



## Kroger Workers in Hinton, WV and Beyond Rally for Fair Contract Before Expiration

Rebecca Stalnaker

HINTON W.Va. (Hinton News) - Before their contract expired at midnight on Feb. 24, Kroger employees in Hinton, West Virginia joined their colleagues across the East Coast in a powerful display of solidarity, urging the company to improve their contract renewal offer. The atmosphere crackled with determination as workers rallied for fair wages, better working conditions, and recognition of their role as front-line workers in the community.

A flyer distributed by the United Food and Commercial Workers Union (UFCW) Local 400, which represents Kroger employees, outlines several key areas where the proposed contract from Kroger falls short of the union's goals:

Wages: The union argues

that Kroger's proposed wage increase fails to keep pace with inflation, effectively resulting in a pay cut for many employees. Additionally, the proposal could reportedly reduce pay for workers who don't consistently work full-time hours.

Health and Welfare Benefits: The flyer claims Kroger's proposal would eliminate health care benefits for future retirees, increase costs for current retirees, and potentially put the future funding of the entire healthcare plan at risk, leading to higher out-of-pocket expenses for employees.

Paid Time Off: The union states that Kroger's offer does not provide any additional paid time off or paid sick days. It also removes language guaranteeing a premium rate for night crew members who take vacation time.

Hours and Scheduling: The union highlights concerns that Kroger's proposal would: Make Sundays a regular part of the work week, impacting work-life balance for many employees. Eliminate time-and-a-half pay for working more than 8 hours in a day, reducing overtime compensation. Reduce the minimum guaranteed hours from 15 to 12 per week, potentially impacting part-time employees' income stability. Reduce the minimum call-in shift from 5 hours to 4 hours, potentially increasing scheduling unpredictability for workers.

Workplace Safety: The union emphasizes that Kroger's proposed contract lacks any new provisions to address workplace safety concerns, despite the increasing threat



Kroger employees and union representatives stood on the sidewalk in front of Kroger on Friday, Feb. 23. Photo by Rebecca Stalnaker

of gun violence in stores. The flyer concludes by urging Kroger to improve its offer and stating the union's unwavering commitment to fighting for a fair contract.

At the time of writing, Hinton News has not yet reached a Kroger representative for comment from the company's prospective.

On Feb. 26, the union released a statement that members would be voting on a potential strike. As of the time of writing, a decision has not been announced. Keep a check on [hintonnews.com](https://hintonnews.com) for the latest updates. To see a video of the rally, go to the Hinton News page on Facebook.

## Historic Barn Destroyed in Fire at New River Gorge National Park

Rebecca Stalnaker

HINTON, W.Va. (Hinton News) - A historic barn at the Richmond-Hamilton farm site in the New River Gorge National Park was destroyed in a fire on Thursday, Feb. 22. The Summers County Volunteer Fire Department and

Jumping Branch-Nimitz Volunteer Fire Department responded to the blaze, which was reported around 8 p.m.

One of nine structures at the site, the barn was built from hand-hewn chestnut logs and was considered eligible for the National Register of His-

toric Places. It was one of two log barns at the Richmond-Hamilton farm, a site significant for its representation of 18th and 19th-century subsistence farming along the New River.

The original land grant for the area was awarded to a Revolutionary War

veteran, William Richmond, in 1796. The land tract is near Sandstone Falls, once called Richmond's Falls. Not only is the Richmond-Hamilton farm a vital piece of history, but it will also be a centerpiece for planned park activities commemorating the 250th anniversary

of the US Declaration of Independence. NRGNPP is seeking information about the fire and asks anyone with details to contact NPS dispatch at 304-547-3590 or email the park at New River Gorge National Park & Preserve. Anonymous tips can be submitted by call-

ing 888-653-0009 or by visiting the NPS Tip Line or Crime Stoppers of West Virginia websites.

At the time of writing, no other information has arisen regarding the cause of the fire. The Hinton News will provide updates as they become available.

## Warner recognizes Summers County Comprehensive High School senior for his effort to register classmates to vote

CHARLESTON W.Va. (Hinton News) - On Monday, Feb. 26, West Virginia Secretary of State Mac Warner hosted a student leader from Summers County Comprehensive High School (SCHS) as his honored guest at the State Capitol.

Brandan Isaac - a member of the 2024 graduating class at SCHS - was recommended by his principal to represent their high school as an Honorary Secretary of State for his efforts to register members of the senior class to vote. Nominations for Honorary Secretaries of State are only accepted by those high schools that qualify for the Jennings Randolph Award.

To qualify for the Award, a West Virginia high school must host a student-led effort to register at least 85% of their eligible senior class to vote.

Started by the WV Secretary of State's Office in 1994, the Jennings Randolph Award for Civic Engagement commemorates West Virginia's late U.S. Senator Jennings Randolph's legacy as the Father of the 26th Amendment. One of the defining moments in voting rights history, the 26th Amendment was passed in 1971. The Amendment lowered the voting age from 21 to 18.

"With the designation of Honorary Secretaries of State, Brandan Isaac has

proven to his school, community, and state that he is committed to seeing more young people in West Virginia voting and playing an active role in our government," said Secretary of State Mac Warner. "Fewer than 30 high schools in the state will receive this prestigious recognition for the 2023-24 school year."

In addition to a tour of the WV Secretary of State's Office and the State Capitol, Senator Vince Deeds recognized Isaac during the State Senate floor session. Senator Deeds is a representative of Summers County and serves as Vice-Chair of the House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.



WV Secretary of State Mac Warner, Delegate Roy Cooper, Brandan Isaac and SCHS Civics Teacher Robert Bowling. Photo provided by Secretary of State Mac Warner's Officer

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# Empowering Women: A Retrospective Look at the Fight for Equality and the Significance of Women’s History Month

Jennifer Bailey

“Women’s History Month” might sound like a relatively new concept, especially in the wake of several current movements designed to bring attention to gender equality. However, the origins of “Women’s History Month” date back over a hundred years when the first “International Women’s Day” was celebrated on March 8, 1911. Initially, it was established to advocate for women’s rights during a time when women weren’t even allowed to vote.

In the early 1900s, a woman’s inability to vote — an idea foreign to anyone in the United States now— was, in fact, progress compared to where women stood 50-75 years prior. It wasn’t until after the Industrial Revolution in the mid-1800s that women began to work in the U.S., most of whom were in factories. Their

right to own property began around the same time, starting with New York which established the “Married Women’s Property Act” in 1848 giving women the right to own property and collect their own wages. By 1900, all states had passed laws fashioned after New York’s initial one. Although women were given the right to vote 20 years later, it did not include African American women who would end up waiting another 45 years after the Civil Rights Movement to be allowed the right to vote.

Here in 2024, it’s hard to imagine a world that disallowed women the same basic human rights that have always been given so freely to men. At the same time, it is perhaps that reason why we should take the time to reflect on the battles they fought, take time to learn more about the history of women, suffrage,

and all those whose battle scars made it possible for today’s women to shine their brightest lights.

“Women’s History Month” serves as a platform to recognize the countless women who made significant contributions and tremendous sacrifices that generously paved the way for others. These are women who defied the odds, knocked down walls, and challenged authority figures to make real changes.

We recognize women like Susan B. Anthony who played a pivotal role during the women’s suffrage movement; Rosa Parks whose refusal to give up her seat ended segregation on the buses of Montgomery, Alabama; Marie Curie who was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize and she remains the only Nobel-Prize winner in two different scientific fields; Helen Keller who,

after losing her sight and hearing when she was 19 months old, went on to Harvard and became a disability rights advocate and successful author. There are far too many examples to list.

Those women are just a small tip of an enormous iceberg. Their contributions extend beyond the borders of the United States and have left a lasting impact on the world. They exemplify the reason why “International Women’s Day” evolved into “Women’s History Week” and then, finally, into “Women’s History Month,” appropriately set around “International Women’s Day” still celebrated on March 8. This month, we take the time to recognize the achievements of several remarkable women in history and embrace the opportunity to address the ongoing struggles women still face today in the fight for gender equality.

# WorkForce West Virginia announces March 6 Statewide Virtual Job Fair

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (Hinton News) — WorkForce West Virginia announced the next date in a series of Statewide Virtual Job Fairs today. Both employers and job seekers are invited to participate in the virtual event on Wednesday, March 6, from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

Registration is required for both interested employers and job seekers. Go to [wvcommerce.us12-list-manage.com](http://wvcommerce.us12-list-manage.com) to register as a job seeker for the March 6 Statewide Virtual Job Fair.

“Since our monthly Statewide Virtual Job Fairs began, more than 5,000 job seekers have submitted more than 5,000 resumes and participated in more than 11,000 booth visits,” said Scott Adkins, acting Commissioner of WorkForce West Virginia. “This is a fantastic opportunity for job seekers to virtually meet with companies and learn more about open positions across the Mountain State.”

“We continue to invite West Virginians looking to take the next step in their careers to attend the monthly Statewide

Virtual Job Fairs and apply, live chat, video chat and interview virtually with participating employers,” said James Bailey, Secretary of the WV Department of Commerce. “Last month, representatives from 112 companies and organizations within the state were able to connect with more than 500 West Virginia job seekers.”

When attending the event, job seekers are encouraged to dress professionally and have a calm, clutter-free background, as employers may request to engage in a video interview. The Virtual Statewide Job Fair portal features a Job Seeker Training video, a list of participating employers, and channels for attendees to register and log in.

After registering for the first time, new employers will create a “Virtual Booth” to connect with job seekers. After completion, this booth will be available during subsequent job fairs.

For more information about WorkForce West Virginia and the Statewide Virtual Job Fairs, visit [www.workforcewv.org](http://www.workforcewv.org) or contact [wfwv-the@wv.gov](mailto:wfwv-the@wv.gov).

# March meetings in Summers County

SUMMERS COUNTY W.Va. (Hinton News) - Here is a list of meetings occurring in Summers County during March 2024.

Summers County Parks and Recreation Committee - No February meeting.

Town Hall School Levy Meeting at Jumping Branch/Nimitz Fire Department - March 5 at 6 p.m.

Town Hall School Levy Meeting at Talcott Fire Department - March 7 at 6 p.m.

Summers County Board of Education - Regular Meeting - March 12 at 5 p.m. LSIC at HAE. Call the Board Office for more information.

Summers County Commission - Regular Meeting - March 13 at 9 a.m. in the Commission Room in the Courthouse.

Summers County Public Library Board of Directors -

Regular Meeting - March 14 at 5 p.m. in the library.

Summers County LEPC - Regular Meeting - March 14 at 6 p.m. in the Memorial Building.

Hinton City Council - Regular Meeting - March 19 at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

John Henry Days Committee - Regular Meeting - March 21 at 6 p.m. in the Trinity Methodist Church basement.

Summers County Dilapidated Structures Committee - Regular Meeting - March 25 at Noon in the Memorial Building Auditorium.

Summers County Republicans - Regular Meeting - March 25 at 6:30 p.m. in the Memorial Building.

Summers County Board of Education - Regular Meeting - March 26 at 5 p.m. Call the Board Office for more in-

formation.

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

Three Rivers Democratic Women - Regular Meeting - March 28 at 5 p.m. on the

patio at Kirk’s Restaurant.

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

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

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A Peek into Summers County’s Past: Roses Drug Store (New Pieces)



A Roses Drug Store bottle. Photo provided by William Jones

William Jones

HINTON W.Va. (Hinton News) - 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, the topic is a revisit to Roses Drug Store.

This piece will be relatively short compared to my past articles, but I recently acquired this original photograph from roughly 1910

of a 4th of July parade in Hinton, West Virginia. It depicts floats and other very unique advertising gimmicks for Roses Drug Store. You can only imagine the reception that this stunt got

Shane Rose, the owner and organizer of the pharmacy. It is important to remember that this was before television and most movies did not cater to the science fiction realm. Even when War of the Worlds aired on

the radio on Oct. 30, 1938, about a fictitious alien invasion it was met with unbelievable shock and horror. Granted they failed to fully explain that this “news break” or “breaking news” was not real!

You can imagine how this was perceived by the small town of Hinton, West Virginia some 20-odd years earlier. It must have done what Rose sought to do and that was to keep the public talking. That is just what



An old photo of a 4th of July parade in Hinton featuring an entry by Roses Drug Store. Photo provided by William Jones

happened which helped Roses become one of the most successful drugstores in this area at the time.

The advertisements that Rose used would certainly be questionable today. Such as the little goblin holding the sign that reads “Get it at Rose’s and never CROAK.” Take note of the sign on the building on the left. It reads “The Hinton Picture Company Photograph Studio Dealers in Cameras &

Photo\_\_\_\_\_” (possibly Supplies).

Another piece that relates to this that I uncovered since writing the original article last May is a little clear glass bottle from his store. I was at the big flea market held at the West Virginia State Fair each year and discovered this gem while digging through a box of other local items.

It is roughly 6 inches tall and says “Rose’s” with the

“R” inside a mortar and pestle. I had never seen one of these bottles before and hadn’t found anyone who had. It is in great condition other than a small crack across the bottom. But due to its rarity, I could not pass up adding it to my collection, especially to display with my early photos of Roses Drug Store.

To share a story from the area’s history, send an email to news@hintonnews.com.

Concord University Partners With Excel Together West Virginia to Offer Free Online Math Course

ATHENS, W.Va. (Hinton News) –Concord University has recently signed on with Excel Together West Virginia, an education and workforce program of SeeMore Impact Labs that works in schools and colleges across the nation to improve math and literacy rates. The initiative offers a free online math course to anyone interested, which focuses on real-world problem solving, combats math phobia, and helps students persist through challenges.

Accredited by the American College of Education, the course has been incorporated into the Concord curriculum to serve as a substitute for Math 101. In addition to meeting educational requirements toward degree programs, the free online course also meets job search requirements for those on unemployment.

Jacob Abrams, Chief Organizational Development and Success Officer at Concord University, speaks highly of the program, “Excel Together WV is a game changer. We are so thrilled to be working with them to

bring an incredibly impactful educational experience to our students and our communities. This course meets students where they are and demystifies mathematics in relevant, innovative, and practical ways. Quite simply, it makes higher education accessible and possible for all.”

CEO of SeeMore Impact Labs and Co-Director of Excel Together West Virginia,

David Goldberg, recently visited Concord to discuss the benefits of the program. Goldberg holds a Bachelor of Science from Yale University, a PhD from Caltech, and completed postdoctoral work at Harvard and University of Cambridge in molecular biology, with additional postdoctoral work in artificial intelligence from the University of Colorado, Boulder.

David served as the initial co-architect of the CSM Course, the initial software developer of the CSM software platform. Goldberg is also an entrepreneur in several industries and technologies, including geophysics, image indexing, consumer electronics, medical diagnostics and more. He was among the first to transfer a gene back into a higher organism (curing fruit flies of

alcoholism!).

For more information about this innovative pro-

gram, please contact Jacob Abrams at 304-384-5395 or jabrams@concord.edu.



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THE HINTON NEWS

### Baptism Comes Before Salvation

by David Padfield

I have been accused of over emphasizing the part baptism plays in the salvation of sinners. In view of what the Bible teaches, I do not see how this could be possible.

There are five passages in the New Testament which mention both baptism and salvation in the same verse (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Rom. 6:4; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21). In all of these passages, water baptism precedes the remission of sins. Do you know of a passage where the order is reversed?

Mark 16:16 contains two conditions for salvation: faith and baptism. It also contains the conditions for damnation: a lack of faith. If you want to know what you must do to be lost, it will tell you—all that is necessary is a lack of faith. If you want to know what to do to be saved from your past sins—it commands you to believe and be baptized.

In Acts 2:38 Peter told a group of believers to “repent, and let everyone of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins.” Our Baptist friends often focus on the word “for” in this passage and insist it means “because of,” even though it is never translated that way in any reputable translation of the Bible. We have to remind them that if baptism is “because of” the remission of sins, then so is repentance. Baptism and repentance are joined by the little word “and.” Whatever one is “for” the other is “for.”

After we are buried with Christ in baptism, we are raised to walk in a newness of life (Romans 6:1-4). This new life comes after baptism in water. Many preachers want to “bury” the “new man,” since they claim the newness of life comes before our “burial.”

Three days after the Lord appeared to Saul of Tarsus, Ananias told Saul to “arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins” (Acts 22:16). Many preachers today claim Saul was saved three days before Ananias met him. Ananias must not have known it, for he told Saul how to “wash away” his sins. If Saul had been saved on the road as some preachers claim, he must have been the most miserable saved man in the Bible. Saul was blind and spent three days praying and fasting until Ananias arrived.

1 Peter 3:21 states “baptism doth also now save us.” However, baptism is not the only condition for the salvation of the alien sinner. Other requirements must be met, like faith, repentance and love. I do not know of anything “alone” that will save a sinner, not even faith (James 2:24).

Next week, we will take a closer look at the conversion of the Ethiopian.

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### James W. “Jim” McNeely

**A liberal Democrat for House of Delegates**  
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— Qualifications and Experience —

Jim McNeely’s first job after graduation from Concord in 1973 was as a teacher in Summers County. In the 1990’s he worked as an attorney in the successful fight against a 765kV power line proposed to cross Summers County, and was elected Prosecuting Attorney of Summers County in 2000 and 2004. Elected to the House of Delegates in 1974 (at age 27), 1976, 1984, and 1986, McNeely represented a district in 1975 - 1978 that included Summers County.

A Vietnam veteran artillery officer, McNeely served as the commander of the WV National Guard unit in Hinton. He is a Concord University graduate with a graduate degree from Virginia Tech and a law degree from W V U. Before law school, he was a teacher and served as Community Development Director and City Police Judge for Princeton, WV. Now retired, McNeely worked as an attorney for about 30 years.

A well-qualified, experienced liberal Democrat, McNeely will challenge special interests, support only what is truly in the public interest — and oppose what is not.

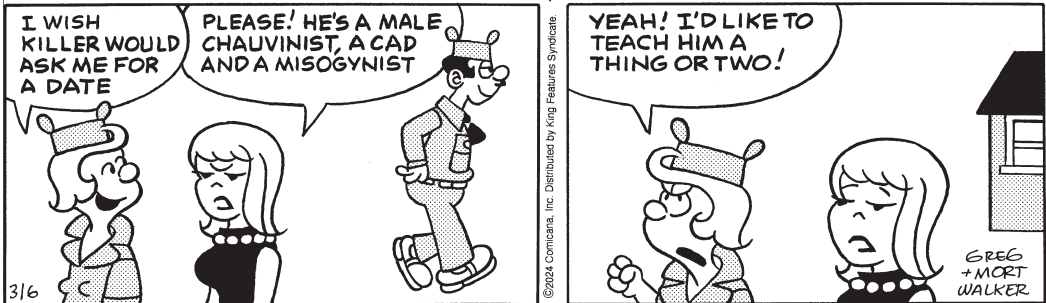
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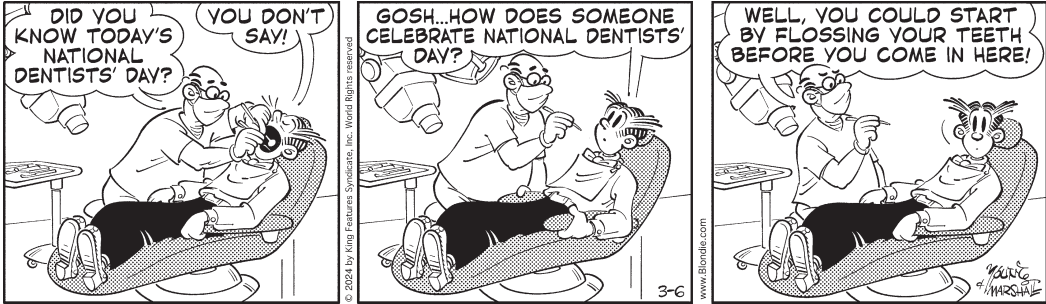


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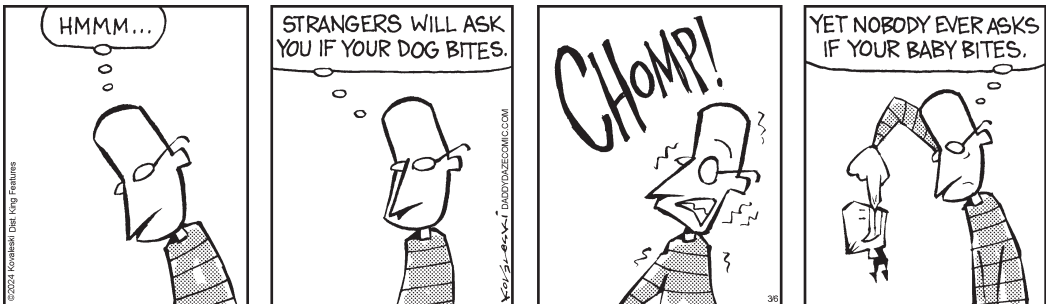
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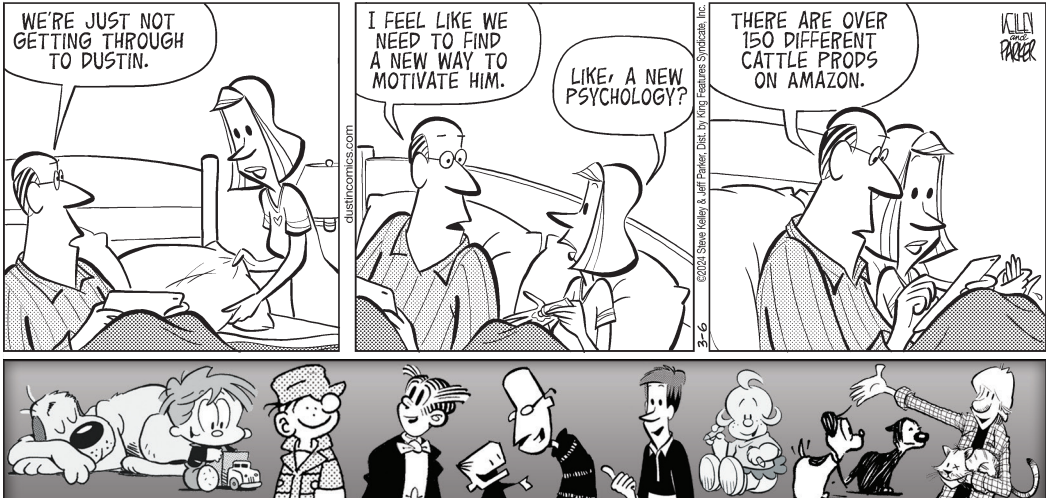
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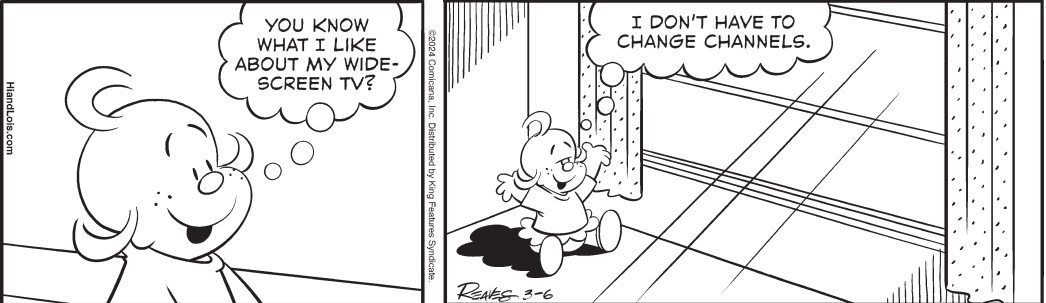
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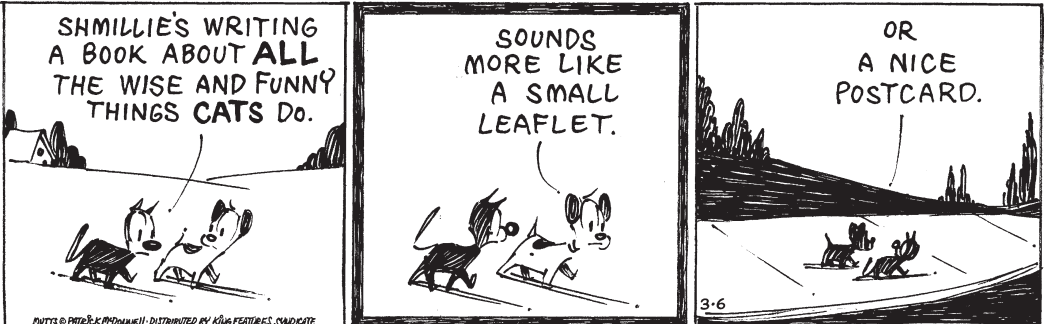
## Hi and Lois



## Marvin



## Mutts



## Zits



# ROYAL STARS HOROSCOPE

BY GEORGIA NICOLS

**MOON ALERT:** Avoid shopping or important decisions from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. EST today (11 a.m. to 5 p.m. PST). After that, the Moon moves from Capricorn into Aquarius.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Wednesday, March 6, 2024:

You have a refined appreciation of beauty. But more than that, you have the skill of showing beauty and loveliness to others, which is a rare gift. This year your efforts in the past will be recognized. Expect promotions, kudos and special acknowledgement of your talents. Bravo!

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)**

3★ You might be misjudged today, especially by parents, bosses or teachers. Someone might not understand that you have compassion for others who are less fortunate. Perhaps they question your motives. Be prepared to defend your decisions today in a clear, direct way. Tonight: Friends.

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

4★ Your idealism is aroused today, which is why you might want to escape to beautiful places through travel, or escape through film and books. You will also be attracted to philosophical concepts and

lofty ideas that can make the world a better place. Tonight: You're noticed.

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

3★ Because you might feel sympathy for someone who is less fortunate today, you might be tempted to give away the farm. Generosity is a good thing, but you have to respect your own interests and keep things in balance. You need to remain effective in a practical way. Tonight: Explore!

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

3★ Discussions with partners and close friends will be warm and mutually sympathetic today, because you will each sense what the other one needs. You also might have that

feeling for someone who is from far away or from another culture. Tonight: Check your finances.

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

4★ This is a lovely day for those who work in the arts or any creative field. Your imagination is set free! You'll be productive, especially in visual ways. You will also work well with children today. Meanwhile, romance will be the stuff of movies. (Be still my beating heart.) Tonight: Work.

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

4★ This is a lovely day for those who work in the arts or any creative field. Your imagination is set free! You'll be productive, especially in visual ways. You will also work well with children today. Meanwhile, romance will be the stuff of movies. (Be still my beating heart.) Tonight: Work.

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

3★ Because you might feel tenderhearted about a family member today or a family situation, you will help if you can. Furthermore, this will be rewarding. Possibly you are the one who needs help today. Hopefully a family member is

supportive of you. We all need kindness. Tonight: Socialize.

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

3★ Today you might spend time daydreaming or being lost in a world of fantasy. Your mind keeps slipping into images, memories and daydreams. Meanwhile, conversations with relatives, neighbors and daily contacts will be mutually sympathetic. People care. Tonight: Relax.

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

3★ If shopping today, be careful. You might be tempted to buy luxurious, elegant items that could be costly, especially if you have champagne taste on a beer budget. At least keep your receipts. (And the box.) Postpone important financial decisions for another day. Tonight: Discussions.

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

4★ Your idealism is aroused today because you feel unusually sensitive to everything going on around you. You can pick up on the vibes of other people, how they feel and what they want. It's almost uncanny. Perhaps this will allow you to help someone in a small -- or big -- way. Tonight: Check

your belongings.

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

3★ Today you will enjoy moments of solitude in beautiful surroundings, with snacks and good drink. Don't be afraid to pamper yourself so you can enjoy daydreaming and planning for the future. Quite likely, you'll have some mon-eymaking ideas. But wait until tomorrow to act, because they might be impractical. Tonight: You win!

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

3★ Today your ruler Neptune is lined up with the Moon, which makes you unusually sensitive to the needs of others, especially friends or members of groups. If you enter a room or encounter people, you will immediately sense what they want. Be helpful. Tonight: Solitude.

**BORN TODAY**

Actor Shaun Evans (1980). actress Connie Britton (1967). actor, director Rob Reiner (1947)

\*\*\*

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- 12 Smoothie berry
- 13 GI's address
- 14 Swiss river
- 15 "Don't worry about me"
- 17 Radius neighbor
- 18 Stokes
- 19 Knocked down
- 21 Greek vowels
- 24 Old Olds-mobile
- 25 Witticism
- 28 NYC gallery
- 30 Born as
- 33 Blue
- 34 Wine grape
- 35 Cave flier
- 36 "A Chorus Line" song
- 37 Tennis score
- 38 Memory unit
- 39 Egyptian cobra
- 41 Novelist Caleb

**DOWN**

- 2 Rights advocacy org.
- 3 Red-tag event
- 4 Pal of Pooh
- 5 Blubber
- 6 NYPD alert
- 7 "Cheers" barman
- 8 Chef's creation
- 9 Dionne Warwick hit song
- 10 "Alfred" composer
- 11 Rosary unit
- 16 Superlativ suffix
- 20 Part of Q.E.D.
- 22 During

**Solution time: 23 mins.**

**Last Wednesday's Answer (Answers Next Wednesday)**

**JUMBLE**

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

**THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME**  
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Instead of saying something is large, you could also say it's broad, considerable, enormous, extensive, full, generous, giant, gigantic, grand, great, hefty, huge, massive...

You should write a book!

**THE DINOSAUR THAT KNEW LOTS OF SYNONYMS WAS A ---**

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

**RFYRU**

**GUHLA**

**EENXTT**

**SECACS**

**(Today's Answers Next Wednesday)**

Last Wednesday's Answer: SALSA VENUE SWIVEL STRESS

Jumbles: The cruise ship's cups, bottles, vases, pitchers, jugs, etc. were the --- VESSEL'S VESSELS

# SUDOKU PUZZLE

King Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty: ★★★ 3/6

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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:**

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

Difficulty: ★★★ 2/28





SUMMERS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA STATEMENT OF NET POSITION June 30, 2023					
	Primary Government		Component Units		
	Governmental Activities		Board of Health	Farmland Protection	Public Library
ASSETS					
Current assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,408,442	\$	268,958	\$ 3,089	\$ 144,973
Receivables:					
Taxes	169,035		--	--	--
Accounts	52,598		159,177	--	--
Due from:					
Other governments	300,000		--	--	--
Inventory, at cost	--		2,500	--	--
Prepaid expenses	154,000		15,280	--	--
Total current assets	5,084,075		445,915	3,089	144,973
Restricted assets:					
Capital assets:					
Nondepreciable:					
Land	163,900		--	--	--
Depreciable					
Buildings	5,195,499		--	--	--
Machinery and equipment	1,635,160		34,446	--	--
Less: accumulated depreciation	( 3,981,812)		--	--	--
Total noncurrent assets	3,012,747		34,446	--	--
Total assets	8,096,822		480,361	3,089	144,973
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS					
Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions	691,980		--	--	--
Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB	70,056		--	--	--
Total deferred outflows of resources	762,036		--	--	--
LIABILITIES					
Current liabilities payable from current assets					
Accounts payable	154,777		--	--	--
Payroll payable	110,673		--	--	--
Deferred revenues:					
Other deferred revenues	1,245,280		--	--	--
Noncurrent liabilities:					
Compensated absences payable	67,302		--	--	--
Net pension liability	397,057		--	--	--
Liability for closure and postclosure					
Net OPEB liability	34,798		--	--	--
Total liabilities	2,009,887		--	--	--
DEFERRED INFLOWS					
Deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB	148,707		--	--	--
Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions	18,129		--	--	--
Total deferred inflows of resources	166,836		--	--	--
NET POSITION					
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	3,012,747		34,446	--	--
Unrestricted	3,669,388		445,915	3,089	144,973
Total net position	\$ 6,682,135	\$	480,361	\$ 3,089	\$ 144,973

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

SUMMERS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023									
Functions / Programs	Program Revenues				Net (Expense) Revenues and Changes in Net Position				
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Primary Government Governmental Activities	Board of Health	Farmland Protection	Public Library	
Primary government:									
Governmental activities									
General government	\$ 2,581,560	\$ 1,279,891	\$ 108,086	\$ 194,092	\$ ( 999,491)				
Public safety	2,635,576	--	115,000	614,317	( 1,906,259)				
Health and sanitation	10,458	--	--	--	( 10,458)				
Culture and recreation	373,348	--	30,467	--	( 342,881)				
Capital projects	41,575	--	--	--	( 41,575)				
Total governmental activities	5,642,517	1,279,891	253,553	808,409	( 3,300,664)				
Total primary government	\$ 5,642,517	\$ 1,279,891	\$ 253,553	\$ 808,409	( 3,300,664)				
Component units:									
Board of Health	319,941	248,848	176,440	--	--	\$ 105,347	--	\$ --	--
Farmland Protection	11,091	7,000	--	--	--	--	( 4,091)	--	--
Public Library	204,416	20,861	128,417	--	--	--	--	( 55,138)	--
Total component units	\$ 535,448	\$ 276,709	\$ 304,857	\$ --	--	105,347	( 4,091)	( 55,138)	--
General revenues:									
Ad valorem property taxes					2,877,283	--	--	--	--
Alcoholic beverages tax					2,408	--	--	--	--
Hotel occupancy tax					270,531	--	--	--	--
Animal tax					2,311	--	--	--	--
Gas and oil severance tax					56,569	--	--	--	--
Other taxes					293,762	--	--	--	--
Coal severance tax					34,145	--	--	--	--
Licenses and permits					13,707	--	--	--	--
Local					10,000	--	--	--	--
Unrestricted investment earnings					27,758	--	--	45,388	--
Refunds					419,838	--	--	--	--
Reimbursement					73,092	551	--	--	--
Miscellaneous					325,501	10,732	--	10,920	--
Total general revenues					4,406,905	11,283	--	56,308	--
Change in net assets					1,106,241	116,630	( 4,091)	1,170	--
Net position - beginning					5,575,894	363,731	7,180	143,803	--
Net position - ending					\$ 6,682,135	\$ 480,361	\$ 3,089	\$ 144,973	--

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

SUMMERS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS June 30, 2023						
	General	Coal Severance Tax	Emergency 911	American Rescue Plan	Other Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS						
Current:						
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,437,890	\$ 55,873	\$ 1,043,246	\$ 963,507	\$ 907,926	\$ 4,408,442
Receivables:						
Taxes	169,035	--	--	--	--	169,035
Accounts	47,412	--	4,705	--	481	52,598
Due from:						
Other governments	--	--	--	300,000	--	300,000
Prepaid expenses	--	--	--	154,000	--	154,000
Total assets	\$ 1,654,337	\$ 55,873	\$ 1,047,951	\$ 1,417,507	\$ 908,407	\$ 5,084,075
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS AND FUND BALANCES						
Liabilities:						
Accounts payable	124,281	--	22,488	--	8,008	154,777
Payroll payable	85,583	--	16,454	--	8,636	110,673
Deferred revenues:						
Other deferred revenue	--	--	--	1,245,280	--	1,245,280
Total liabilities	209,864	--	38,942	1,245,280	16,644	1,510,730
Deferred Inflows:						
Unavailable revenue - taxes	127,579	--	--	--	--	127,579
Total deferred inflows of resources	127,579	--	--	--	--	127,579
Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources	337,443	--	38,942	1,245,280	16,644	1,638,309
Fund balances:						
Restricted	--	--	--	172,227	891,763	1,063,990
Assigned	--	55,873	--	--	--	55,873
Unassigned	1,316,894	--	1,009,009	--	--	2,325,903

SUMMERS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS June 30, 2023						
	General	Coal Severance Tax	Emergency 911	American Rescue Plan	Other Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Total fund balances	1,316,894	55,873	1,009,009	172,227	891,763	3,445,766
Total liabilities, deferred inflows and fund balances	\$ 1,654,337	\$ 55,873	\$ 1,047,951	\$ 1,417,507	\$ 908,407	\$ 5,084,075
The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.						

SUMMERS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023						
	General	Coal Severance Tax	Emergency 911	American Rescue Plan	Other Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES						
Taxes:						
Ad valorem property taxes	\$ 2,817,132	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --	\$ 2,817,132
Alcoholic beverages tax	2,408	--	--	--	--	2,408
Hotel occupancy tax	270,531	--	--	--	--	270,531
Animal tax	--	--	--	--	2,311	2,311
Gas and oil severance tax	56,569	--	--	--	--	56,569
Other taxes	137,679	--	--	--	81,353	219,032
Coal severance tax	--	34,145	--	--	--	34,145
Licenses and permits	9,167	--	--	--	4,540	13,707
Intergovernmental:						
Federal	125,348	--	--	614,317	194,092	933,757
State	13,205	--	--	--	115,000	128,205
Local	10,000	--	--	--	--	10,000
Charges for services	301,847	--	750,022	--	160,821	1,212,690
Fines and forfeits	14,924	--	--	--	52,277	67,201
Interest and investment earnings	9,485	--	--	18,127	146	27,758
Refunds	419,838	--	--	--	--	419,838
Reimbursements	--	--	43,556	--	29,536	73,092
Payments in lieu of taxes	74,730	--	--	--	--	74,730
Contributions and donations	6,972	--	--	--	--	6,972
Miscellaneous	148,873	--	--	--	169,656	318,529
Total revenues	4,418,708	34,145	793,578	632,444	809,732	6,688,607
EXPENDITURES						
Current:						
General government	2,539,515	6,566	--	--	278,520	2,824,601
Public safety	1,115,842	--	772,354	460,317	373,410	2,721,923
Culture and recreation	365,529	--	--	--	--	365,529
Capital outlay	41,575	--	--	--	--	41,575
Total expenditures	4,062,461	6,566	772,354	460,317	651,930	5,953,628
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	356,247	27,579	21,224	172,127	157,802	734,979
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)						
Transfers in	170,116	--	--	--	87,822	257,938
Transfers (out)	( 69,700)	--	--	--	( 188,238)	( 257,938)
Total other financing sources (uses)	100,416	--	--	--	( 100,416)	--
Net change in fund balances	456,663	27,579	21,224	172,127	57,386	734,979
Fund balances - beginning	860,231	28,294	987,785	100	834,377	2,710,787
Fund balances - ending	\$ 1,316,894	\$ 55,873	\$ 1,009,009	\$ 172,227	\$ 891,763	\$ 3,445,766
The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.						

SUMMERS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023						
	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Adjustments	Actual Amounts	Variance with
	Original	Final	Modified Accrual Basis	Budget Basis	Budget Basis	Final Budget Positive (Negative)
REVENUES						
Taxes:						
Ad valorem property taxes	\$ 2,669,734	2,762,083	\$ 2,817,132	\$ --	\$ 2,817,132	\$ 55,049
Alcoholic beverages tax	1,974	2,408	2,408	--	2,408	--
Hotel occupancy tax	224,756	250,810	270,531	--	270,531	19,721
Gas and oil severance tax	21,562	56,570	56,569	--	56,569	( 1)
Other taxes	140,556	140,556	137,679	--	137,679	( 2,877)
Licenses and permits	1,594	9,792	9,167	--	9,167	( 625)
Intergovernmental:						
Federal	--	165,881	125,348	--	125,348	( 40,533)
State	--	23,205	13,205	--	13,205	( 10,000)
Local	--	10,000	10,000	--	10,000	--
Charges for services	256,992	313,273	301,847	--	301,847	( 11,426)
Fines and forfeits	538	846	14,924	--	14,924	14,078
Interest and investment earnings	16,259	24,574	9,485	--	9,485	( 15,089)
Refunds	118,904	340,626	419,838	20,583	440,421	99,795
Payments in lieu of taxes	65,000	65,000	74,730	--	74,730	9,730
Contributions and donations	--	6,892	6,972	--	6,972	80
Miscellaneous	39,982	51,393	148,873	--	148,873	97,480
Total revenues	3,557,851	4,223,909	4,418,708	20,583	4,439,291	215,382
EXPENDITURES						
Current:						
General government	2,605,568	3,464,259	2,539,515	64,589	2,604,104	860,155
Public safety	1,090,810	1,195,299	1,115,842	( 2,402)	1,113,440	81,859
Culture and recreation	347,349	378,125	365,529	1,525	367,054	11,071
Capital outlay	14,440	356,015	41,575	--	41,575	314,440
Total expenditures	4,058,167	5,393,698	4,062,461	63,712	4,126,173	1,267,525
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	( 500,316)	( 1,169,789)	356,247	( 43,129)	313,118	1,482,907
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)						
Transfers in	188,116	220,363	170,116	( 20,583)	149,533	( 70,830)
Transfers (out)	--	--	( 69,700)	69,700	--	--
Proceeds from the sale of assets	9,600	9,600	--	--	--	( 9,600)
Total other financing sources (uses)	197,716	229,963	100,416	49,117	149,533	( 80,430)
Net change in fund balance	( 302,600)	( 939,826)	456,663	5,988	462,651	1,402,477
Fund balance - beginning	302,600	939,826	860,231	79,595	939,826	--
Fund balance - ending	\$ --	\$ --	\$ 1,316,894	\$ 85,583	\$ 1,402,477	\$ 1,402,477



(Continued From Previous Page)

SUMMERS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES

IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL - COAL SEVERANCE TAX FUND

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Adjustments	Actual	Variance with
	Original	Final	Modified	Budget	Budget	Final Budget
			Accrual Basis	Basis	Basis	Positive
						(Negative)
EXPENDITURES						
Fund balance - beginning	4,500	15,474	28,294	( 12,820)	15,474	--
Fund balance - ending	\$ --	\$ --	\$ 55,873	\$ --	\$ 55,873	\$ 55,873

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

SUMMERS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS POSITION

FIDUCIARY FUNDS

June 30, 2023

	Agency
	Funds
ASSETS	
Non-pooled cash	\$ 389,584
Total cash	389,584

SUMMERS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS POSITION

FIDUCIARY FUNDS

June 30, 2023

Receivables:	
Taxes	266,049
Total receivables	266,049
Total assets	\$ 655,633

NET POSITION

Restricted for:

Individuals, organizations, other governments 655,633 || Total Net Position | \$ 655,633 |

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

I, Lynn Reed, Clerk of the County Commission of Summers County, do hereby certify that the foregoing are true copies from the record of orders made and entered by Summers County Commission on the 22nd day of February, 2024 .

Lynn Reed

Lynn Reed, Clerk

Summers County Commission





LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

Under authority of that certain Deed of Trust dated July 9, 2007, from Rodney J. Conner, Sr. and Samantha A. Conner to E. Dennis White, Jr., Trustee, of record in the office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Summers County, West Virginia in Trust Deed Book No. 233, at page 303, securing a promissory note in the principal amount of \$65,653.50, payable to Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance, Inc., and default having been made under the promissory note secured by the aforesaid Deed of Trust and sale requested by Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance, Inc., the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at the front door of the Summers County Courthouse in Hinton, West Virginia on March 26, 2024 at 11:00 a.m., subject to all reservations, exceptions, easements and other matters which appear of record, and subject to all unpaid taxes, if any, that certain parcel of real estate, together with the improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging, being situate in Forest Hill District of Summers County, West Virginia, being more particularly bounded as follows:

Beginning at a 5/8" rebar and cap set on the easterly line of W.V. Route 12, corner to Jessie Conner; thence leave said Route 12 and with said Conner, S. 78° 44' 29" E., 250.07 feet, passing a roofbolt found at 27.26 feet, to an iron pipe found corner to said Conner and Kenneth Shrewsbury; thence with said Shrewsbury, S. 20° 21' 00" E., 88.26 feet to a 5/8" rebar and cap set near a forked buck-eye, corner to Patricia Ramsey 0.707 Acre Tract; thence with said Ramsey, S. 36° 59' 25" W., 141.34 feet to a 5/8" rebar and cap set on southeast side of 16 foot right of way to 0.707 Acres; thence continue with said Ramsey S. 32° 31' 13" E., 331.04 feet to a 5/8" rebar and cap set on line said Shrewsbury, being distant, N. 78° 41' 37" W., 34.11 feet from a rebar found; thence N. 78° 41' 37" W., 160.00 feet, passing a rebar found at 150.05 feet, to a point on the easterly line of said Route 12; thence with said Route 12, thence with said Route 12, the following, N. 19° 12' 07" W., 38.38 feet; N. 18° 40' 49" W., 83.53 feet; N. 19° 26' 14" W., 78.72 feet crossing said 16 foot right of way; N. 22° 03' 28" W., 84.15 feet; N. 24° 44' 13" W., 79.60 feet; N. 27° 46' 32" W., 99.06 feet; and N. 28° 39' 37" W., 73.71 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 1.50 acres more or less as shown on a plat prepared by SCS Surveyors, dated the 19th day of April, 2007 and is the residue of Tract 1 and 3 conveyed to Rodney Conner and Joann Connor by Pauline V. Gill Canterbury, Charles F. Canterbury, David Gill, Della Gill, Robert Gill, Cathy Gill, Johnny Gill, Ruth Gill, Linda Gill Thornquest and Paul Thornquest by deed dated the 21st day of August, 1993, of record in Deed Book 177 at Page 663 in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Summers County, West Virginia. Joann Smith fna Joann Conner, assigned all of her right, title and interest to Rodeney Conner on June 4, 2007, recorded Summers County Deed Book 225, Page 636.

There is hereby excepted that 16 foot right of as shown on said plat for ingress and egress to the 0.707 acre Tract.

Said tract is shown as Part of parcels 24.7 and 24.10 on Tax Map 15 of Forest Hill District of Summers County, West Virginia.

Together with a certain 2008 Manufactured Home, Identification No. VAFL719AB-63459GH13.

Being the same property conveyed from Rodney Conner to Rodney J. Conner Sr. and Samantha A. Conner, husband and wife, by Deed dated July 9, 2007, of record in the aforesaid Clerk's office in Deed Book No. 226, at page 238.

Terms of the sale: cash or certified funds due on date of sale.

Given under my hand this 22nd day of February, 2024.  
/s/ Marc B. Lazenby  
Substitute Trustee  
(6,13mr)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE

Default having occurred in the payment of an obligation to NATIONAL BANK OF BLACKSBURG t/a NATIONAL BANK, by VICKY LYNN LILLY, AKA VICKY L. LILLY, which obligation was secured by a Deed of Trust executed by VICKY LYNN LILLY AKA VICKY L. LILLY, which Deed of Trust is dated April 24, 2017 of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Summers County, West Virginia, in Trust Deed Book 285 at Page 603.

The undersigned Substitute Trustee, acting under the authority of a Substitution executed by Bob Sanders, SVP/Chief Credit Officer, dated February 8, 2024, recorded in said Clerk's Office in Trust Deed Book 317 at Page 623, will sell at public auction at the front door of the Courthouse in Summers County, West Virginia, on the 28th day of March, 2024, at 11:30 a.m. to the highest bidder in the following described property situate in Summers County, West Virginia, bounded and described as follows:

"ALL that certain tract or parcel with all improvements and all rights of ways belonging therewith, and situate in Pipestem District, Summers County, West Virginia," and and more particularly bounded and described as follows:

"BEGINNING at an iron pin in the Frank Lemon Road and at the edge of the right of way of State Route No 26 (Lick Creek Road) thence with said Lemon survey; thence up a hill with the Lemon Line and a wire fence about 478 feet to an iron pipe, corner to the Elliot and Betty Dixon 3.88 acre tract; thence with the Dixon Line 72.96 feet to an iron pipe on the north side of State Road No. 29 (Lick Creek Road); thence with said road right of way 850 feet to the BEGINNING, containing 4 acres, more or less."

"The same as thereafter surveyed by Shields Engineering Co., LLC, in July, 2004", and now is described as follows:

"BEGINNING at a 1/2" rebar set in the western right of way line of Summers County Route Number 26 (Indian Ridge Road) and at the southeast corner of Betty Dixon; thence with the western and northwestern lines of said Route number 26 the following eight calls: S. 13° 10' 00" E. 192.42'; thence S. 15° 23' 20" W. 104.53'; thence S. 22° 00' 35" W. 73.30'; thence S. 33° 35' 25" W. 17.79'; thence S. 41° 01' 55" W. 55.17'; thence S. 52° 04' 05" W. 229.13'; thence S. 46° 59' 15" W. 64.38'; thence S. 34° 46' 45" W. 65.70' to a 1/2" rebar set at the intersection of said Route number 26 and Summers County Route number 26/7 (L&L Road); thence with the eastern lines of said Route number 26/7 the following five calls N. 01° 17' 10" E. 130.86'; thence N. 04° 00' 00" E. 201.24'; thence N. 00° 42' 30" E. 100.82'; thence N. 01° 34' 45" E. 121.86'; thence N. 09° 49' 10" W. 63.64' to a 1/2" rebar set in the eastern line of said Route number 26/7 and at a south corner of Shirley Adkins; thence with a southern line of said Adkins then changing to a southern line of said Dixon; N. 85° 06' 15" E. 201.66 feet to a 10 inch hickory at a southern corner of said Dixon; thence with the southern line of said Dixon the following two calls N. 80° 59' 30" E. 130.32' to a 1/2" Iron Pipe found; thence S. 87° 20' 30" E. 70.09' to the point of BEGINNING and containing 3.70 acres, more or less, as shown on plat attached hereto and made a part of this document.

The terms of sale will be cash in hand on the date of sale. The purchaser shall assume any and all taxes which are now due or to become due.

The undersigned reserves the right to reject any and all bids.  
/s/ William S. Winfrey, II.  
WILLIAM S. WINFREY, II.,  
Substitute Trustee  
1608 West Main Street  
P.O. Box 1159  
Princeton, WV 24740  
Phone: (304) 487-1887  
(6,13mr)

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION TO CREDITORS, DISTRIBUTES & LEGATEES

Notice is hereby given that the following estates have been opened for probate in the Summers Fiduciary Supervisor's Office at 120 Ballengee Street, Suite 100, Hinton, WV 25951-0097. Any person seeking to impeach or establish a will must make a complaint in accordance with the provisions of West Virginia Code § 41-5-11 – 13. Any interested person objecting to the qualifications of the personal representative or the venue or jurisdiction of the court, shall file written notice of an objection with the County Commission through the Summers County Fiduciary Supervisor's office within 60 days after the date of the first publication or within 30 days of the service of the notice, whichever is later. If an objection is not filed timely, the objection is forever barred. Any person interested in filing claims against an estate must file them in accordance with West Virginia Code § 44-2 or 44-3A.

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

**First Publication Date:** Wednesday, March 6, 2024

**Claim Deadline:** Sunday, May 5, 2024

**ESTATE OF:** EVA LUE GRAHAM

**EXECUTRIX:** NANCY LEIGH LILLY

**ESTATE OF:** MARY LOU HARRIS

**CO EXECUTRIX:** REBA JEAN JUDY

**CO EXECUTRIX:** TWILA GAY HICKS

**ESTATE OF:** CHARLES WILLIAM RICHMOND

**EXECUTOR:** CHARLES DOUGLAS HOKE RICHMOND

**AKA-DOUG RICHMOND**

**ESTATE OF:** PATRICK JACKSON KEATON

**EXECUTRIX:** MEREDITH WHITTAKER

**ESTATE OF:** BARBARA JANET ADKINS

**ADMINISTRATRIX:** TERE-SA PETTREY

**ESTATE OF:** VICKY LYNN LILLY

**ADMINISTRATRIX:** ANGEL LILLY

**ESTATE OF:** LOUVERNA MAE BROWN

**ADMINISTRATOR:** JAMES MICHAEL BROWN

**ESTATE OF:** DEBRA L. MILLS

**ADMINISTRATRIX:** BARBARAH MCPHERSON

**ESTATE OF:** WALTER HERMAN TAYLOR

**EXECUTOR:** MARK TAYLOR

**ESTATE OF:** MICHAEL DEAN MANN

**ADMINISTRATRIX:** LINDA J. HUFFMAN

**ESTATE OF:** DARRELL L. DEWICK

**ANCILLARY ADMINISTRATOR CTA:** DARLA G. MILLER

**ESTATE OF:** BARBARA CAROL WYKLE

**EXECUTOR:** PAUL L. WYKLE JR.

**ESTATE OF:** LINDA K. BOONE

**EXECUTOR:** JACK L. KEATON JR.

**ESTATE OF:** CHARLES EMMETT FARLEY

**EXECUTRIX:** ROSEMARY WARMAN

**ESTATE OF:** MARY LOU COX

**EXECUTOR:** STEVEN BENNETT

**ESTATE OF:** JANICE CHRISTINE SNYDER

**EXECUTOR:** WALTER SCOTT SNYDER

Subscribed and sworn to before me on February 28, 2024.

Donald R. Basham Jr.  
Fiduciary Supervisor of Summers County  
(6,13mr)

Notice To Creditors, Distributees, and Legatees Proposed / Short Form Settlements

To the Creditors and Beneficiaries of the within named deceased persons:

I have before me the Final settlements and Proposals for the estates of the following deceased persons, which shall be presented to the County Commission of Summers County, at the Courthouse thereof, in the City of Hinton, West Virginia on the 13th day of March, 2024, at or near 10:00 a.m. These proposed settlements and short form settlements have been presented to me by the fiduciary of such estates which settlements I have approved as indicated below:

**Estate:** DOLORES J. KEATON

**Fiduciary:** RACHEL D. MCPHERSON & JOHN MCPHERSON

**Estate:** TAMMY SUE FITZPATRICK

**Fiduciary:** DAVID ALAN BRAGG

**Estate:** FRANKLIN DWAYNE RUFF

**Fiduciary:** VIOLET A. BURDETTE

**Estate:** ERIC LEROY KING

**Fiduciary:** CHRISTOPHER A. KING

**Estate:** ROBERT EUGENE BENNETT JR.

**Fiduciary:** HEATHER BENNETT

**Estate:** RUSSELL RAY FITZWATER

**Fiduciary:** VIRGINIA R. FITZWATER

**Estate:** VIVIAN YVONNE PLUMLEY

**Fiduciary:** RHONDA RENEE GILBERT

**Estate:** DONNA LYNN TABOR

**Fiduciary:** ADA SUE BAKER

Any person having any interest in the estate of any such deceased person, may appear before the County Commission at the time and place hereinabove specified and thereupon protect his interests as they may appear or else may be forever thereafter barred from asserting such interests.

Given under my hand this the 28th day of February, 2024.

Donnie Basham  
Fiduciary Supervisor  
(6mr)

Notice of Ancillary Filing without any Administration to Creditors, Distributees & Legatees

Notice is hereby given that the following foreign will or affidavit of heirs has been filed in the Summers Fiduciary Supervisor's Office at 120 Ballengee Street, Suite 100, Hinton, WV 25951-0097, and no appointment or administration is being made pursuant to the provisions of West Virginia Code 44-1-14b.

An interested person(s) objecting to the filing of the foreign will or affidavit or objecting to the absence of appointment or administration being made in this state must file a statement with the Summers County Commission through the Fiduciary Supervisor's Office at the address listed above within 60 days after the date of first publication or 30 days of service of the notice, whichever is later. If an objection is not timely filed, the objection is forever barred. The Summers County Commission upon receiving any timely objection thereto shall schedule a hearing or hearings thereon and order relief, if any, it considers proper including, but not limited to, an order directing that full and complete ancillary administration of the estate of the nonresident decedent be made in this state.

**First Publication Date:** Wednesday, March 6, 2024

**ESTATE NAME:** CARLA LEE DANIELS

**SUCCESSOR:** ALYSIA MICHELLE DANIELS

Subscribed and sworn to before me on 2/28/2024

Donald R. Basham Jr.  
Fiduciary Supervisor of Summers County  
(6mr)

NOTICE

The Summers County Democratic Convention to be held March 16, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Memorial Building in Hinton, WV, to elect delegates and alternates to the state convention. All Democrats in the county are invited.  
(6,13mr)

# Water, sewer rates to increase an average 8 percent

CHARLESTON W.Va. (Hinton News) – State regulators have approved an 8% increase in water and sewer rates for the average customers of the West Virginia-American Water Co. The new rates were effective Saturday.

Under its 58-page ruling, the Public Service Commission of West Virginia said the average water bill should increase by \$5.69 a month, and sewer bills should increase by \$5.59 a month.

The company filed for a 22.5 percent increase in rates on May 1, 2023, or a total of \$41.2 million. After the Commission allocated a portion of sewer costs to the water operations, the water increase rose to \$43 million, or 24 percent.

The company's original \$51 million increase application proposed a \$10 million decrease in its Distribution System Improvement Charge (DSIC), which is used to pay to improve the systems distribution lines and systems.

The net effect of the Com-

mission's decision released Saturday is to approve a \$15 million revenue increase, or an 8 percent increase in rates, instead of 24 percent, after the elimination of the DSIC charge and an allocation of some sewer rates to water.

The impact on a residential customer using 3,400 gallons of water per month will take the monthly water bill from \$71.10 to \$76.79.

For sewer operations, the company originally requested an increase of approximately \$471,000, or approximately 25 percent. The Commission order approved a net revenue increase of approximately \$147,000. The impact on a residential customer using 3,400 gallons of water per month will be take the average monthly sewer bill from \$69.92 to \$75.51.

More information on this case can be found on the PSC website: www.psc.state.wv.us. Click on "Case Information" and access Case Nos. 23-0383-W-42T and 23-0384-S-42T.

## Andrew Good of NumbersUSA Discusses E-Verify in WV

Lisa Abshire

WEST VIRGINIA (Hinton News) - Recently, Andrew Good, director of state government relations at NumbersUSA, spoke about House Bill 4759, the anti-illegal immigration legislation, and E-Verify in the Mountain State.

Good explained that he has been director since October 2023 and that NumbersUSA is the largest single-issue grassroots organization in the country.

Additionally, Good stated that illegal immigrants will seek employment in rural areas, such as those found in much of West Virginia, as easily as in more populated areas. That's why programs like E-Verify are so important. He went on to explain more about the E-Verify program.

E-Verify is reportedly the most effective way of turning off the job magnet, which is the driver of illegal immigration. E-Verify has been a critical part of every major effort, whether it's been an amnesty bill or an enforcement bill.

People on both sides of the aisle in Congress have long known and openly stated that requiring employers to verify their new hires to make sure they're not hiring illegally is critical in having immigration credibility, Good explained.

The Dallas Federal Reserve Bank found that requiring E-Verify results in as much as an 83% decrease in illegal immigration in each state, according to Good.

Good noted that E-Verify has a score of 88 on the American Customer Satisfaction Index, which is exceptionally high. He went on to say it has been the highest-rated federal program.

According to Good, you can use E-Verify to verify yourself. Go to MyE-Verify and lock your own Social Security Number.

A million employers already use E-Verify, and 47 million new hires last year were run through the system. WV House Bill 4759 seeks to implement E-Verify use requirements for many businesses in the Mountain State.

## A.A. meetings in Hinton

HINTON W.Va. (Hinton News) - The Hinton Alcoholics Anonymous group holds two weekly meetings 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.



# In Like a Lion: Lion Days in Alderson Announced

ALDERSON W.Va. (Hinton News) - Alderson Main Street is launching a new event, Lion Days. It is in celebration of the tame lion who roamed the streets of Alderson in the 1890s and in concert with the old folk saying for March, “In like a lion, out like a lamb” or vice versa.

March is quite an in-between season with winter on the wane and spring not quite here. It is the perfect time for a mixture of indoor and outdoor activities. Lion Days will begin on March 18 with businesses and residents decorating and celebrating “French,” the Alderson lion, by adding ribbons to their lion statues, flying lion flags, or decorating the lamp posts in town with a lion theme. There might even be some lion-shaped cookies leaping around.

On Tuesday, March 26, when parents, grandparents and caregivers are running out of things to do to entertain the school-age children enjoying Spring Break, those children are invited to come to the basement of the Johnson Memorial United Methodist Church to create mural-sized lion paintings. Each child will make their own painting using supplies provided by Alderson Main Street. Parents whose children want to participate in this free art activity should contact Cheryl Mansley at [cheryl-mansley@gmail.com](mailto:cheryl-mansley@gmail.com) or by phone at 304-702-0554 to sign their children up and get more information.

Lion Days will culminate on Saturday, March 30 at the Historic C&O Train Depot in Alderson at 2 p.m. with a gathering where the story of the Alderson Lion will be told and the mural-sized paintings created by the children will be displayed.

If you like to dress your pet in costumes, try your creativity by dressing them like a lion and sharing a photo of them as a comment on the Alderson Main Street Facebook page.

AMS President Don Sutherland said, “We are excited to try this new event and hope to add more activities each year.”



The metal lion sculpture, across from Fruits of Labor, still stalks visitors in Alderson.

# Warner says that WV’s May 14 Primary Election will include a total of 1,789 federal, state, and county candidates

CHARLESTON W.Va. (Hinton News) – WV Secretary of State Mac Warner has confirmed that a total of 1,789 candidates registered with his office and the county clerks’ offices throughout the state to participate in West Virginia’s Primary Election scheduled to take place on Tuesday, May 14.

January 27 was the last day for an individual to file as a candidate for the Republican and Democratic Party nominations. February 13 was the last day to withdraw and for executive committees to appoint candidates for the Primary to positions where no candidate filed. February 28 was the last day for executive committees to appoint candidates for the General Election due to no candidate filing.

A total of 504 national, congressional, statewide, and judicial candidates (other than magistrate), and the Greater Huntington Parks and Recreation Board filed with the WV Secretary of State’s Office. That list of candidates can be found HERE.

In addition, a total of 1,285 county-level candidates filed to run in the Primary Election with their local county clerk. Those positions include the offices of county commission, sheriff, assessor, magistrate, board of education, and surveyor. In addition, some municipal elections will be also held concurrently with the statewide elections administered by the counties. Lists of those candidates are maintained by each county clerk.

Board of Education and judicial candidates run in non-partisan elections. Except for a circuit judge who does not receive at least 30 percent of the vote, non-partisan candidates will be elected in the Primary Election. Following an amendment to the law last year, and for the first time in West Virginia history, circuit judge candidates who do not receive at least 30 percent of the vote will run in a runoff election in the General Election. That runoff will be between the two candidates who receive the highest number of votes in the Primary Election.

“Candidates for public office offer themselves to the voters to fill very important federal, state, county, and local positions,” said Secretary of State Mac Warner. “I congratulate all of the candidates seeking to serve the public and I thank them for their personal and professional commitments to participate in our election process.”

Warner said that his office works with all 55 county clerks to ensure that the election process is fair, safe, and transparent. Warner said that his office has and will continue to aggressively pursue and investigate claims of fraud. Voter confidence in the integrity of West Virginia’s election process is critical to ensuring an effective government.

Candidates and political action committees have been provided with the updated 2024 Running for Office Guide that outlines the roles and responsibilities of candidates, committees, county clerks, and the Secretary of State’s Office. The Guide is not a replacement for the West Virginia Code but provides a convenient summary of the provisions.

West Virginia offers registered voters more ways to cast a ballot than any other state in the Nation, including through technology available to deployed military, overseas citizens, voters living with certain disabilities, and first responders called away for emergency services on the eve of an election.

To learn more about the upcoming May 14 Primary Election, including voter registration and other deadlines, visit the WV Secretary of State’s secure elections landing page at [GoVoteWV.com](http://GoVoteWV.com).

**Joyce Surbaugh** REALTOR/Salesperson

 **304-660-8000** 

**Joyce.Surbaugh@gmail.com**

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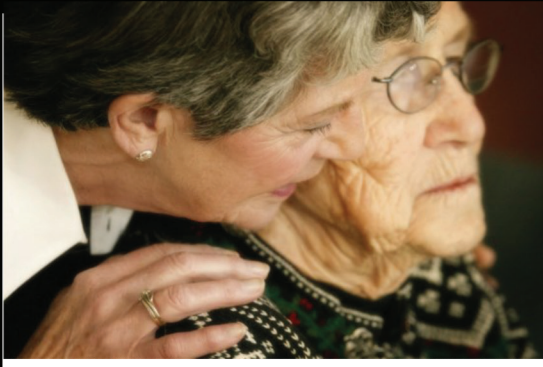
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