West Virginia's gender-focused sports

letes to protect the competitive balance, even though some, or perhaps many, transgender girls would finish far down in the field, the majority indicated.

Also, forcing transgender girls to choose between participating on boys teams and identifying as boys wouldn't be a choice at all, the majority indicated.

The 4th Circuit ruling is now under fire from Morrisey and other West Virginia Republicans.

Blair wrote on behalf of the Senate Majority Caucus:

"We condemn Harrison County Schools for taking punitive action against five student-athletes who chose to exercise their right to 'step out' of their recent track and field event to protest unfair competition in a sport, the risk of their personal safety, and the court decision that allowed a male to compete against them.

Protest
Continued on Page 5A

The integrity of girls sports in West Virginia demands protection. It's time we refuse to tiptoe on eggshells around a vocal minority while leaving the majority behind.

— Sen. Ben Queen (R-Harrison)

Thomas A. Bedell is presiding over the lawsuit.

A hearing is expected in the coming days, since the suit seeking injunctive relief soon will be moot because the end of the middle school track season is rapidly approaching.

The athletes' protests involved the shot putters putting the shot to their chin inside the circle, then stepping out after a handful of seconds to make their point.

A recent 4th U.S. Cir-

law as flawed in several ways.

The law only limits transgender girls from participating in girls sports, the opinion noted. That was too narrow an exemption for the court's majority, which pointed out that transgender boys weren't prohibited from participating in boys events.

Additionally, the law was too broad for the majority, as it excludes all transgender girls from competition as female ath-

Justice declares State of Emergency, halts FAFSA financial aid requirements

By Anna Goldizen
The Daily Athenaeum
WVU - Morgantown

Gov. Jim Justice declared a State of Emergency, temporarily halting Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) requirements for some state-funded financial aid programs, per a release from the Office of the Governor.

West Virginia students can now temporarily apply for in-state financial aid programs, such as the Promise Scholarship and Higher Education Grant, without filling out a FAFSA application.

Students who submit and qualify for the Promise Scholarship by Sept. 1 will receive an award offer of up to \$5,500, the release said.

Students who qualified

for the Higher Education Grant after filling out last year's FAFSA and are still enrolled at an in-state institution will receive an award of up to \$3,400 for the Fall 2024 semester.

Students who have not filled out a FAFSA form before but have received eligible services from the West Virginia Department of Human Services (DoHS) or Department of Health (DH) can request an eligibility letter to be sent to their university's financial aid office to receive the grant, the release said.

Eligible services include the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program, Child Care Subsidy Program and Supplemental Nutrition Pro-

gram for Women, Infants, and Children.

To obtain an eligibility letter from the DoHS or DH, students can call the Office of Constituent Services' Customer Service Hotline at 877-716-1212.

According to the release, Justice's decision was prompted by nationwide issues and delays with the FAFSA program.

"We are the first state in the country to declare a State of Emergency for this catastrophe because it directly affects the well-being of our students," Justice wrote in a post to X, formerly known as Twitter. "We can no longer sit on the sidelines and wait for the federal government to fix this problem."

In March, WVU Hub officials eliminated the FAFSA priority deadline fol-

lowing Federal Student Aid (FSA) processing delays. However, May 1 remains the regular WVU FAFSA deadline.

The release said that FAFSA completion rates among high schoolers in the state are down by almost 40%.

Students can check their FAFSA application status by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID or visiting studentaid.gov.

To learn more about West Virginia aid programs, visit www.collegeforwv.com/.

Anna Goldizen is a sophomore journalism student at WVU and the features editor at The Daily Athenaeum. She is a PHS graduate and the daughter of Bryon and Stephanie Goldizen.

WV shared editorial: Foster parents needed in West Virginia

The Wheeling
Intelligencer

Ever considered becoming a foster parent, only to back off on the idea because the process seems too daunting? A new partnership among the West Virginia Department of Human Services, Aetna Better Health of West Virginia and 10 foster care agencies statewide is aiming to change that.



In an effort to address the shortage of foster parents in the state, the group is putting together a campaign that targets both single and married adults who have considered being foster parents but never qualified to do so.

"This initiative aims to demystify the journey of becoming a foster fami-

Parents
Continued on Page 5A

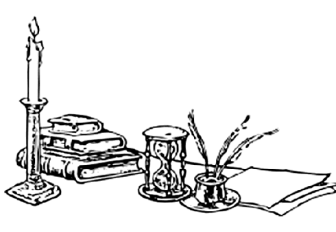
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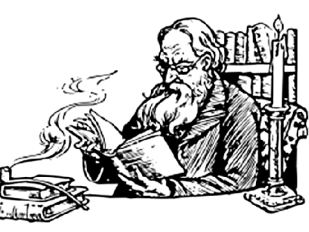
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Remember When



May 12, 1954

A modern \$10,000 Dairy Queen was to be built on Petersburg's Main Street. Linton Sites bought the lot from C.L. Kimble. It was to open around July 1.

Nancy Cline of Petersburg was named "Miss Petersburg of 1954."

Those passing their drivers' examinations were: John Thorn of Martin; Sally Ours of Dorcas; Frank Rodgers of Petersburg; Barbara Mowry of Petersburg; Wanda Bergdoll of Dorcas; Betty Nesslerodt of Arthur; James Kanode of Petersburg; James Stone of Petersburg; Floda Vandevander of Cherry Grove; Kate Mallow of Onego; Wanda Haines of Romney; Louise Mease of Petersburg; John Van Meter of Petersburg; Guy Long of Onego; Earl Long of Onego; Darwood Alt of Petersburg; Beulah Williams of Mathias; Lela Hinkle of Beryl; and Roy Rumer of Petersburg.

Named as Petersburg High School valedictorian was Robert Whitmer and as salutatorian Juanita Lewis.

Mr. and Mrs. Luther Cosner of Bismarck announced the birth of a son,

at Potomac Valley Hospital.

Ramona Scripp was named valedictorian and Patricia Hanlin as salutatorian for Bayard High School.

Three Grant County men completed eight weeks of basic training at Camp Gordon Replacement Training Center. They were: Pvt. Harold Kessel of Burlington; Pvt. Ralph Propst of Petersburg; and Pvt. Richard Smith of Petersburg.

May 6, 1964

Ronald Spencer, Jayne Groves, Marc Harman and Gregory Smith were the Golden Horseshoe winners in Grant County.

Barbara Veach of Petersburg was initiated into the West Virginia Alpha Chapter of Pi Beta Phi.

Blane Michael of Antioch was among 29 Sphinx members formally initiated in the institution's senior men's honorary May 8.

Grant Memorial Hospital births included: Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bennett of Cherry Grove, a daughter, April 30; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Strickler of Maysville, May 3; Mr. and Mrs. Doll Delawder of Moorefield, a daughter, May 3; Mr.

and Mrs. Reginald Hinkle of Petersburg, a daughter, May 4; and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Ketterman of Moorefield, May 4.

May 8, 1974

Ruth Ann Hutchison of Morgantown was the new West Virginia University appointed 4-H Club Agent for Grant County.

Golden Horseshoe winners were: Pam Feaster, John VanMeter, Leslie Veach and Craig Rodgers, all from Petersburg High School.

Harold D. Junkins of Mount Storm was among the agriculture and forestry students honored at convocation ceremonies at WVU.

Geraldine Ours of Rough Run was honored May 5, on her seventh birthday.

Grant Memorial Hospital births included: Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Thompson of Moorefield, a daughter, April 30; Mr. and Mrs. John Hitt of Petersburg, a son, May 1; and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Phares, a son, May 6.

Three PHS students placed at the first Math Field Day at Piedmont High School. They were: Nancy Hedrick, second among 36 other seventh

grade students; Leslie Veach and Bill Sheaffer, placed third and fourth respectively among 35 other eighth graders.

May 9, 1984

Stephen Ferrell of Gorman was elected to the WVU chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, for the 1983-84 academic year.

Pvt. Mark A. Berg of Petersburg completed basic training at Fort Dix, N.J.

Delia Fisher celebrated her 99th birthday at her home in Mount Storm.

Randal and Kathy Stump of Landes announced the birth of a daughter, April Nicole, April 7, at Rockingham Memorial Hospital, Harrisonburg, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Travis Berg of Maysville announced the birth of a son, Aaron Nicholas, April 16, at Cumberland Memorial Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Hannah of Valley Head announced the birth of a son, Matthew Aaron, April 19, at Davis Memorial Hospital.

Petersburg resident Curtis Keplinger was named "Surveyor of the Year" by the West Virginia Association of Land Surveyors.

Mon Power selected by U.S. Department of Energy for Reliability Project Grant

Project would enhance reliability for more than 3,000 customers in Pocahontas, Braxton, Clay and Grant counties

West Virginia – FirstEnergy Corp. subsidiary Mon Power has been selected by the Department of Energy to begin award negotiations for up to \$5 million in federal funding for a project that will boost electric reliability for customers in parts of rural West Virginia. The funding is part of the Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas (ERA) program established by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

The funding would be applied to help rebuild more than 23 miles of power lines in Pocahontas, Braxton and Clay counties and connect a two-mile tie line with a substation in

Petersburg, Grant County, resulting in enhanced reliability for more than 3,000 customers.

The work would enable Mon Power and FirstEnergy subsidiary Potomac Edison, which also serves West Virginia, to restore service to customers faster by connecting them to adjacent circuits, providing those customers with a backup power feed while repairs are made during an outage.

Submitted in 2023, Mon Power's proposal was selected as one of 19 community-led projects across 12 states and 13 tribal nations and communities to receive more than \$78 mil-

lion to develop and deploy sustainable clean energy solutions or expand access to reliable and affordable energy in rural and remote communities across the country.

Jim Myers, president of FirstEnergy's West Virginia Operations: "We're grateful for the opportunity provided by the Department of Energy to apply for funding under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Their commitment to bolstering our nation's infrastructure is evident, and through initiatives like the Energy Improvements and Rural Areas Program, we're excited to translate that support into tangible

benefits for our customers.

If the funding is approved, Mon Power would expect to start construction on the project in 2025. Company representatives have engaged with more than 560 city, county, state and nonprofit agencies about the proposal over the past year, providing updates and incorporating community feedback into Mon Power's plans.

Mon Power also plans to partner with community-based organizations, labor unions and educational institutions in the affected counties to address workforce disparity gaps for historically under-resourced communities.

Protest

Continued from Page 4A

"The rules that govern the West Virginia Secondary Schools Activities Commission specifically outline the procedure for addressing a team or student who leaves a playing field in protest, including the consequences of those protest actions. Despite that procedure being clearly defined in the Code of State Rules, Harrison County Schools unilaterally decided to punish these female students by prohibiting them from competing in their next track meet.

"By refusing to adhere to these standards, Har-

ison County Schools is showing a galling lack of concern for the free-speech considerations of those students, as well as the safety of those students, because of unfair competition with males. Furthermore, they're sending a message to counties across the state that it's acceptable to disregard process when it suits a particular political agenda.

"We thank the Attorney General for filing a brief with the Harrison County Circuit Court in support of these students, and we hope that no other counties will choose to unfairly silence the voices of girls who choose to peacefully protest when they feel

wronged and their safety is disregarded."

Morrisey and his staff attorneys wrote in their brief:

"The State has multiple interests in this matter. Among other things, the State always wishes to see that its laws and rules are followed and applied in a consistent and fair manner. It also endeavors to ensure that the right to freedom of speech is always respected. Based on the Complaint, those interests are threatened here."

The Attorney General's Office also wrote in the brief:

"Rather than being punished for their conduct or being sidelined in an effort to score points, all should commend these young athletes for putting their personal performances aside to demonstrate their discontent with an unjust result that affects them personally and within that event. There can be no more direct and connected protest within the sports context. And that expression, along with their attendance at a press conference with political figures addressing their protests, are

protected activities."

Sen. Ben Queen, a Harrison County Republican, also issued a statement.

"I'm immensely proud that my colleagues in the Senate and I are taking a bold stance on this issue. The integrity of girls sports in West Virginia demands protection. It's time we refuse to tiptoe on eggshells around a vocal minority while leaving the majority behind. I've listened to the voices of countless constituents who demand nothing more than simple fairness and the security of our locker rooms," Queen said.

"This issue hits particularly close to home for me, both professionally and as a representative of my hometown. I've consistently voted to protect girls sports and safeguard young people from invasive procedures and transitions before the age of 18. Nor do I believe biological males deserve special privileges or exemptions in female athletics," Queen said.

"I stand firm in my commitment to defending the rights of our student-athletes and ensuring that their voices are heard."

Parents

Continued from Page 4A

ly in West Virginia," said Cynthia Persily, secretary of the West Virginia Department of Human Services, according to a report by WBOY. "By shedding light on the process, we empower families to better understand and navigate it. Expanding our state's pool of available foster parents will positively impact the children in need of stable, secure homes, and in turn, impact the future of our entire state."

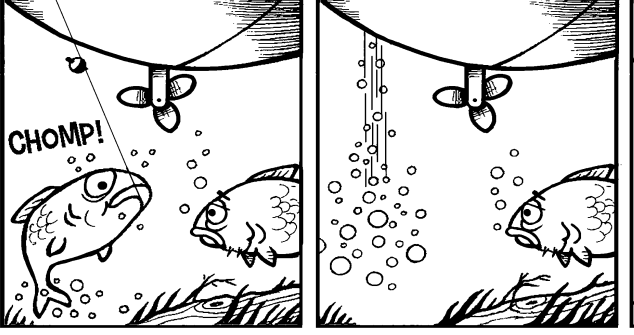
The youngest of our Mountaineers have suffered the most over the past several years, and for those looking for a way to help, giving these vulnerable children shelter from that storm is huge.

"If you've ever considered fostering, West Virginia needs you now." That's the message we want to communicate to people," Rachel Kinder, Mission West Virginia executive director, told WBOY. "We know people can be intimidated by the thought of fostering, frequently worrying that they don't have enough resources or the right personality to open their home to a child or teen."

If your personality includes being the kind of person who wants to make a difference for these kids, it's a good start.

Go to www.wefosterwv.org to find out more. The information and support available there will help you get the ball rolling. You — and the children you help — will be glad you did.

Amber Waves

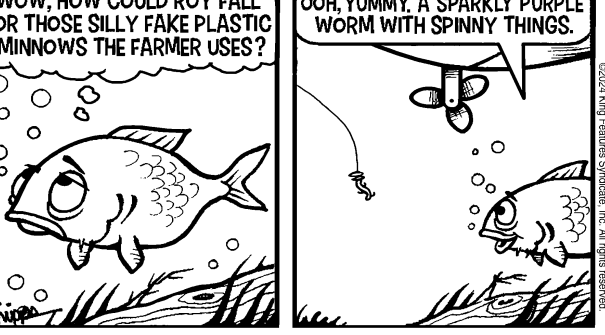


GRIN THE BEARD IT



"The kids in the neighborhood want to know if you can do that again, Dad!"

by Dave T. Phipps



Grant County Ministerial Association sponsors local prayer and festival events



Pastor Craig Howard leads the annual program



Pastor Stephen Noel

The Grant County Ministerial Association sponsored several community events recently including Worship in the Park at the Spring Mountain Festival and National Day of Prayer at the Grant County Courthouse.

Worship in the Park: Fishers of Men, featured praise and worship music and brief messages from Pastor Cheryl George of the Main Street UM Church, Pastor Coleman Clark of Cabins Assembly of God Church, Pastor Craig Howard of Brake Covenant Brethren Church and Pastor Stephen Noel of Petersburg Church of God.

The event drew a crowd of approximately 150 people.

The following Thursday, National Day of Prayer was celebrated around the nation and at the Grant County Courthouse.

Prayers were offered for the local community, city, county, state and national leaders, students and children, churches and families.

Leading in prayer were Ellen Kirby from Church Women United, PHS student Sydnee Zirk, DixieLee Murray and Pastor Stephen Noel.

The PHS band was in attendance again this year under the direction of Faith Smith.



The Petersburg High School band

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Obituary

NELSON LEE POE SR.

Nelson Lee Poe Sr., 75, of Petersburg, W.Va. passed away on Monday, April 29, 2024, at UM Baltimore Washington Medical Center, Glen Burnie, Md.

Born Nov. 5, 1948, in Grafton, W.Va., he was the son of the late Norman Lee and Norma Ruth (McKeen) Poe.

On August 9, 1996 Nelson married Shirley (Berg) Poe who survives in Petersburg.

Mr. Poe attended West Port High School, Baltimore, Md. and was a Baptist by faith. Nelson served as a Merchant Marine and retired from Maryland Glass as an operator in Baltimore. He was a member of the Sons of the American Legion Post #78 and loved classic cars. When Nelson wasn't spending money at Walmart, he enjoyed listening to oldies music from the 50s and 60s and watching Survivor, war movies, and the ID Channel. Surrounded by family, Nelson had a full life, full of love and laughter that will live on in those who love him.

In addition to his wife, Nelson is survived by two sons, Nelson Lee Poe Jr. of Chestertown, Md. and David Lee Poe (Kimberly) of Arnold, Md.; and four grandchildren. He was known as Pop Pop to Anamaria "Sunshine" Amaya; Angelina "Gibber Jabber"



Amaya; and special uncle to Zellie "Noodle Head" Cheek. He was preceded in death by one son, Nicholas Poe; one brother, Virgil "Bugsy" Poe; and one sister, Mary Ryan.

In honoring Nelson's request, his body has been cremated. A celebration of life service was Saturday afternoon at the Basagic Funeral Home chapel, Petersburg, with Pastor Frank Ketterman officiating.

Memorials may be made to your local animal shelter. Memories and words of comfort may be left at www.basagic.com or on Facebook at Basagic Funeral Home. (5-7-24)

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Who said, "Indeed baptized with water, but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost"? Matthew, Mark, John the Baptist, Luke

2. What town or city was Saul of Tarsus near when he converted to Christianity? Damascus, Assos, Corinth, Gaza

3. Which apostle's mother-in-law is referred to in the Bible but not by name? Peter, Judas, James, Andrew

ANSWERS: (1) John the Baptist (Acts 11:16) (2) Damascus (3) Peter

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GRANT COUNTY ASSESSOR

REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE
14 YEARS EXPERIENCE
WORKING KNOWLEDGE OF THE POSITION
PAID FOR BY CANDIDATE

ELECT

MELANIE BIGGS

CIRCUIT CLERK

Over 8 years in the Grant County Circuit Clerk's office

★ EXPERIENCE MATTERS! ★

PAID FOR BY CANDIDATE



Crime

Continued from front

ly communicate with La-follette.

During the interaction, Lafollette allegedly lunged at the officer and an EMS

provider, grabbing them by the arms.

At that time, the officer placed Lafollette under arrest.

However, while placing her hands behind her back to put them in hand restraints, Lafollette pulled

free and attempted to flee. After being restrained, the officer was able to place her in the police cruiser for transportation to the Grant County Annex for processing and arraignment.

Lafollette was charged with felony counts of bat-

tery on an EMS provider and battery on a law enforcement officer as well as misdemeanor counts of obstructing an officer (second offense) and indecent exposure.

Next governor

Continued from Page 4A

Compared to the other GOP front-runners, Warner's campaign has been relatively shoestring. He's raised a little more than \$500,000, compared to the \$3.3 million by Morrissey. While it's hard to drive across the state without seeing a "Mac Warner for Governor" sign, his campaign consistently trails in the polls.

Over the last few years, Warner has made state and national headlines when he accused the CIA and the FBI of stealing the 2020 election from Donald Trump. The Secretary of State said it wasn't a case of stuffing ballot boxes, but a "psychological operation" to suppress negative news about Hunter Biden's laptop, an issue that's a rallying cry for right-wing conspiracy theorists.

He said the media has "wanted to pigeon hole me as a nutcase." While Warner's claims haven't been verified, he contends as a Secretary of State, he's in the know.

Peeling that back, Warner's campaign platform is fairly typical: he wants lower taxes, higher pay for teachers and an investment in infrastructure. Child care, according to Warner, is a top priority, especially after the Legislature failed to do anything about it this year.

Drawing from his 23-year career in the U.S. Army, the candidate said a Warner administration would be about "teamwork," taking in viewpoints from the Legislature, experts and non-governmental organizations.

"The people of West Virginia are gonna see a whole new government when we come into the ad-

ministration," Warner said. Warner said he hopes to leverage his wife Debbie's time in the House of Delegates to get policies passed. He says what sets him apart from the other candidates is that he's in this race to be governor. The others, he said, are using it as a stepping stone to a federal office.

"I want to be governor of West Virginia simply because of my love. I've been all over the world, been to more than 80 countries, lived in eight states, been to all 50 states," Warner said. "I could've lived anywhere I wanted, but I chose to come right back here to West Virginia because of my love."

Warner was the only candidate to respond to Mountain State Spotlight's request for an interview. It can be found on mountainstatespotlight.org

MOORE CAPITO

The Dec. 21, 2023, governor's press briefing was packed full of news. Sitting in front of the American and West Virginia flags, Gov. Jim Justice opened with a call for prayer for two state troopers who'd been shot serving a warrant.

Shimmying his chair back and forth, Justice shuffled his papers. "OK, we have a special announcement by a friend, Moore Capito, our Judiciary Chair in the House of Delegates is with us now, so Moore, if you'd like, you can go ahead and ... but you're a great friend," Justice said.

The camera cut to Moore Capito, son of U.S. Sen. Shelly Moore Capito and grandson of former Gov. Arch Moore. Capito looked directly into the camera and said after seven years in the House of Delegates, he was resigning to focus on his run for gover-

nor.

"I was elected in 2016 alongside two 'get it done' conservatives, you being one of them, governor and Donald Trump as president," Capito said. "And boy have we gotten it done. We've built roads, we've cut taxes and we've created so many jobs."

Capito received an endorsement from Justice six months later.

Called "laser focused" in Justice's endorsement, Capito has voted in favor of a slate of Republican staples over the last seven years like the 2023 personal income tax cut and the state's abortion ban.

But he's not a cookie-cutter conservative.

During his time in the House of Delegates, he was a lead sponsor on multiple attempts to establish a paid family leave act for state employees, all of which failed to get approval from the GOP supermajority. He voted in favor of medical marijuana, even sponsoring a bill to make edibles legal.

In 2019, he risked angering hard-core conservatives in his own party when he sponsored a bill that would ban conversion therapy [efforts to discourage or change behaviors related to LGBTQ+ identities and expressions] for gay and transgender minors in the state. When the Legislature rolled back standards on aboveground storage of chemicals, Capito broke ranks with his party and voted against it.

Mountain State Spotlight asked Capito about some of these things, along with questions from readers. He didn't answer.

CHRIS MILLER

Dutch Miller, "High Price Terminator." That's the slogan that flashed across screens in a 2014 advertisement for the West Virginia car dealership

chain founded by H.D. "Dutch" Miller.

Sporting a buzz cut, a leather jacket, makeup on the side of his face and a pair of shades, Dutch's grandson, Chris Miller, channeled the original Terminator, Arnold Schwarzenegger, as he put on a thick Austrian accent.

"I am the high price Terminator," he said. "Come with me, if you want a deal."

A decade later, Miller would be following in the former California governor's footsteps with his own run for office.

Best known for his wacky car commercials, Miller entered the race with no government experience. While his mother, Carol, held seats in the statehouse and is currently a sitting U.S. Representative, the younger Miller stuck to selling cars. Over the last couple years, he's been dipping his toes in the water, giving speeches at the Conservative Political Action Conference and increasing his social media presence with frequent conspiracy theories.

Harkening back to Justice's first gubernatorial run in 2016, Miller has leaned heavily into his experience as a businessman.

With a \$3 million loan to himself, Miller started making waves in the election with proclamations that he'd eliminate the personal income tax on day one. When asked how the state could make up for the 40% hit in its revenue that tax cut would cause, Miller has said all officials need to do is "unleash capitalism."

On education, Miller has also been a bit of an outlier. He advocates cutting the state Department of Education, blaming the bureaucracy for sucking up resources. Miller said the state could use the savings to raise teachers' pay.

The venom of his campaign has focused on Mor-



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If you are interested in any of the dogs, please contact 304-257-1725.

Any dogs that are adopted from the kennel **MUST** have an appointment at the vet before they leave the kennel. The appointment has to be confirmed by Grant County Parks and Recreation. If a dog isn't spayed or neutered, the person adopting the dog **WILL** be responsible for getting the dog spayed or neutered immediately. Also, the dog will require vaccinations. After you adopt a dog from the kennel, you **MUST** show proof of the above requirements.

risey, trying to link him to supporting gender transitions for minors. Ad after ad from the Miller camp has accused Morrissey of lobbying on behalf of trans health care providers and doing nothing about it during his time as attorney general.

Morrissey has actually defended — and lost — a state law that would ban transgender children from competing in high school sports. He's also signed onto multi-state litigation against the federal government over the same issue.

Miller would not answer questions from Mountain State Spotlight and our readers about his platform.

• Also running for governor in the GOP primary, is Kevin "KC" Christian, who is proposing "Mountaineer Deliberative Democracy" which among other things includes

expanding the political boundaries of the state. He is an electrical engineer, computer scientist and veteran. He hales from Bluefield. You can read more about him and ideas for the future of West Virginia at kc4wv.org

• Candidate Mitch Roberts, from Poca, ran as a write-in during the 2020 election and received 152 votes, is also vying for the nomination.

Whichever Republican wins the May 14 primary will move on to the general election. On the November ballot, they'll face the presumptive Democratic nominee Steve Williams, Huntington's first three-term mayor, and Chase Linko-Looper of the Mountain Party, a U.S. Army veteran who served for nine years, including a tour of duty in Afghanistan. He also worked for the FBI as an analyst.

Water

Continued from front

inally detected.

The PSD worked quickly to address the problem and shut the meter off, allowing the water to build back up in the system. However, this was only the first problem in a string of complications.

"In the meantime, all of the water being out of the line caused the pump to become airlocked," Barbe said. "So we had to start another pump and began pumping manually."

By Monday, the crews were still looking for the leak with no success when a vehicle accidentally collided with a PSD valve.

"Then as we were working on that, we had a large delivery truck run over one of the valves that was going up into the tank," Barbe said. "So the guys had to stop searching for the leak to fix the valve that had

been hit."

This was the third leak in just a few days with one still being detected but unable to be located along the miles of piping that runs along Jordan Run Road.

However, while the leak caused by the damaged valve was quickly fixed, the sudden loss of water caused the pressure to drop again.

"There has to be water pressure built up in the system to be able to find a leak," explained Jerry Ours, a member of the GCPSD board. Ours and his fellow board-members, Phyllis Cook and Clyde Hines, help to oversee the PSD.

Also on Monday, PSD leadership had a conference call with the Grant County Office of Emergency Management and 911, the Parks and Recreation department and the West Virginia National Guard to discuss how to establish a



plan to provide services to the customers affected by the water loss.

In response, the county opened Camp Echo, including the shower facility and began providing drinking water and containers. The Keyser PSD provided the containers and the Grant County Parks and Recreation department donated their time and water truck to assist.

By Tuesday, water pressure had finally rebuilt enough for the crews to attempt to find the initial leak again. This time they set out on foot to walk the three mile stretch between the tank and pump system. As they walked, they used a device called a correlator to test the piping for leaks. Barbe said the correlator had been purchased by the Grant County Commission for the PSD.

Then, at around 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday evening,

the leak was located less than a quarter of mile from the pump station.

The leak was repaired by that night and water

once again started to build back up in the PSD's system.

Barbe said the PSD also released a conserve water

and boil water notice to the residents of Jordan Run Road. As per West Virginia state code, the boil notice must remain in place until multiple water samples are tested and confirmed safe from contamination. Samples were pulled on Wednesday and Thursday for testing.

"The PSD really commends the PSD employees for working around the clock address the continuing issues involved on Jordan Run," Barbe said. "We also want to thank the customers in that area for their patience and understanding through the water interruptions."

The boil advisory was lifted yesterday afternoon.





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GMH is celebrating National Hospital Week May 12-18

Next week, May 12-18, is National Hospital Week. This presents an opportunity to celebrate and acknowledge the many community contributions made by hospitals and hospital-based clinicians, caregivers, and support staff. In fact, West Virginia hospitals are the largest component of the health care sector, helping power the state economy as major employers that contribute roughly \$12.5 billion in positive economic activity each year.

WVU Medicine hospitals, collectively, provide acute care and specialty medical services, behavioral health, psychiatric treatment, rehabilitation care, pediatric care, and more to meet the needs of patients across West Virginia.

They also conduct research to achieve medical breakthroughs and provide a range of health care services for the residents of West Virginia and surrounding states. The system includes 24 hospitals, 30,000 employees, 4,000 providers and 3,000 licensed beds. These hospitals welcome nearly 7,000 newborns and account for 3.8 million clinic visits, over 1.6 million outpatient visits, 424,000 emergency department visits, and 133,360 discharges on an

annual basis. At WVU Grant Memorial Hospital alone, they care for over 6,000 inpatients, 14,500 emergency department patients, and deliver over 200 babies annually.

These are your friends, neighbors, and co-workers who have received high quality care, right here in



Grant County. Additionally, the hospital is bringing new services to the area, such as podiatry, 3T MRI technology, and wound care.

"WVU Grant Memorial Hospital is a true hidden gem located in the midst

of the beautiful Potomac Highlands. And though the technology and services that the hospital provides are wonderful, none of it is possible without the expertise and compassion of all the staff who contribute to patient care on a daily basis", says John Sylvia, president and CEO of Grant Memorial Hospital.

"I am amazed every day at the stories I hear of staff saving lives or just connecting with people on a personal level. Doctors, nurses, dietary staff, registration, technologists, etc. - they all have an impact on the overall care provided and do an incredible job under difficult circumstances."

Join GMH in celebrating National Hospital Week May 12-18, to say "thank you" to the health care heroes who make sacrifices to care for you every day.

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 CLAIM YOUR 14-DAY RISK-FREE TRIAL!
 Call us toll-free at 1-833-274-3943

*14-day risk-free trial: Return within 30 days of purchase for a full refund of purchase price.
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PHS & UHS Grad Happy Ads

Class of 2024

Let your favorite graduate know you're proud with a HAPPY AD in the May 14th PRESS Graduation Issue

Stop in or mail to:
GRANT COUNTY PRESS
 P.O. Box 39, Petersburg, WV 26847
 304-257-1844 or email ads@grantcountypress.com

Deadline: Thursday, May 9
 Ads are payable in advance.
 Visa/MasterCard/Discover, Cash, Check
 PICK UP YOUR PICTURE AFTER PUBLICATION.

\$25.00 With Picture & Best Wishes IN COLOR!

GRANT COUNTY SCHOOLS EXCESS LEVY

Vote YES! for Facilities, for Safety, and for Programs

- Summer School
- Upgraded Science Labs (STEM/STEAM)
- Fitness Trail Renovation at UEC with 100 Meter Practice Lanes for Track
- Upgrade for PHS Track
- Supplies and Materials for South Branch Career and Technical Center
- Band/Music Stipend for All Schools
- Modernize Classroom Furniture in All Schools
- UEC Stage Replacement
- Technology Upgrades
- Extra Curricular Complex at PHS
- Metal Detectors in ALL Schools
- Reconstruct PHS Entrance to Meet Safe School Standards; this will be the last Grant County school to get upgraded to the WV Safe School Standards
- Replace the PES Gym Floor
- Upgrade PHS Sports Field Lighting (Football and Baseball)
- Interior Security Gates for PHS and UEC
- Add an Additional Classroom at MES
- Aides on Buses
- Funding for PRO/SRO Officers in Each School
- Free Admission for Sporting Events to All Grant County Residents

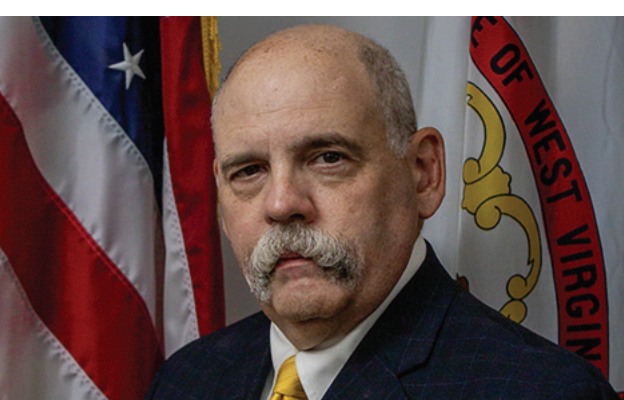
Vote YES! for Civic and Community Programs

- Contribution to the Grant County Library
- Contribution to the Grant County 4-H Organization



Paid for by the Grant County School Levy Committee

For the Future of Our Children Vote YES!



VOTE CODY

PANCAKE for JUDGE

33 Years of Local Legal Experience

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Cody Pancake Judge

WEST VIRGINIA PRESS

B Section

Sports

May 7, 2024



The Petersburg High School Vikings celebrated their annual senior night event last week during their face-off against Fort Hill High School. Athletes recognized during the event were: Jackson Berg, Andrew Fleming, Elijah Kuykendall, Ethan Taylor and Lelund Feaster.

PHS baseball team celebrate senior night



Elijah Kuykendall was awarded a \$500 scholarship from State Farm Insurance through local agent Devon Rogers.

Track and Field

Union High School track and field athlete Channelle Sutton is staying leaps and bounds above her competition. Last week she picked up a high point win, with first place awards in the high jump, 100m, 300m hurdles and 200m.

The Petersburg High School Vikings also brought home important wins this season, including PVC victories for Ryen Sites, Sophia Hardy, Bella Feaster and Joelle Boddy (in the girls 4x100 and 4x200), Josh Biggs (in shot and discus), Rhenn Hedrick (shot) and Ayden Mayfield (discus).



College Signing



Union High School senior Bailey Evans will be continuing her athletic career next year at Potomac State College. Evans, a basketball player at UEC, signed late last month to continue the sport next year while attending college in Keyser. The signing was held at the school and Evans was joined by her family and coaches to celebrate the event.

VOTE

May 14

**SERVICE, LEADERSHIP
INTEGRITY**

PAID FOR BY CANDIDATE

PANDORA BARR

CIRCUIT CLERK



2024 Spring Mountain Festival



Please join us in celebrating the **GRAND OPENING**

TWIN KNOTS
GALLERY & STUDIO

Friday, May 31, 2024
6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

204 Virginia Avenue,
Petersburg, WV 26847

Music by local musician Joe Crites
Light refreshments

A beautiful gallery of original artwork and products by local artists will be on display and available for purchase.

Opening night's featured artist is **Dr. Bruce Leslie**.
His paintings and sculptures will be on exhibit with select pieces available for purchase.

Hope to see you there!
(additional parking available at the Hermitage Inn & Tap House)
304-257-0156
<http://www.twinknots.com>



VOTE

ROY RAMEY

WV Agriculture Commissioner

RE-ELECT JERRY OURS

Grant County Assessor

PROVEN RECORD OF SUPPORTING LOCAL FOOD & CUTTING REGULATIONS

- Farmer • Christian • Retired U.S. Army Veteran
- Family Man • Constitutional Conservative

RameyforAG

Roy@RameyforWV.com

www.rameyforwv.com

FOOD FREEDOM!

PAID FOR BY CANDIDATE

FORMER DELEGATE ALLEN EVANS ENDORSES JERRY OURS FOR ASSESSOR



"Jerry is a person of high moral standards. He is a honest, hardworking person and treats everyone fairly."

- ★ Lifelong Republican
- ★ Graduated from Petersburg High School 1982
 - ★ Potomac State College 1984
 - ★ West Virginia University 1986
- ★ Married to Melanie Ours for 34 years
- ★ Co-owner of Grace Brooke Greenhouses LLC
- ★ Elected as Grant County Assessor in November of 2022 to fill unexpired term.

PAID FOR BY CANDIDATE

Vote Jerry Ours Grant County Assessor *Your vote and support is appreciated!*

NURSES make the Difference

dauntless, helpful, inventive, Thoughtful, empathy, Experience, DEDICATED, resilient, Compassionate, powerful, Innovative, knowledge, skilled, Reflective, Integrity, generous, BRAVE, Authoritative, Resourceful, Calm, dependent

NATIONAL NURSES WEEK
May 6-12



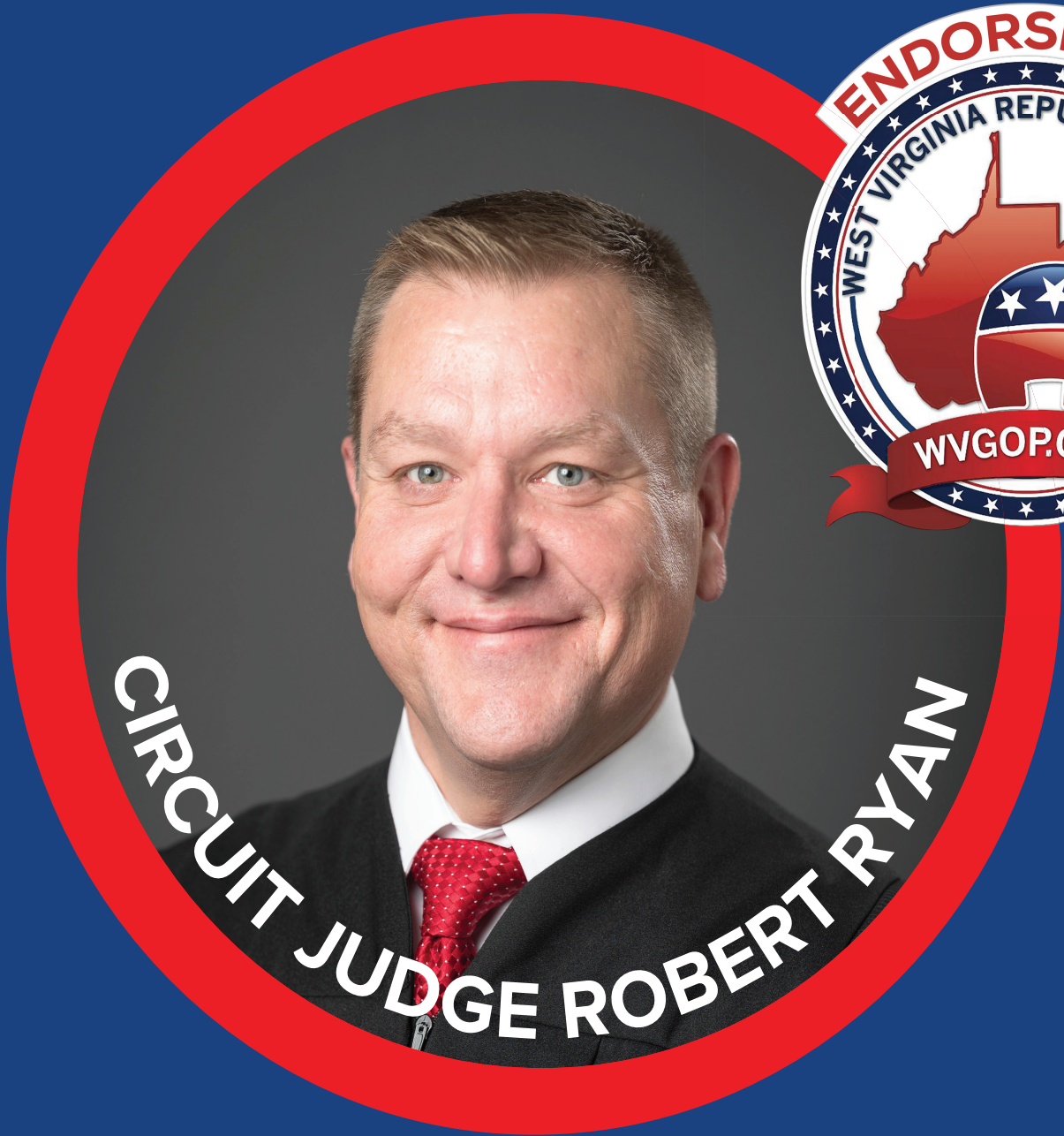
WVU Medicine Grant Memorial Hospital is joining the American Nurses Association in celebrating National Nurses Week 2024 May 6-12, and throughout May. This year's theme, "Nurses Make the Difference," honors the incredible nurses who embody the spirit of compassion and care in every healthcare setting.



For more information on WVU Medicine, visit WVUMedicine.org.

keepjudgeryan.com

VOTE TO KEEP JUDGE ROBERT RYAN



- TRADITIONAL VALUES CHRISTIAN
- LAW & ORDER
- CONSTITUTIONAL CONSERVATIVE
- APPOINTED BY GOVERNOR JIM JUSTICE
- ENDORSED BY WV REPUBLICAN PARTY*

*Non-partisan race



ELECTION DAY IS MAY 14

EARLY VOTING IS

UNDERWAY

**KEEP
JUDGE RYAN**

TOUGH. FAIR. HARDWORKING.



Health dept. May schedule

HOURS: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. but closed from 12 - 12:30 p.m. Phone: 304-257-4922 www.grantcountyhealthdepartment.com

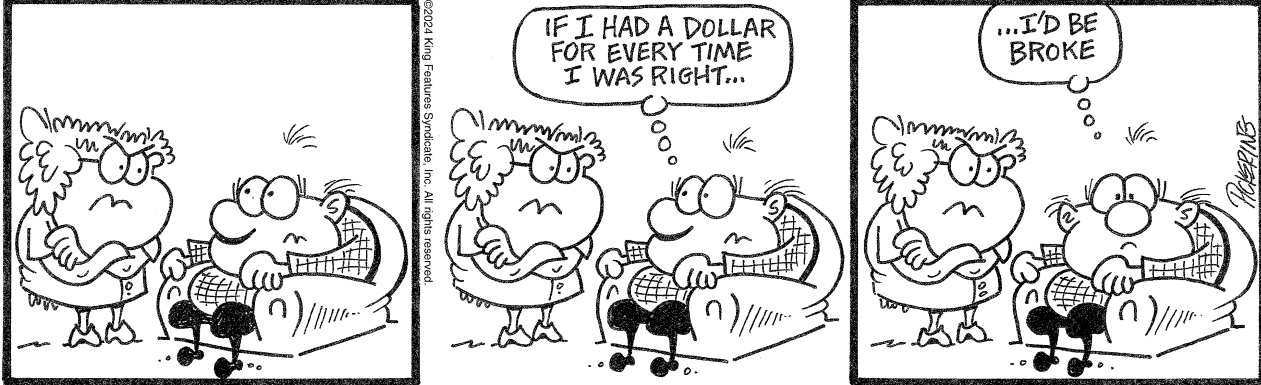
Mother's Day is Sunday, May 12

EVANS CUSTOM SIDING Vinyl Siding Replacement Windows Building Renovations Shingle & Metal Roofs 304-749-7018

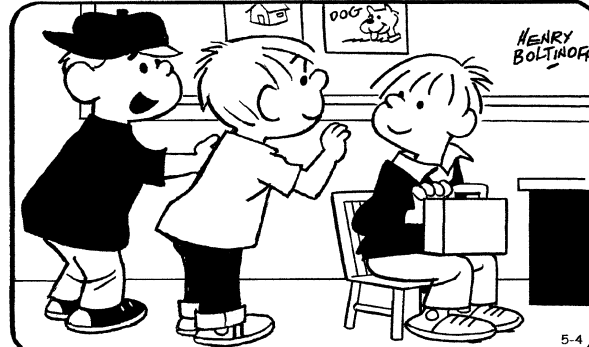
CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc.

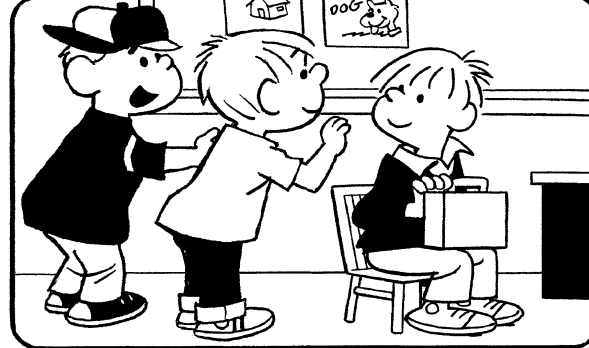
The Spats



HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTING



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Desk is moved. 2. Chalkboard isn't as wide. 3. Stripe is added to sleeve. 4. Cap is different. 5. Chair rung is higher. 6. Sneakers are different.

LEGAL S • LEGAL S • LEGAL S • LEGAL S • LEGAL S • LEGAL S • LEGAL S • LEGAL S • LEGAL S • LEGAL S • LEGAL S • LEGAL S • LEGAL S • LEGAL S • LEGAL S • LEGAL S

OFFICIAL BALLOT OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Table with 3 columns: Instructions to Voter, Primary Election, and May 14, 2024. It lists various candidates for judicial officers, state and county tickets, and other positions.

OFFICIAL LEVY BALLOT

OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR ADDITIONAL SCHOOL LEVY BOARD OF EDUCATION GRANT COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA LEVY ELECTION TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024

Special election to authorize additional levies for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2025, July 1, 2026, July 1, 2027, July 1, 2028, and July 1, 2029, and for the purposes of maintaining and improving the instructional programs...

a. General Maintenance, Improvements, and Equipment: Including, but not limited to, UEC track addition, PHS track replacement, UEC stage replacement, extra-curricular complex at PHS, PES gym floor replacement, upgrade PHS football field lighting, classroom addition at MES, and other related expenses.

b. Safety and Security: Including, but not limited to, aides on ALL school buses, School Resources Officers (4) with benefits, interior security gates for PHS and UEC, metal/vape detectors at PHS and UEC, Safe School entrance at PHS, and other related expenses.

c. Curriculum and Instruction: Provide funding to include, but not limited to, additional curriculum and instructionally related items for STEAM (science labs); materials and supplies for South Branch Career & Technical Center, band and music, technology upgrades, and other related expenses.

d. Civic and Community Organizations: Including, but not limited to, community libraries in Petersburg and Mount Storm; 4-H, and other related expenses.

e. Athletic Passes: All Grant County residents will have free admission to ALL Grant County Schools Athletic Contests, and other related expenses.

f. Class Size Reduction: Allow funding for up to two (2) professional educators and two (2) service educators with benefits to combat overages at county schools, and other related expenses.

TOTAL APPROXIMATE NET ANNUAL AMOUNT NEEDED AFTER DUE ALLOWANCES FOR DELINQUENT TAXES, DISCOUNTS, AND EXONERATIONS: \$1,987,500

Should any item in the aforementioned purposes be declared unconstitutional or invalid due to judicial or legislative action, affected funds will be distributed among remaining unaffected items.

The Board of Education of the County of Grant may, if the Board deems it to be in its best interests, reduce these said rates in any given year or years during the term of this levy after determining the sufficiency of funds for school purposes for the next ensuing taxable year.

OFFICIAL LEVY BALLOT

noted for the aforementioned purposes, the Board of Education expenditures may be reduced in any particular category or categories, as may be required.

In the event the Board of Education of the County of Grant shall obtain additional money, by grant or otherwise, from the state or federal government or from any agency of either, or from any other source, for the purposes aforesaid, such additional money may be used either in substitution for, or in addition to, the sums obtained from such additional levies as said Board of Education of the County of Grant may from time to time determine.

The approval on February 27, 2024, of an additional levy for each \$100.00 assessed valuation of property shall be 4.95 cents on Class I property; 9.9 cents on Class II property; 19.8 cents on Class III property; and 19.8 cents on Class IV property.

FOR THE LEVY
AGAINST THE LEVY
INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: To vote in favor of the additional levy, darken the oval next to "FOR THE LEVY". To vote against the levy, darken the oval next to "AGAINST THE LEVY".

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA GRANT COUNTY, TO-WIT:

We, Greg Bible, Frances Kessel, and Lora Bennett, Ballot Commissioners of Grant County, West Virginia, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete Official Ballot of Candidates to be voted at the Primary Election for the Democratic Party to be held on May 14, 2024, as the same was prepared from the Certified List furnished

by the Secretary of State and the Official List of Candidates from the Candidates Certificate of Announcement for 2024 Elections.

Given under our hands this 23rd day of April, 2024

Lora A. Bennett Greg Bible Frances Kessel

By Lucie Winborne

• If you sign up for the National Do Not Call Registry, anyone who places a sales call to your number

can be fined up to \$40,654 per call.

- Asian hair grows 30% faster than Caucasian hair.
- The rainbow eucalyptus tree sheds strips of bark as it grows, revealing

a green inner layer that changes color over time, taking on vibrant blue, purple and orange hues.

- In much of the U.S. it is illegal to buy a new car directly from the manufacturer.
- Japanese scientists successfully created an MRI machine that can record dreams and reconstruct them for you

to watch while you're awake.

- In 1818, the U.S. began building a fort near the New York-Quebec border to defend against invasions from Canada. After two years they realized the fort was actually on the Canadian side. The abandoned project was appropriately named Fort Blunder.
- Blue-eyed people have the highest rate of alcohol dependence.

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Just Like Cats & Dogs

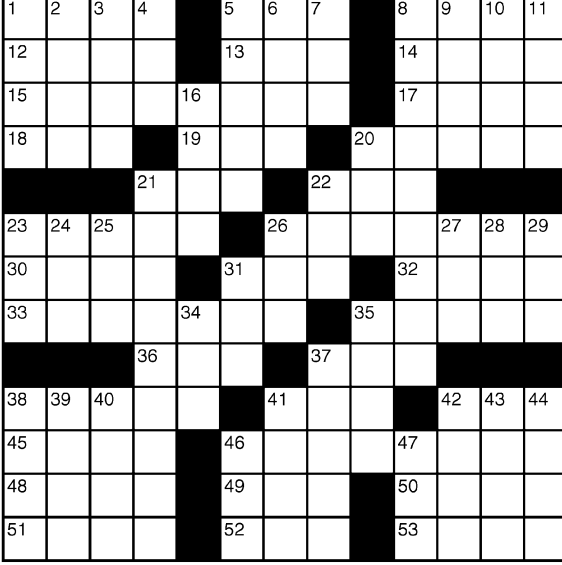
by Dave T. Phipps



King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Flair
- 5 Enterprise letters
- 8 Stuffing herb
- 12 Taunt
- 13 Aussie hopper
- 14 Hockey legend Phil, to fans
- 15 Home of the Packers
- 17 Compared to
- 18 Congeal
- 19 Sturdy tree
- 20 Spassky's game
- 21 --Manuel Miranda
- 22 Huge
- 23 Bottom
- 26 Fear-stricken
- 30 "E Pluribus --"
- 31 Blue hue
- 32 Lighten
- 33 Arty area
- 35 Hinder
- 36 Sailor
- 37 Soda container
- 38 Norwegian inlet
- 41 "It's c-c-cold!"
- 42 Right angle
- 45 Actress Russo
- 46 Chinese brew
- 48 Diminutive suffix



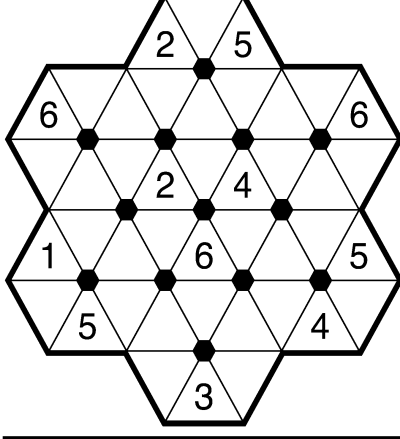
- 49 Mosquito barrier
- 50 Cupid's alias
- 51 Thames town
- 52 Multipurpose truck
- 53 Compass point
- 9 Tennis champ Arthur
- 10 Transcript stats
- 11 Eternities
- 16 Dark film genre
- 20 Spy org.
- 21 Color named for a fruit
- 22 Journalist Nellie
- 23 Gist
- 24 Year in Spain
- 25 "Gee, ya think?"
- 26 Alias abbr.
- 27 Yoga pad
- 28 Jargon suffix
- 29 Aachen article
- 31 Bro or sis
- 34 '60s chic
- 35 Challenge
- 37 El Greco's birthplace
- 38 Gratis
- 39 Joan of rock
- 40 Aware of
- 41 Author Harte
- 42 To be, in Toulon
- 43 Some July babies
- 44 Endure
- 46 Wildebeest
- 47 Up-to-date

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SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:

- ◆ Easy
- ◆◆ Medium
- ◆◆◆ Difficult

(c) 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

Accepting Applications

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR/MECHANIC

The Tucker County Solid Waste Authority is accepting applications for the position of Equipment Operator/ Mechanic.

Applicants must have a minimum of three years' experience. Salary is based on experience, full-time position with full benefits — fully paid family health insurance, dental and eye insurance, paid vacation, paid sick leave, state retirement and paid holidays off.

Duties include operating equipment, heavy equipment repairs, assisting in site maintenance and clean-up.

To request an application, email us at tcswa@frontiernet.net, call 304-259-4867 or stop by the office located at 284 Landfill Road, Davis, WV.

Applications accepted until the position is filled. *The Tucker County Solid Waste Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

LEGALS • LEGALS • LEGALS • LEGALS • LEGALS • LEGALS • LEGALS • LEGALS • LEGALS • LEGALS • LEGALS • LEGALS • LEGALS • LEGALS • LEGALS • LEGALS • LEGALS

OFFICIAL BALLOT OF THE MOUNTAIN PARTY

Grant County, WV

Primary Election

May 14, 2024

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER To vote you must darken the oval (●) completely next to the candidate or issue of your choice.		OFFICIAL NONPARTISAN BALLOT OF ELECTION OF JUDICIAL OFFICERS		COUNTY TICKET
NATIONAL TICKET	FOR PRESIDENT (Vote for ONE)	<input type="radio"/> CHARLES S. TRUMP IV Berkeley Springs Morgan Co.		FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER (Vote for ONE)
		<input type="radio"/> JILL STEIN Lexington, MA		NO CANDIDATE(S) FILED
FOR U.S. SENATOR (Vote for ONE)	FOR U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 2ND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT (Vote for ONE)	<input type="radio"/> ELGINE HECETA MCARDLE Wheeling Ohio Co.		FOR PROSECUTING ATTORNEY (Vote for ONE)
		<input type="radio"/> S. RYAN WHITE Charleston Kanawha Co.		NO CANDIDATE(S) FILED
FOR GOVERNOR (Vote for ONE)	FOR SECRETARY OF STATE (Vote for ONE)	<input type="radio"/> MYCHAL S. SCHULZ Charleston Kanawha Co.		FOR SHERIFF (Vote for ONE)
		<input type="radio"/> NIC JAMES Ridgeley Mineral Co.		NO CANDIDATE(S) FILED
FOR AUDITOR (Vote for ONE)	FOR TREASURER (Vote for ONE)	<input type="radio"/> ROBERT RYAN Maysville Grant Co.		FOR ASSESSOR (Vote for ONE)
		<input type="radio"/> JASON R. SITES Maysville Grant Co.		NO CANDIDATE(S) FILED
FOR COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE (Vote for ONE)	FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL (Vote for ONE)	<input type="radio"/> DOUG LAMBERT Petersburg Milroy Dist.		FOR SURVEYOR (Vote for ONE)
		<input type="radio"/> EMORY "BILL" FEASTER JR. Petersburg Grant Co.		NO CANDIDATE(S) FILED
FOR STATE SENATOR 14TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT (Vote for ONE)	FOR MEMBER OF HOUSE OF DELEGATES 85TH DELEGATE DISTRICT (Vote for ONE)	<input type="radio"/> CHASE LINKO-LOOPER Saint Albans Kanawha Co.		FOR SHERIFF (Vote for ONE)
		<input type="radio"/> FRANKIE WEESE Maysville		NO CANDIDATE(S) FILED
OFFICIAL NONPARTISAN BALLOT OF ELECTION OF JUDICIAL OFFICERS	NONPARTISAN BALLOT OF ELECTION OF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA - DIVISION 1 (Vote for ONE)	<input type="radio"/> CHARLES SHREVE Keyser Union Dist.		OFFICIAL NONPARTISAN BALLOT OF ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE GRANT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
		<input type="radio"/> BARB DIBENEDDETTO Petersburg Grant Dist.		<p>Special election to authorize additional levies for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2025, July 1, 2026, July 1, 2027, July 1, 2028, and July 1, 2029, and for the purposes of maintaining and improving the instructional programs and the operation of school services in Grant County, according to the Order of the Board of Education of the County of Grant entered on the 27th day of February 2024, including, but not limited to:</p> <p>a. General Maintenance, Improvements, and Equipment: Including, but not limited to, UEC track addition, PHS track replacement, UEC stage replacement, extra-curricular complex at PHS, PES gym floor replacement, upgrade PHS football field lighting, classroom addition at MES, and other related expenses. APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$522,000</p> <p>b. Safety and Security: Including, but not limited to, aides on ALL school buses, School Resources Officers (4) with benefits, interior security gates for PHS and UEC, metal/vape detectors at PHS and UEC, Safe School entrance at PHS, and other related expenses. APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$935,000</p> <p>c. Curriculum and Instruction: Provide funding to include, but not limited to, additional curriculum and instructional related items for STEAM (science labs); materials and supplies for South Branch Career & Technical Center, band and music, technology upgrades, and other related expenses. APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$174,000</p> <p>d. Civic and Community Organizations: Including, but not limited to, community libraries in Petersburg and Mount Storm; 4-H, and other related expenses. APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$15,000</p> <p>e. Athletic Passes: All Grant County residents will have free admission to ALL Grant County Schools Athletic Contests, and other related expenses. APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$107,500</p> <p>f. Class Size Reduction: Allow funding for up to two (2) professional educators and two (2) service educators with benefits to combat overages at county schools, and other related expenses. APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$234,000</p> <p>TOTAL APPROXIMATE NET ANNUAL AMOUNT NEEDED AFTER DUE ALLOWANCES FOR DELINQUENT TAXES, DISCOUNTS, AND EXONERATIONS: \$1,987,500</p> <p>Should any item in the aforementioned purposes be declared unconstitutional or invalid due to judicial or legislative action, affected funds will be distributed among remaining unaffected items.</p> <p>The Board of Education of the County of Grant may, if the Board deems it to be in its best interests, reduce these said rates in any given year or years during the term of this levy after determining the sufficiency of funds for school purposes for the next ensuing taxable year. The Board of Education of the County of Grant is hereby authorized and empowered to expend, during the term of this levy, the surplus, if any, accruing in excess of the amounts needed for any of the above stated purposes, plus excess collections due to increased assessed valuations to enrich, supplement, and improve the educational services and/or facilities in the public schools of the County of Grant. In the event that the amount collected is less than the amounts</p>
NONPARTISAN BALLOT OF ELECTION OF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA - DIVISION 2 (Vote for ONE)	FOR STATE SENATOR 14TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT (Vote for ONE)	<input type="radio"/> CODY PANCAKE Keyser Mineral Co.		
		<input type="radio"/> WILLARD "BOOG" EARLE II Maysville Grant Co.		NO CANDIDATE(S) FILED
COUNTY TICKET	FOR CIRCUIT CLERK - UNEXPIRED TERM (Vote for ONE)	<input type="radio"/> FRANKIE WEESE Maysville		NO CANDIDATE(S) FILED
		<input type="radio"/> FRANKIE WEESE Maysville		VOTE BOTH SIDES
POLL CLERKS	POLL CLERKS			

OFFICIAL LEVY BALLOT	OFFICIAL LEVY BALLOT
OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR ADDITIONAL SCHOOL LEVY BOARD OF EDUCATION GRANT COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA LEVY ELECTION TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024	noted for the aforementioned purposes, the Board of Education expenditures may be reduced in any particular category or categories, as may be required.
In the event the Board of Education of the County of Grant shall obtain additional money, by grant or otherwise, from the state or federal government or from any agency of either, or from any other source, for the purposes aforesaid, such additional money may be used either in substitution for, or in addition to, the sums obtained from such additional levies as said Board of Education of the County of Grant may from time to time determine.	
The approval on February 27, 2024, of an additional levy for each \$100.00 assessed valuation of property shall be 4.95 cents on Class I property; 9.9 cents on Class II property; 19.8 cents on Class III property; and 19.8 cents on Class IV property.	
<input type="radio"/> FOR THE LEVY	<input type="radio"/> AGAINST THE LEVY
INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: To vote in favor of the additional levy, darken the oval next to "FOR THE LEVY". To vote against the levy, darken the oval next to "AGAINST THE LEVY".	

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA GRANT COUNTY, TO-WIT:

We, Greg Bible, Frances Kessel, and Lora Bennett, Ballot Commissioners of Grant County, West Virginia, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete Official Ballot of Candidates to be voted at the Primary Election for the Mountain Party to be held on May 14, 2024, as the same was prepared from the Certified List furnished

by the Secretary of State and the Official List of Candidates from the Candidates Certificate of Announcement for 2024 Elections.

Given under our hands this 23rd day of April, 2024
Lora A. Bennett Greg Bible Frances Kessel

Elect Jason SITES



For Grant & Mineral County Circuit Judge





BORN AND RAISED


VOTE SITES FOR JUDGE


As May 14, 2024 draws near, I am sure that you are tired of hearing why each candidate believes they are the best choice. In the courtroom self-serving statements do not carry as much weight as statements from dis-interested eye witnesses. Below you can see what others are saying about me in their own words. These are things they have observed and opinions they have about me. The comments are based upon actions.
I believe Actions speak louder than words!


Quotes from citizens and leaders in the community:


 "Jason has served me as an attorney and he is a blessing. He is thorough and cares about his client's needs. He is the best attorney I know. What impresses me most is that we pray together before we begin the task each time. I am thankful for Jason Sites." **Rusty Fout, Accountant**


 "Jason Sites is a sensible Christian man. His strong family testifies to his consistent, dedicated, conscientious lifestyle."
Pastor Lynn Durbin


 "Jason's understanding of the law and common-sense approach would be a benefit to the litigants and make him an excellent Judge. He has always served his community. The community would receive a greater service with him on the bench." **Mayor Gary A. Michael, City of Petersburg**


 "Jason is very knowledgeable in the law and has a great work ethic. He is always patient and his communication skills enable all to understand the issues. Jason is an asset to the community and would be an outstanding Judge." **James E. Wilson, Jr., former Grant County Commissioner**


 "Jason was my savior in little league basketball. Anytime I need help or a referee he was one phone call away. He was a special referee that would take time to educate the athletes so they could learn from their mistakes. His dedication to fairness would make him a perfect Judge." **Darlene Yokum**


 "I have known Jason for years and served with him on the Hospital Board. His ability to navigate through complicated matters and desire to educate those around him is impressive. I have no doubt with his work ethic and skills that he will be a great Judge."
Dr. Stephen C. Thomson, DO


 "I have over 30 years in law enforcement. Jason's knowledge of the law and ability to articulate that knowledge in a fair and practical manor is remarkable. He is a well-rounded attorney with a spirit to volunteer making him a valued member of the community." **Tom Golden, Retired DEA**


 "I have known Jason for years. He has helped a lot of our local fire departments with loans, by-laws and other matters. He attends meetings and offers ideas to assist with our efforts. Whenever we need him he is there. Jason gives of himself to our communities." **Chad Lindsay**


 "Jason has a lifelong history of excellence in the courtroom and the community. He provides significant pro bono legal services to the municipalities, fire department and religious organizations. Mr. Sites is the only choice for Judge." **A Quote from a letter to State Officials last year authored by R.D. Barnes, Chair of MCREC**


 When I first met Jason he was representing the City of Piedmont in their case against the PSC to keep public water for the citizens. I was impressed with his level of competency. To later learn he represents Mineral County, other Municipalities and Fire Departments pro bono was unbelievable! Truly a servant leader serving the people!
Delegate Rick Hillenbrand


 "With a willingness to learn and an unmatched ability to communicate, Jason's professionalism is clear and precise. While his legal ability is impressive, his leadership and community involvement is beyond compare. His passion for making the community better makes him an asset to both Grant and Mineral County. Both Counties would be well served with Jason as our Judge."
Scotty W. Miley, Grant County Commission.


 "Jason believes the skillset student athletes learn in sport helps them in adulthood. He can motivate players. As the Varsity Girl's Soccer Coach, I relied on Jason as my coaching mentor and treasured the motivational speeches he gave my players every game. His dynamic ability to get the most out of somebody would be a great skillset on the bench."
Garrett Willis, PHS Soccer Coach


 "I have known Jason for over 20 years. He is constantly volunteering his time to help local municipalities and fire departments. He has been a benefit to them and to the County Government with his counsel. Jason's expert legal ability, commitment to make Mineral County a better place, his community involvement and his impeccable character make him the right choice for Judge."
Jerry Whisner, Mineral County Commissioner


 "Lawyers, Police and Judges alike admire Jason's legal knowledge and skill. He has been a blessing to the Town of Ridgeley and we have made great accomplishments with him on our team. He is a strong leader and isn't afraid to make tough decisions that may not always be popular. His fairness and understanding would be an asset to the bench and would greatly serve our community."
Mayor William Shepherd, Town of Ridgeley


 "Jason has been our City Attorney for many years. He is committed to the City and always goes above and beyond. He has helped our City in ways you cannot imagine. Jason would be a tremendous asset to the courtroom and would help the community as he has helped our city." **Mayor Paula Boggs, City of Piedmont.**

 "I have witnessed Jason many times in the Courtroom. His decorum and abilities are to be complimented. He is respected by law enforcement. He exceeds expectations to see the judicial system improve. He has been a great help to local fire departments. It would be an honor to have him serve the community as their Judge." **Mike Lott**

 "Jason is always willing to support the local community youth and schools. He has been Judging Social Studies Fair for years. He speaks to our students about the practice of law and educates them on the Bill of Rights. Jason has a deep and sincere passion for serving his community, improving opportunity for our youth and giving back to the citizens of the area."
Tommy Nester, KMS Teacher

 "I have known Jason for over 20 years. I have listened to him discuss the law with Judge Nelson on many occasions. I am always impressed with his knowledge of the law and ability to recall the specifics. His application of the law is always fair and appropriate. His passion for the law and the community are sincere. He is respected by law enforcement and Judges for his courtroom ability. Jason would be a great candidate to serve the community as Judge." **Roy "Bucky" Whiteman, Jr.**

 "Jason and I have been judging Social Studies fair together for years. We became instant friends through our shared desire to help these young students. Our friendship has grown through our shared faith in God. Jason helped me adopt my daughter and made the process more special than words can express. I was honored when he asked me to be his Treasurer, I believe in him because we both have a servant's heart. If you attend an event, you will see Jason cleaning tables or carrying trash, he doesn't look for the spotlight. I know he is sincere in his dedication to serve the public. Actions speak louder than words. His compassion and grace make him the type of Judge we need."
TJ Coleman

 "I have known Jason his entire life and had the pleasure of watching him grow into an accomplished professional. In my decades of law enforcement, I have witnessed many Attorneys in State and Federal Court. I have never seen anyone more capable than Jason Sites when it comes to knowing the law and the ability to represent his clients. It would be my honor to vote for and support Jason Sites for Judge and I assure you he will be an excellent Judge."
Doug Fletcher, Retired Lieutenant with the West Virginia State Police and Ex-Sheriff of Grant County.

**Please vote for Jason R. Sites on May 14.
I would like the opportunity to SERVE YOU as YOUR LOCAL JUDGE.**

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