



Attorney General  
Morrisey Issues  
Statement  
Following  
Court-Ordered  
Temporary  
Restraining Order  
Against NCAA  
Transfer Rule

CHARLESTON W.Va. (Hinton News) — West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey issued a statement following a federal court ruling Wednesday granting a temporary restraining order against the NCAA, barring the association from enforcing its transfer rule.

The U.S. District Court for the Northern District of West Virginia in Wheeling issued a temporary restraining order for 14 days.

“This order paves the way for student athletes, like RaeQuan Battle, to play in the sport they love and continue improving themselves,” Attorney General Morrisey said. “We are looking forward to proving definitively that the NCAA has violated the Sherman Act by failing to maintain a consistent and defensible transfer rule and by denying these student athletes the chance to play.”

Attorney General Morrisey, working with a bipartisan coalition of seven states, sued the NCAA, challenging its Transfer Eligibility Rule. The lawsuit comes on the heels of the NCAA’s decision to deny Battle a transfer waiver so he can play basketball for West Virginia University.

Battle testified in support of the temporary restraining order at the hearing Wednesday.

The Attorney General said restraining transfers by hundreds of student-athletes each year violates the antitrust laws by depriving them of the chance to pursue the athletic and educational opportunities of their choice. Those missed opportunities are often tied to name, image and likeness agreements that in turn provide substantial commercial benefits to athletes at Division I institutions like WVU.

Alderson Store holds annual Holiday Children’s Book Drive

Annette Slonaker  
ALDERSON W.Va. (Hinton News) - The annual Holiday Children’s Book Drive is spearheaded by Sarah Alderson, fourth-generation owner of the amazing Alderson Store. She shares credit with a former employee who had the idea to give some of the books the store sells, to children.

“We commit to reaching our goals of putting West Virginia books in the hands of local children,” says Alderson.

For six and a half years she has worked tirelessly to reach as many children as possible. With your generous help, hundreds of children are connected to their heritage, one page at a time.

The book drive provides brand-new, West Virginia authored books to Alderson and Ronceverte elementary children, each Christmas. On the last day of school before the holiday break, Santa visits the schools and every student receives this precious gift. There are over 600 books researched, gathered, and distributed which is a huge undertaking. Alderson gives so much of

her own time to this endeavor, beyond working her monumental store.

Her goal is to match West Virginia authors’ content, to the specific reading ability of each child. Not only is this a difficult yet satisfying feat, but due to the sparsity of West Virginia authors, Alderson searches for age-appropriate material beyond picture books, for children with different reading abilities. This double-edged effort supports the authors’ reach and allows children to hold a brand-new book of their own. Some books she finds are available for purchase at other small businesses. “I enjoy helping out other small businesses as well” reported Alderson. Others are found at large publishing houses.

More and more titles are found each year, which is a charming situation. More and more West Virginia authors planting seeds for more, future West Virginia Authors! In today’s world of inundating screen times and virtual worlds, instilling the love of reading by giving books is a gift in itself.

Alderson could use your help as 352 more



Photo provided by Alderson Store.

books are needed by Dec. 20 to ensure that every child receives a book. And no child is ever left without one. Choices range from “Green Bank Science Activity Book, Maple Leaf Adventure, Cass Railroad Fun Book, Adirondack Colors & Activities (Mountaineer Series), Color Me A Mountaineer, Holiday Magic On the Farm, Every Living Thing, Counting on Katherine” to many, many more! Children love to read about and engage with their own state or town with a book called ‘My Stocking of Joy’ which is derived from the Ronceverte Fire Department’s stocking giveaway each Christmas. Chapter books such as “Hidden Figures, Holler of the Fireflies, and John Brown’s Raid” are also available for purchase for more advanced readers.

How to be a part of this magic? You may stop into The Alderson Store located at 320 N. Monroe St., Alderson, Wv 24910 and purchase a book or two or six, that will be given to a child in one of the two elementary schools. Another goal is to reach more schools and children. You may also follow Alderson on Facebook to send book requests & payments, use PayPal to order at j.malder-sonstore@gmail.com, or send a check to P.O. Box 594 Alderson, Wv 24910. You may also call the store at 304-445-2851 for more information. The books average about \$10 each. As for any West Virginia authors, she gladly accepts your books to donate! If you are or know of such, please reach out to Sarah Alderson.

Matthew Keaton set to appear in court again in the new year

Rebecca Stalnaker  
HINTON W.Va. (Hinton News) - A Summers County man, Matthew Keaton, 31, of Pipestem, was arrested in October of 2021. He has since been charged with sexual assault and strangulation of multiple

victims. Reportedly, all of the victims knew Keaton and were of differing ages. More accusations continued to come in following Keaton’s arrest. He recently had a status hearing, where he appeared virtually before Judge Irons. Now, he is set to

have another status hearing on Jan. 24, 2024, at 10 a.m. Keaton is currently in Southern Regional Jail where is being held without bond.

According to reports, during Keaton’s status hearing on Dec. 13, Keaton’s attorneys, Troy Gia-

tris and Derrick Lefler, asked the judge to reinstate his bond and put him on home confinement. Action for this request was deferred by Judge Irons after he received a letter detailing why Keaton is not fit for that particular program, from a home

confinement official.

In addition to the charges in Summers County, Keaton also faces similar charges in Mercer County.

1. Hinton News will continue to follow this case and provide updates as they become available.

Healthy Holidays

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# SCCOA December Menu and Activities

## DECEMBER ACTIVITIES 2023

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
4 "MAKING HEALTHY CHOICES" KELLY ELKINS ARH 10:00 A.M.  BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR ERNE MOYE 11:00 A.M.	5  MINUTE TO WIN IT W/ PRINCESS VANNOY, C.D.M. AETNA MEDICARE SOLUTIONS 10:00 AM  SUMMERS COUNTY SENIOR CENTER QUILTERS 10:00 A.M.	6  BINGO AND SINGING W/ PETE TABOR 10:00 A.M.	7 GLUCO CHECK WITH CRYSTAL FROM SCARH AND BLOOD PRESSURE W/ LIZ GOODSON 9:30 A.M.  BINGOCIZE VARIATION 10:30 A.M.	1  BIRTHDAY PARTY W/ CHRISTMAS MUSIC 11:00 A.M.
11  CHRISTMAS MOVIE PRANCER 9:45 A.M.	12  BINGO 10:00 A.M.  ACTIVE FOR LIFE W/ LESLIE SEARS 11:00 A.M.	13 BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR GARY TROUT 11:00 AM.  CRAFTING WITH KATHY  BLUEFIELD LIGHTS SUMMERS COUNTY SENIOR CENTER QUILTERS 10:00 A.M.	14  BINGO 10:00 A.M.  NOODLE BALL 10:45 A.M.	15  BINGO 10:00 A.M.  BOARD GAMES 10:45 AM  BELTONE HEARING AIDS W/ MARSHA ROARK 9:30 - 2 IN THE BASEMENT
18  NOODLE BALL 10:00 A.M.  BINGO 10:45 A.M.	19  SENIORS CHRISTMAS PARTY & GIFT EXCHANGE 10:00 A.M.	20  BINGO AND SINGING W/ PETE TABOR 10 A.M.	21  DRUMBALL 10:00 A.M.  ACTIVE FOR LIFE W/ LESLIE SEARS 11:00 A.M.	22  CRAFTING WITH KATHY 9:30 A.M.  CHRISTMAS MESSAGE W/ ROBBIE MERRITT 11:00 A.M.

## MENU FOR DECEMBER 2023

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
4  PORK BBQ SANDWICH COLES SLAW STEAK FRIES BANANA MILK	5  BEEF STEAK W/ MUSHROOM & ONIONS CALIFORNIA BLEND SWEET POTATO WHEAT BREAD MIXED FRUIT MILK	6  LASAGNA TOSSED SALAD WHEAT BREAD APPLE JUICE MILK	7  CHICKEN TENDERS MASHED POTATOES PEAS WHEAT BREAD PEARS MILK	1  HAM SWEET POTATO CASSEROLE GREEN BEANS WHEAT BREAD PEACHES MILK
11  CHICKEN SANDWICH W/ LETTUCE & TOMATO SWEET POTATO FRIES PEACHES MILK	12  TACO SALAD TORTILLA CHIPS PEARS MILK	13  MEAT LOAF MASHED POTATOES GREEN BEANS WHEAT BREAD APPLESAUCE MILK	14  BEEF TIPS OVER NOODLES BROCCOLI CARROTS WHEAT BREAD FRUIT JUICE MILK	15  PORK CHOPS BROCCOLI CARROTS WHEAT BREAD MIXED FRUIT MILK
18  PINTO BEANS COLLARD GREENS TOMATOES CORNBREAD MANDARIN ORANGES MILK	19  HOT DOGS BAKED BEANS COLESLAW BANANA MILK	20  SPAGHETTI TOSSED SALAD WHEAT BREAD PEACHES MILK	21  CHICKEN AND DUMPLINGS PEAS CORN WHEAT BREAD PEARS MILK	22  TURKEY MASHED POTATOES GREEN BEANS DRESSING WHEAT BREAD PEACHES MILK

# Friends of the Summers County Public Library to hold meeting

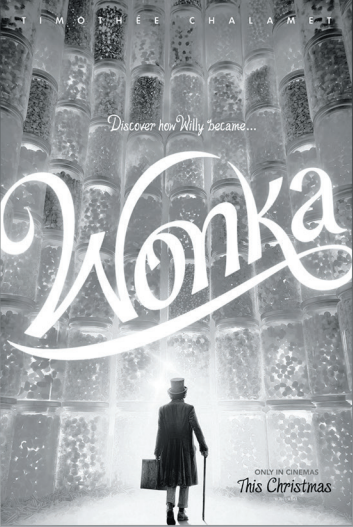
HINTON W.Va. (Hinton News) -The Friends of the Summers County Public Library will meet on Jan. 9, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. at the Library. Anyone interested in becoming a member of

this group of library supporters and participating in the many projects that the Friends organize and promote on behalf of our local library is encouraged to attend.


FRI 7PM • SAT 4PM & 7PM • SUN 2PM • MON 7PM

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7PM Dec 14



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# Community Obituaries



## Beverly Dawn McGraw MCGRAW

We are sad to announce the passing of Beverly Dawn McGraw of Gainesboro, TN. Beverly died peacefully on December 8th, surrounded by her closest family.

She lived her life exactly as she wanted - living independently and gracefully in her home on top of a mountain. Beverly passed on, confident that she was going on to a better place, where she will surely be reunited with more loved ones.

Beverly Dawn McGraw was born June 9, 1949, in Hinton, WV, and she passed away on Friday, December 8, 2023, at Cookeville Regional Medical Center at the age of 74.

She was the daughter of

Arthur Harold McGraw, Jr. and Rozella Taylor McGraw Perry. Mrs. McGraw was a retired RN and attended the Divine Savior Catholic Mission in Celina.

She was preceded in death by her parents, as well as her husband, Patrick Stephen Smith, who passed away on November 16, 2014.

Survivors include her daughter, Amy Shore of New York, NY; son, Jeff Shore of Melbourne, FL; stepchildren, Mark Smith of Hendersonville, TN, Steven Smith of Toledo, OH, and Yvonne Goodwin of Whitehouse, OH; special friend, Shawn Spohn; grandchildren, Sid, Lila, Abbie, Hannah, and Olivia; 13 step-grandchildren, other relatives, and many friends also survive.

The family has honored her wishes to be cremated and no services are planned.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the Genesis House in Cookeville, TN, by contacting the funeral home.

Anderson Upper Cumberland Funeral Home of Gainesboro, TN, 931-268-1550, is in charge of arrangements.

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Otter and Oak has everything shoppers need this holiday season



Sasquatch products at Otter and Oak. Photo provided by Mountain Plex



Hydro Flask display at Otter and Oak. Photo provided by Mountain Plex

Lisa Abshire

HINTON W.Va. (Hinton News) - If you're looking for a unique hometown shopping experience, then Otter and Oak is the place for you. Located on 302 2nd Avenue in Hinton West Virginia, Otter and Oak is your one stop shop for Christmas.

According to manager Kim Berry, Otter and Oak is in the middle of a sales event for the holiday. Additionally, Otter Cafe, located upstairs in Otter and Oak has added holiday drinks to the menu such as The Grinch and Cindy Lou Who Frappes.

Berry says Sasquatch soaps, smart wool socks and hydro flasks are holiday favorites at Otter and Oak so be sure and pick yours up before it's too late. She also noted that they've brought in special holiday merchandise such as candles, tarts, scarves and gloves. Things to make the perfect gift for anyone on your holiday shopping list.

Berry went on to say her favorite thing to sell is the hydro flasks. She says she owns several and they keep your drinks cold over 24 hours. She takes them hiking all the time so this is an important feature for her.

She noted that she feels like their most unique items are any of the pieces in the Rivertown Art Gallery. It includes prints, originals and pottery from West Virginia artists.

This holiday season, do yourself a favor and check out Otter and Oak for that unique gift.

Otter and Oak can be reached by calling 304-466-4870.

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LEGAL NOTICE

**WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**Division of Highways**  
**NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS**

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service ([www.bidx.com](http://www.bidx.com)) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia until January 17, 2024 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the constructions of the following project(s):  
Call: 002  
Contract: 2021000712  
State Project: S389-STR/IP-24 00  
Federal Project: STP-2024(052)D  
Description: PAVEMENT MARKINGS ROADWAY STRIPING DISTRICT WIDE  
COUNTY: District 9, Nicholas, Greenbrier, Summers, Monroe, Mercer, McDowell, Raleigh, Fayette  
DBE GOAL: 10% OF CONTRACT BID AMOUNT. BIDDER MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCE OF MEETING GOAL ON FORM IN PROPOSAL.  
REMARKS:

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

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

The West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex or national origin in consideration for an award. (20,27de)

# Remaining December meetings in Summers County

SUMMERS COUNTY W.Va. (Hinton News) - Here is a list of meetings occurring in Summers County during December 2023.

Three Rivers Democratic Women - Regular Meeting - Dec. 21 at 5 p.m. on the patio at Kirk's Restaurant.

Summers County Dilapidated Structures Committee - No December meeting.

Summers County Board of Education - Regular Meeting - Dec. 21 at 5 p.m. Call the Board Office for more information.


Summers County Republicans - Regular Meeting - Dec. 26 at 6:30 in the Memorial

Building.

Friends of the Summers County Public Library Book Group - Regular Meeting - Dec. 27 at 7 p.m. in the library.

\*This list is subject to change in accordance with changes, cancelations, and additions.

\*\*If you would like to add a meeting [news@hintonnews.com](mailto:news@hintonnews.com) to this list, contact [com](mailto:com).



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## A.A. meetings in Hinton adds new schedule

HINTON W.Va. (Hinton News) - The Hinton Alcoholics Anonymous group has adopted a new schedule. Beginning immediately, there will be meetings held on Wednesdays at noon and Fridays at 8 p.m. in the

lower level of Ascension Episcopal Church. Both are open meetings.

The entrance to the meeting area is through the rear of the church, which is located at the corner of Temple Street and 5th Avenue (222

5th Avenue). The format of the meeting will be an open discussion of a weekly topic related to alcohol use/abuse.

For more information, please call 304-660-7073 or call the toll free number at 1-800-333-5051.

### Opening The Door: Repentance by Gene Taylor

Since the fall of man in the Garden of Eden, God has been calling upon mankind to repent. Brother H. Leo Boles once commented, "When God shut the gate of paradise to Adam, He opened the door to repentance."

The Bible is filled with the command to repent. The basic task of the prophets, God's spokesmen in times past, was to get the people to repent. Over and over again in their writings is found the command to "repent." The message of Jesus while He was on the earth was one of repentance. "I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3, 5).

Repentance was part of the fundamental message which after the death, burial, resurrection and ascension of Jesus was to be sounded out to Jews and Gentiles in every nation. "Then He said to them, 'These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.' And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Then He said to them, 'Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem'" (Luke 24:44-47). The apostle Paul, while standing on Mars Hill and preaching to the Athenians, said, "Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead" (Acts 17:30-31). The apostle Peter, writing in 2 Peter 3:9, said, "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance."

Jesus emphasized the necessity of repentance when He said that if your hand caused you to sin it would be better to cut it off and have life than to continue to possess it and be lost eternally (Matt. 18:8-9). He was not advocating mutilation of the physical body in this text. Rather, He meant for His hearers to understand that they needed to cut off worldly things from their lives, repenting of them and then abstaining from them.

**Repentance Defined**


Repentance is "the change of mind of those who have begun to abhor their errors and misdeeds, and have determined to enter upon a better course of life, so that it embraces both a recognition of sin and sorrow for it and hearty amendment, the tokens and effects of which are good deeds..." (J.H. Thayer, *Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*, p. 406). W.E. Vine defines it by stating that, "In the New Testament the subject chiefly has reference to repentance from sin, and this change of mind involves both a turning from sin and a turning to God" (*Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words*, p. 963).

Repentance is a turning. In relation to one's spiritual condition, it is turning from sin and the pursuit of sin and turning to God and the pursuit of righteousness. It is the change of mind that causes one to forsake living in and for sin and to desire to live for God and in accordance with His will.

*Continued next week when we will look at how repentance is brought and its motivating factors.*

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Bible Study 10:30  
Worship 11:15  
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30  
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304-466-5907, 304-445-5115, 304-860-7179



**Barry L. Bruce,**  
**Attorney at Law**

*Thanks, Greenbrier, Monroe, Pocahontas and Summers counties*

In 1990, I moved my family to Greenbrier County to open my law practice. For thirty-three years I have been blessed to live here and serve you. I want to thank you for the support you have given me and my family and the kindness you have shown to us.

It has been an honor to have had so many loyal, competent, and trustworthy people working with me to provide legal services to these counties and communities.

Effective December 15, 2023, I will be retiring from the full-time practice of law. I will continue to do wills, powers of attorney, medical powers of attorney, and some Magistrate Court matters.

After January 1, 2024, our office hours will be Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursdays, by appointment only, between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. If you would like your old file, please contact the office to arrange a pick-up time.

*Again, thank you and God Bless you in the years to come.*  
*Barry L. Bruce, Attorney at Law*

**Barry and staff wish you a Merry and Blessed Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!**

CASE NO. 23-0831-E-P  
APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY and  
WHEELING POWER COMPANY,  
Public utilities

Application to increase Environmental Compliance  
Surcharge Rates Currently in Effect

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF CHANGE IN RATES WITH PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE**

NOTICE is hereby given that Appalachian Power Company and Wheeling Power Company, public utilities, (the Companies) filed on October 20, 2023, with the Public Service Commission of West Virginia, an application to update their Environmental Compliance Surcharge (ECS) rates. If approved, the increased rates will apply to electric service to approximately 462,328 customers in cities, towns, villages, unincorporated municipalities, and rural areas in the counties of Boone, Brooke, Cabell, Clay, Fayette, Greenbrier, Jackson, Kanawha, Lincoln, Logan, Marshall, Mason, McDowell, Mercer, Mingo, Monroe, Nicholas, Ohio, Putnam, Raleigh, Roane, Summers, Wayne, Wetzel, and Wyoming.

The proposed increased ECS rates will produce approximately \$37.2 million annually in additional revenue, an increase in total revenue of 1.88%. If approved, the average monthly bill for the various classes of customers will be changed as follows:

	(\$) INCREASE	(%) INCREASE
Residential	\$2.84	1.68%
Commercial	\$7.61	1.81%
Industrial	\$4,795.68	1.94%
Special Contract <sup>2</sup>	\$16,213.55	3.21%
Other	\$0.03	0.18%

<sup>2</sup> Excludes Special Contract customers that are billed standard tariff rates.

The increases shown are based on averages of all customers in the indicated class. Each class may receive an increase or decrease greater or less than stated here. Individual customers may receive increases that are greater or less than average. Furthermore, the requested rates and charges are only a proposal and are subject to change (increases or decreases) by the Public Service Commission in its review of this application. By Order issued November 22, 2023, the Commission suspended the January 1, 2024 proposed effective date of the ECS rate increase, and any increase in rates and charges will not become effective until authorized and approved by the Commission. The Commission has adopted the following procedural schedule

Deadline for intervention	30 days from publication of notice
Deadline for discovery requests	4:00 p.m. Monday, January 8, 2024
Deadline for discovery responses and objections	4:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 23, 2024
Staff and intervenor direct testimony	4:00 p.m. Thursday, February 1, 2024
Rebuttal testimony from all parties	4:00 p.m. Thursday, February 15, 2024
Agreed order of witnesses	4:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 21, 2024
Public Comment Hearing (virtual and in-person) <i>Instructions on how to participate virtually will be in a future press release and on the PSC website</i>	5:30 p.m., February 29, 2024, in the Howard M. Cunningham Hearing Room, Public Service Commission, 201 Brooks St., Charleston, WV
Evidentiary Hearing <i>The Commission may cancel the evidentiary hearing for good cause shown. Interested persons should monitor the Commission webdocket.</i>	9:30 a.m. Thursday, February 29, 2024, in the Howard M. Cunningham Hearing Room, Public Service Commission, 201 Brooks St., Charleston, WV

Anyone desiring to protest should file a written or electronic protest at any time. Anyone desiring to intervene should file a written petition to intervene within thirty days, unless otherwise modified by Commission order. Failure to timely intervene can affect your right to participate in future proceedings. Requests to intervene must comply with the Commission rules on intervention. All protests or requests to intervene should briefly state the reason for the protest or intervention and be addressed to Executive Secretary, Public Service Commission of West Virginia, P. O. Box 812, 201 Brooks St., Charleston, West Virginia 25323. Protests may be filed on line through the Commission website using the "Submit a Comment" link or may be mailed or hand-delivered to the Executive Secretary at the address above.

A copy of the proposed rates is available on the Commission website <https://www.psc.state.wv.us> and may be viewed at the office of the Executive Secretary of the Public Service Commission at 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, West Virginia.

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A Peek at Summers County’s Past: John Henry Memorabilia



The John Henry Stamp created for the USPS. Image provided by William Jones

William Jones

TALCOTT W.Va. (Hinton News) - Editor’s Note: Every week, local history collector William Jones discusses items from his collection and their historical significance. In this edition of A Peek into Summers County’s Past, Jones is talking about John Henry memorabilia.

The small statue seen in the photo is a miniature replica of the 8-foot-tall sculpture that now stands in John Henry Park in Talcott, West Virginia. I have been told that these small statues were one of the items that were sold to raise the funds to have the life-size sculpture placed over the Great Bend Tunnel, where he reportedly died while having a contest with a steam drill during the construction of the tunnel in the 1870s.

I just happened across this, what seems to be a rare piece of local history, while browsing through the catalog of Entrusted Auctions, which was conducting a sale in Roanoke, Virginia. I took a chance, won the winning bid, and had it shipped to my home in Pence Springs.

The only other one of these that I have ever seen sits in Big Four Drug Store in Hinton, West Virginia. While asking Mark Ellison about it he said it belonged to a man named Angotti and had sat there since he started serving the area as a pharmacist in 1976. The original card that came with this piece in 1971 tells about the planned statue of John Henry.

Sculptor Charles O. Cooper of Williamstown Gallery, Williamston Michigan was commissioned by the Hildale-Talcott Ruritan Club to make a life-size statue of John Henry. The card further reads “... is eight feet tall, of bronze and in the spring of 1972 will be placed over the entrance of the Great Bend Tunnel where John Henry died.”

The old red caboose was placed at the right of

the overlook. For years, members of the Ruritan Club sold John Henry memorabilia, which consisted of bumper stickers, salt and pepper shakers and many other items. As well as snacks and candy during the spring, summer and early fall to help raise funds for the road-side park area’s upkeep.

It didn’t take long until John Henry started to be vandalized. The statue was shot in several places. He was dragged off of his pedestal and down Tunnel Hill, which resulted in his being badly damaged. His hammer was stolen once. My father remembers he was struck by a car and damaged. And then the whitewashing that occurred for decades during homecoming. I remember riding the bus to school, and every morning, after all of the roads had been painted, I saw white paint splattered all over his bright black paint.

This ended, for the most part, in 2012 when John Henry was restored. He was relocated inside the John Henry Historical Park and placed in front of the tunnel where the competition occurred. He is no longer whitewashed, but I saw this summer while at the park that he again has a bullet hole in his neck. Vandalism is almost impossible to stop on an iconic structure like the statue, which has a long history of falling victim to it.

Another item that was produced in 1972 to commemorate the statue was a Jim Beam whisky decanter. I have two of them. My grandfather bought them, one for my uncle and one for my mother, Cheryl Jones. He always kept tape on either side of the seal to make sure it was never broken. You can most definitely say the 51-year-old whisky the decanters hold can be called “aged whisky,” ha.

In 1996, the United States Postal Service created a “Folk Heroes” se-



Small John Henry statues. Photo provided by William Jones

ries of stamps. One of which was John Henry. The United States Postal Service’s original plan was to unveil the stamp in Pennsylvania. Bill Dillion, who is now retired from the postal service having served his career as postmaster of the Talcott Post Office advocated for it to be released in Talcott, West Virginia. He worked tirelessly until they agreed to host the unveiling of the stamp in Talcott where the battle that would later make him a folk hero occurred.

Bill served as grand marshall of the John Henry Days parade in 2022. This was very fitting since it was the 25th anniversary of John Henry Days. It was appropriate that Dillion be honored in this way on its “silver jubilee.” Without his dedicated work to bring the stamp release to Talcott,

John Henry Days would have most likely never occurred.

Mighty Casey, Paul Bunyan, John Henry and Pecos Bill were the four figures in this series of stamps. I have a full uncut sheet of the John Henry Stamps that my grandmother Bea Thompson also purchased both size envelopes, placed one of the John Henry stamps on them and then mailed them to herself from the Talcott Post Office so they

would be canceled with Talcott’s stamp. They are now framed and hanging in what will become our short-term rental house in Talcott called “Camp John Henry,” which is decorated with all of the other John Henry and railroad memorabilia I have collected since I was a child, as well as early photographs of Talcott.

If you have a story from Summers County’s history to share, send an email to news@hintonnews.com.



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# Gone, But Not Forgotten...



I'm lost without the two of you. I love you both so much! I counted the cost of serving God, and I knew He must have His way in my life. It can cost you everything. It will be worth it when we see the souls we have helped to be born again into the kingdom of God!

There is such a cloud of witnesses looking down from Heaven. I know you both are cheering me on.

I'm just passing through this world, and it will be my turn some day, and I will reunite with the two of you, and oh, how precious that will be!

Angels will say, "Welcome home. This is where you belong."

God, you are such a loving, Heavenly Father. Without your love within our hearts, we are nothing, and we can do nothing.

God's grace is truly sufficient without you both, and that is what matters.

Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, Ginger and Brandi. I will love like I've never been hurt.

God giveth and God taketh away, but I say: blessed be the name of the Lord.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

It is well with my soul.

Count your blessings. You are just as blessed as you want to be. It is entirely up to you.

You can have just as much of God as you want in your life. You do have to seek Him, while He may be found, and call upon Him, while He is near.

To whom much is given, much is required.

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

God's spirit will not always strive with mankind.

God is long suffering to usward, he is not willing any should perish.

Please show your children much love, each and every day, and don't take them for granted.

Love forever and forever,  
Ma Ma Et Na Na,  
Jewell Whittaker





## Summers County Humane Society searching for sponsors for several dogs

SUMMERS COUNTY W.Va. (Hinton News) - The Summers County Humane Society is search for sponsors to help with the vet costs for some of the dogs they have available for adoption. Stacy McBride, the Foster Coordinator with the Summers County Humane Society said, “We spend about \$200 on vet care for each dog. If I can get a few businesses and friends to sponsor, then we can cover these costs and get these dogs into loving homes. They’ve been in our care for several months. We have an Adoption Event on [Dec.] 27 and I hope to be able to assist with our adoption process.

## Remaining Christmas events in Summers County

SUMMERS COUNTY W.Va. (Hinton News) - Here is a list of the remaining holiday-related activities happening in Summers County. The list is as follows:  
Dec. 21 - 7 p.m. - Free Christmas Movie How the Grinch Stole Christmas at The Ritz.  
Dec. 23-Dec. 24 - City Hall closed.

## Summers County Courthouse News

**Marriages**  
None.

**Fiduciaries**  
Betty Hendrick, Administrator of the James Fancix Snider estate;  
Tracy A. Alderson, Administrator of the James Granville Alderson estate.

**Land Transfers**  
Kayla O’Neal to Tiffany L. Gill, 3 Tracts, Jumping

Branch District;  
David D. Dent to City of Hinton, Real Estate, City of Hinton District;  
Anita Pasquale and Bryan Pasquale to Keith Coyne and Donna Marie Coyne, 5.18 acres more or less, Jumping Branch District;  
Jesse J. Moore to Christopher Forren, Lot Number 85, City of Hinton District.



**HAPPY Holidays!**  
from  
**MHC**  
Monroe Health Center

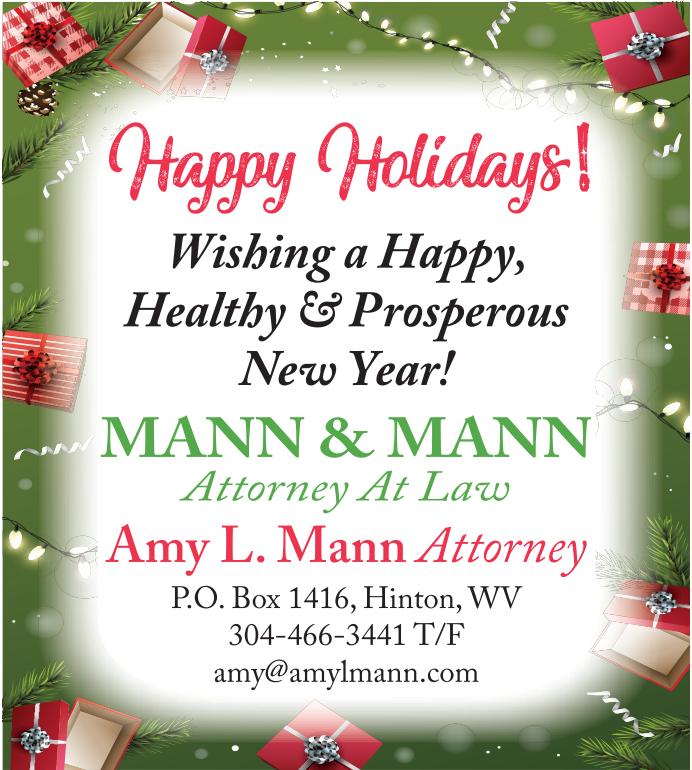
**Wishing All Of Our Patients Health And Happiness, This Holiday Season!**

<b>Union</b> 200 Health Center Drive, Union, WV <b>304-772-3064</b>	<b>Peterstown</b> 2869 Seneca Trail South, Peterstown, WV <b>304-753-4336</b>
<b>Forest Hill</b> 180 Old Schoolhouse Rd., Forest Hill, WV <b>304-466-1152</b>	<b>Craig County, VA</b> 226 Market Street, New Castle, VA <b>540-864-6390</b>
<b>Dental - Craig County, VA</b> 230 Market Street, New Castle, VA <b>540-864-5556</b>	

## Carnegie Hall Calendar of Events: Latter Dec.-Jan. 2024

LEWISBURG W.Va. (Hinton News) - Here is the schedule of upcoming events at Carnegie Hall in Lewisburg:  
**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14: LILLIE KING AND JOHN MADDY** – Second Stage Performance on Thursday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m. featuring local musicians Lillie King and John Maddy will present original pieces, pop/rock/country favorites, and holiday classics - all with a charming twist. Second Stage Series takes place in the Old Stone Room and is general admission seating. Tickets are \$20/adult; \$5/child.  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17: JOY TO LEWISBURG WITH BOB THOMPSON AND FRIENDS** – Special performance on Sunday, Dec. 17, at 7 p.m., featuring Christmas classics and holiday favorites performed by West Virginia Music Hall of Fame member Thompson and special guests Landau Eugene Murphy Jr. and Kamron Lawson. Tickets are \$32/adult; \$10/child.  
**SATURDAY, JANUARY 13: BEETHOVEN, THE GREAT!** – The Carnegie Classics Series presents Beethoven, The Great! featuring Barbara Nissman and other special guests on Saturday, Jan. 13, at 7 p.m. Individual performance tickets are \$25/adults and \$5/students.  
**THURSDAY, JANUARY 25: RUTH WYAND** – Second Stage Performance on Thursday, Jan. 25, at 7 p.m. featuring singer-songwriter Ruth Wyand. Demonstrating powerful fingerpicking, bottleneck-slide and a warm alto voice, Ruth plays a mix of Americana, jazz, blues, folk, country with a portion of Piedmont picking and bluegrass clawhammer thrown in. Second Stage Series takes place in the Old Stone Room and is general admission seating. Tickets are \$20/adult; \$5/child.

mission seating. Tickets are \$20/adult; \$5/child.  
**ROTATING GALERIES:**  
**OLD STONE ROOM GALLERY** – “Inviting the Outdoors In” by Pat Cross. The exhibit runs through Dec. 29. Next up Andrea Burnais.  
**MUSEUM GALLERY** – A collaborative exhibit of work by Dennis Ott (woodturning) and Sean O’Connell (ceramics). The exhibit runs through Dec. 29. Next up is Charles Ferguson.  
**LOBBY GALLERY**– Fashion Illustrations by Thomas Ruggiero. The exhibit runs through Dec. 29. Next up Jim Costa and Builder Levy.  
**BOARD ROOM GALLERY** – “40 Years of Carnegie Hall” Exhibit  
**PERMANENT EXHIBIT:**  
**ARTS FROM THE ASHES: THE HISTORY OF CARNEGIE HALL**– The exhibit features memorabilia, photographs, artifacts and more of Carnegie Hall since its construction in 1901. New location is in the Board Room located on the first floor adjacent to the auditorium. Free admission.  
Carnegie Hall Box Office and Galleries are open Monday – Friday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. For more information, please visit [carnegiehallwv.org](http://carnegiehallwv.org), call 304-645-7917, or stop by 611 Church Street, Lewisburg, West Virginia.







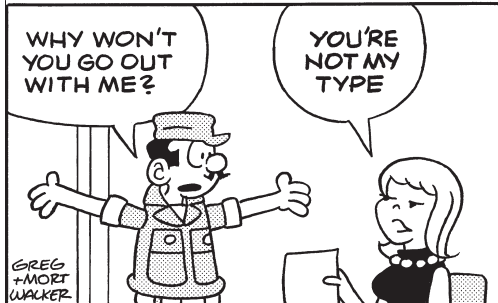




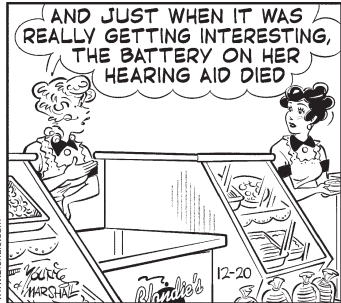
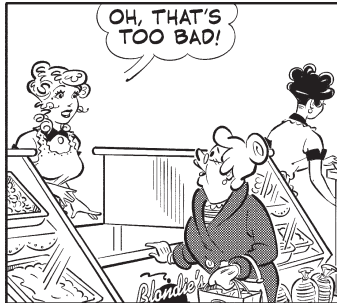


ENTERTAINMENT & COMICS PAGE

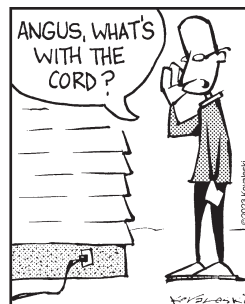
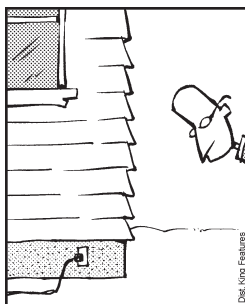
Beetle Bailey



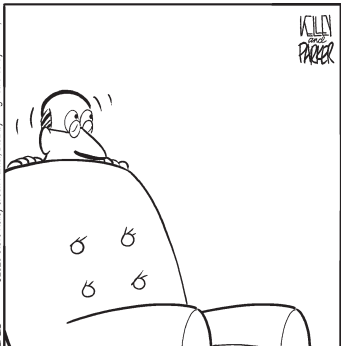
Blondie



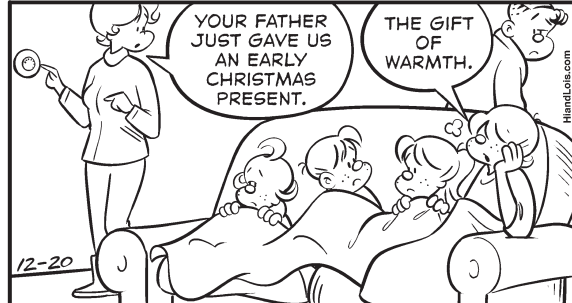
Daddy Daze



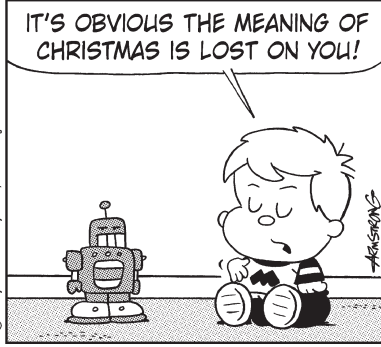
Dustin



Hi and Lois



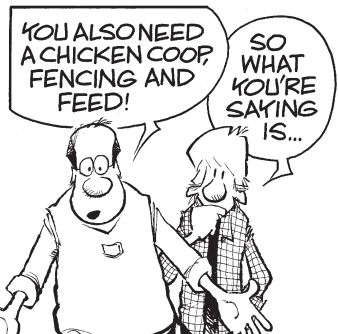
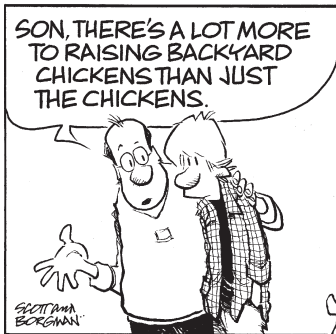
Marvin



Mutts



Zits



ROYAL STARS HOROSCOPE

BY GEORGIA NICOLS

**MOON ALERT:** There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Aries.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2023:

You are hardworking and a gifted problem-solver. You are a born leader who wants to make the world a better place. This year has been about socializing and enjoying your life. In 2024, it's time to work and get productive. Keep things simple. Stay grounded and levelheaded.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**

4★ Something unexpected could impact banking situations or something to do with an inheritance or anything that you are sharing or divide with someone else. It might be a sudden gift or a favor. Unfortunately, it also might be a cancellation of something. Tonight: Check your finances.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**

3★ A partnership or close friendship will experience an upset today. It could be pleasant. ("For me? How thoughtful!") Or it might be unpleasant. ("Whaaaa? Are you kidding me?") Be ready for anything. Some of you will meet a real character. Tonight: Be under-

standing.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**

4★ Expect to be surprised by something concerning your health, your pet or your job. For example, a co-worker might surprise you. Perhaps a new co-worker will arrive at your workplace, or someone will suddenly quit. A work-related romance might begin. Protect your pet against accidents. Tonight: Get organized.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**

3★ Romantic relationships will experience a few surprises today. There might be disappointments and sudden arguments. Alternatively, you might discover love at first sight. Perhaps a surprise invitation will

delight you. Parents should be vigilant about their kids to avoid accidents. Tonight: Be prepared.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**

4★ Be aware, because something unexpected might happen at home today. It might be wise to stock the fridge. For starters, something beautiful might get broken. "Oh no!" Or unexpected company might drop by. A family spat could occur. However, this surprise can be the reverse. Someone might give you a gift or do a favor for you. Tonight: Patience.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**

3★ A sudden chance for a short trip or a visit with siblings and relatives might delight you. Alternatively, you might suddenly have an argument with a neighbor or relative. Something in your immediate surroundings might please you or be broken. Expect a surprise in your daily surroundings. Tonight: Be mindful.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**

3★ Keep an eye on your money and your possessions today. It's a tricky day. You might find money; you might lose money. Or you might suddenly receive a gift. Perhaps something you own might be lost, damaged or stolen.

Your earnings might suddenly change. (Gulp.) Stay tuned. Tonight: Protect your assets.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**

3★ Today Venus in your sign is opposite unpredictable Uranus, which means something unexpected can impact your closest relationships. It might be lovely and favorable. Or it might be an argument. Be aware that this is a day full of surprises, so stay on your toes. Tonight: You've got this.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**

4★ Something out of the blue and unexpected could change your day today. It might be something private that only you know about. However, fear not, because this also could be something pleasant -- maybe a little dream come true. Take it easy and be aware and mindful. Always hope for the best. Tonight: Stay cool.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan 19)**

3★ A friend might surprise you today by saying or doing something you least expect. Hopefully, it will be pleasant. (There's a chance it won't be.) Or perhaps you will meet someone unusual today, a real character. Likewise, something to do with a group or an organization might surprise you. Tonight: Be organized.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**

4★ Be alert today, because bosses, parents, teachers or the police might suddenly do something that you least expect. "Busted!" Yes, it could be unfavorable. But it also might be unexpected praise, a raise or a promotion. Stay positive. Always expect a miracle. Tonight: Patience.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**

3★ Sudden opportunities to travel might drop in your lap today. In fact, this is highly likely. Some of you also might suddenly strike up a romance with someone who is different or from another culture. Admittedly, the opposite might happen, and a relationship might suddenly suffer from an argument. Tonight: Check your finances.

**BORN TODAY**

Actor Jonah Hill (1983), singer-songwriter Billy Bragg (1957), actor Dylan Wang (1998)

\*\*\*

Find more Georgia Nicols horoscopes at georgianicols.com.

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SHEFFER CROSSWORD

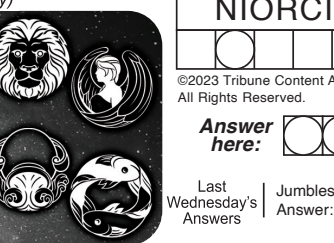
**ACROSS**

- 1 "Star —" (Lucas film)
- 5 Moment
- 8 NYPD ranks
- 12 Length times width
- 13 Historic period
- 14 Landed
- 15 Slim stocking stuffer
- 17 Lucy's partner
- 18 OK to
- 19 Ingratiate
- 21 "— haw!" (cowgirl's cry)
- 22 Bath powder
- 23 Journal
- 26 Ga.
- 28 Big wheels at sea
- 31 Opposite of "sans"
- 33 Hang low
- 35 Lunch?
- 36 Wrinkle treatment

**DOWN**

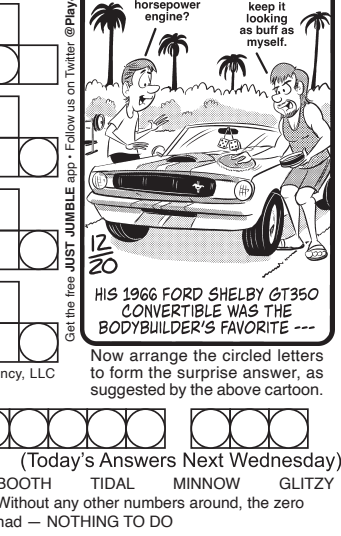
- 1 Carry on
- 2 Desertlike
- 3 Mortgage again, for short
- 4 Did nothing
- 5 Sargasso wrigglers
- 6 Goof up
- 7 West Pointer
- 8 Bicycle seats
- 9 Choral group
- 10 "— pity!"
- 11 Commotion
- 16 Staff leader?
- 20 Slangy denial
- 23 Science room

**Solution time: 23 mins.**



**JUMBLE**

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



SUDOKU PUZZLE

King Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty: ★★★

12/20

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9. That means that no number is repeated in any row, column, or box. (Today's Answers Next Wednesday)

**Answer To Last Wednesday's Puzzle:**

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

Difficulty: ★★★

12/13



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