



# Janima “J” Bond receives special award at Summit Bank Award Luncheon

HINTON W.Va (Hinton News) - Summit Community Bank recently held its Annual Retail Banking Awards Luncheon at the beautiful Greenbrier Resort, where the best of the best from five states received recognition for their outstanding accomplishments.

Among those receiving the highest honors was Hinton’s own Janima “J” Bond, who received a special award for ranking #1 company-wide!



**Brad Ritchie, President and EVP; Brian Onks, SVP, Area Manager; Janima “J” Bond, Relationship Banker; Charlie Maddy, President and CEO**

# REACHH Gets Needed Funding for Renovations from Congresswoman Carol Miller



**The back of the food pantry building**



**The roof of both the food pantry building and the child advocacy center**

**Rebecca Stalnak**  
HINTON W.Va. (Hinton News) - Recently, Congresswoman Carol Miller stopped by REACHH in Hinton to discuss funding she helped secure for the organization to complete needed renovations to their buildings. According to Miller, \$650,000 was granted to REACHH through Community Project Funding. The resource center held a tea party for Miller to welcome her. “I was thrilled to meet with the REACHH-Family Resource Center to discuss how the \$650,000 I se-


cured in funding will help continue to support families in need. These centers are vital in our communities and provide safety and stability to many children in throughout the state. I’m happy to support this organization and provide them with the resources to grow their reach here in West Virginia,” said Congresswoman Miller. REACHH-Family Resource Center has three properties that will benefit from this funding; the main building, the food pantry and the child advocacy center. According

to REACH officials Felisha Hartwell and Doris Selko, there are several projects they are excited to get started. Hartwell noted that the main REACHH building has endured some extensive damage over the years. As a result, the floors slope significantly in multiple areas, one hallway has a hump in the floor, some of the pillars on the porch are leaning and an HVAC system is needed. The food pantry building needs to be expanded and the steps leading to the entrance need to be repaired. Some

of the buildings need a new roof. Other projects may include adding a shower and laundry machines to the food pantry building, constructing privacy fences and more. According to Hartwell, Miller had been to the new Child Advocacy Center before they were able to renovate it to what it is now. Hartwell said it was “really nice” being able to show Miller the progress they have made. Of Miller’s visit, Selko said, “We were honored to welcome her with a small tea.” Sever-

al community supporters also attended the event. Hartwell said, “We want REACHH to be an amazing place where families can come and know their needs are going to be met.” Now that they can improve their locations, REACHH is even better equipped to “provide a place for the community to come that is safe and available and ready to go.” Because REACHH is located within the historic district, Selko stated that they are going to be working with the Summers County Historical Society

to ensure their upgrade meets the historical requirements. In addition to meeting historical standards, REACHH is also required to be ADA-compliant, which will factor into some improvements. Hartwell said they have worked with the historical society in the past and they are incredibly understanding and easy to work with. Hinton News will be following the progress of the improvements made to REACHH and will provide updates as renovations get underway.



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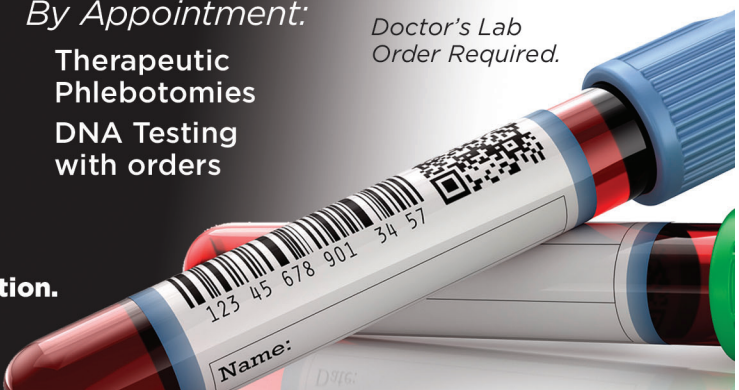
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## From Nightmare to Smooth Sailing: Crews Patch Road in Record Time



The hole that was near Triangle One Stop. Photo by Rebecca Stalnaker

Rebecca Stalnaker

HINTON W.Va. (Hinton News) - A hole opened in the road near Triangle One Stop in Hinton on Tuesday, April 9 which caused some traffic delays. Department of Highways crews on the scene stated that it was not a sinkhole and that they were working to fix it as quickly

as possible. The area was blocked off for the rest of the day.

The next morning, on April 10, crews shut down that part of the road and rerouted traffic while they worked on the area. By late afternoon, the road was re-opened and repairs complete.

Photos of the hole quickly

circulated on social media with many people making memes. A Facebook page that was created for the large sinkhole that opened at the then-current city police station, last year even got in on the action, commenting and posting about the new hole. Many of the memes can still be found on Facebook and beyond.

## Gateway Industries Announces 28th Annual Derby Day

FAIRLEA W.Va. (Hinton News) - Gateway Industries Inc. is preparing for the 28th annual Derby Day on Saturday, May 4, from 4-8 p.m. The event will be held in the Cecil H. Underwood Building of the West Virginia State Fairgrounds

Gateway Industries Inc. is pleased to announce the 28th annual Derby Day "Run for the Roses."

For the last 28 years, Gateway has hosted this gala fundraising event on behalf of Individuals with Significant Disabilities in need of Vocational Reha-

bilitation Services. This popular event features live music, cocktails, an all-you-can-eat buffet dinner, and all, while you watch the race on big-screen TVs. Pick your favorite horse.

From 4-6 p.m., bid on your favorite items in the huge silent auction, participate in the Most Spectacular Hat Contest, and take a chance on two half-and-half drawings and a live flower auction. There will be door prizes after the race.

So come out and enjoy this celebrated annual

event with friends and family. The ticket price is \$45 in advance and \$50 at the door.

For more information or to buy tickets in advance, contact Gateway Industries at 304-645-3165

## Summers County Students Participated in Inspiration Gallery

HINTON W.Va. (Hinton News) - Summers County students participated in the dedication of Inspiration Gallery on Saturday, April 13 at Summers County Comprehensive High School. The participating students included the following: Stephanie Williams, Logan Osborne, Ava Stover, Lawson Jones, and Avery Lilly. These students presented the five people to be inducted into the Inspiration Gallery.

Conceived by Cotty Far-

ley who presented the idea to the Summers County Historical Society, the goal of the project is to inspire students to achieve at their highest level and make a mark on history as exemplified by the people being honored with inclusion into the Gallery. The first criterion for inclusion is that the honoree must have attended school in Summers County. In a letter to students from Gene Fife, head of Goldman Sachs in London, a graduate of Hinton High School,

and one of the inductees, he writes, "Don't ever apologize for being from West Virginia or a small town. It is your greatest strength." Sylvia Mathews Burwell, former US Cabinet Secretary for Health and Human Services, also a graduate of Hinton High School echoed those sentiments in her letter to the students. She wrote, "Being from Hinton is my superpower."

The dedication ceremony was held at 2 p.m. and was open to the public.

## UPDATED: April 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 - Regular Meeting April 16 at 5:30 p.m. in the Memorial Building.

Summers County Commission - Regular Meeting - April 10 at 9 a.m. in the Commission Room in the Courthouse.

Summers County Public Library Board of Directors - Regular Meeting - April 11 at 5 p.m. in the library.

Summers County LEPC - No March meeting  
Hinton City Council - Regular Meeting - April 16 at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

John Henry Days Com-

mittee - Regular Meeting - Not announced at the time of publishing

Summers County Dilapidated Structures Committee - Regular Meeting - April 22 at Noon in the Memorial Building Auditorium.

Summers County Republicans - Regular Meeting - April 22 at 6:30 p.m. in the Memorial Building.

Summers County Board of Education - Regular Meeting - April 23 at 5 p.m. LSIC at Talcott Elementary. Call the Board Office for more information.

Friends of the Summers County Public Library Book

Group - Regular Meeting - April 24 at 7 p.m. in the library.

Levy Town Hall - Coffee with the Superintendent - April 27 at 8:30 a.m. - Kirks Restaurant.

Three Rivers Democratic Women - Regular Meeting - April 18 at 5 p.m. at Botany Tropicals.

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

\*\*If you would like to add a meeting to this list, contact news@hintonnews.com.

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to offer a 2 to 3 minute prayer,  
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Bring a chair & candle, if you wish.

### THE HINTON NEWS

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**Thursday, April 25 at the Hinton Freight Depot  
11 am to 7 pm**

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Sometimes, knowing if you are eligible is difficult, and the enrollment process can be complex.

Sometimes, these services and programs are available to you, but you don't know who to talk to or where to apply.

So **join us for this "one-stop shop" event**, where you can speak to a wealth of **experts who will take the time** to answer your questions and ensure you receive the necessary information and **assistance tailored to your needs**.

You can **attend without an appointment** and speak to a variety of partners.

Or, you can **schedule an appointment and speak confidentially** with someone who can guide you or your family members through an enrollment process.

**Scan the QR code** above to sign up for appointments, or **call REACHH** at 304-466-2226.

Let's come together, Hinton! **Learn, get help, and stay healthy together.**

**Partners:**

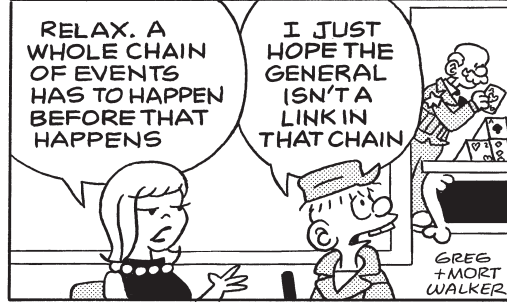
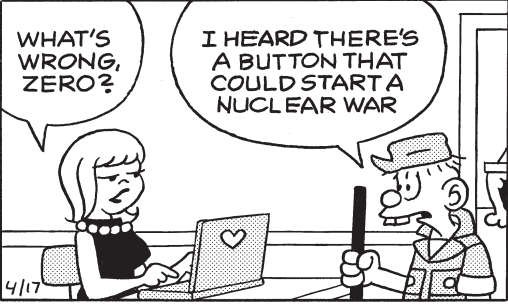


**Learn more. Ask questions. Enroll.**



ENTERTAINMENT & COMICS PAGE

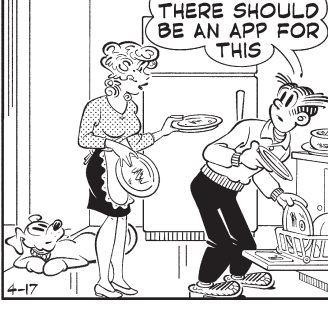
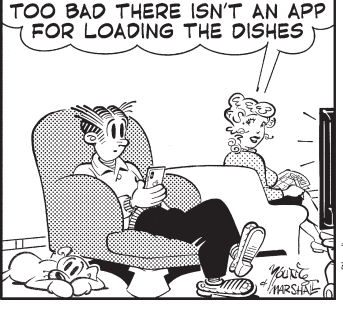
Beetle Bailey



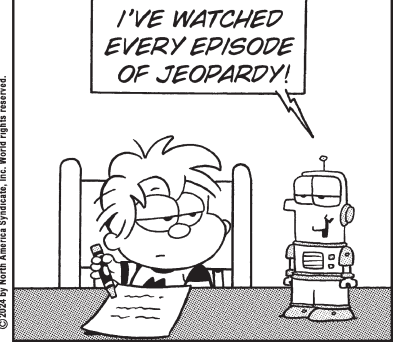
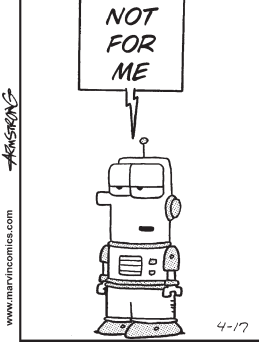
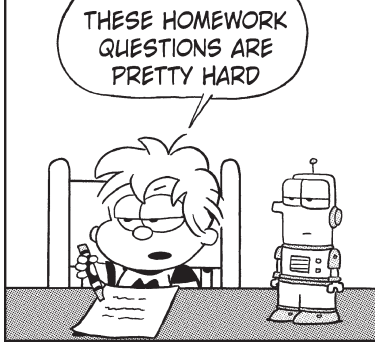
Hi and Lois



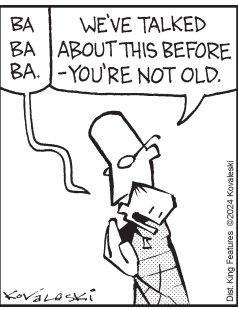
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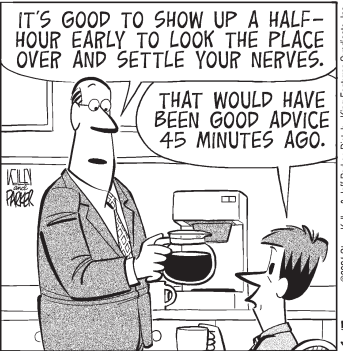
Daddy Daze



Mutts



Dustin



Zits



ROYAL STARS HOROSCOPE

BY GEORGIA NICOLS

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, April 17, 2024:

You are a resilient person with confidence and willpower. You're determined to succeed, which is likely, because you can spot opportunities for yourself and others. This year is more laid-back and slower paced. Focus on your closest relationships. Choose people who have your best interests at heart.

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★ Don't be afraid to shake up the status quo today. You want to do your own thing. This will especially apply to creative projects, the arts, sports and fun activities with kids. However, do take note: Be vigilant, because this is an accident-prone day for your kids. Tonight: Surprises.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

3★ Today you want to shake things up a little, which is why you might rearrange furniture, invite friends over or do something different at home. You might do or say something that surprises a family member or vice versa. You might organize a group activity, like

a book club. Tonight: Be ready.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

4★ You're eager for adventure and something different today. This is why travel or a short trip will please you, because you can see new places and meet new faces. In addition, you're full of original, inventive thinking. Why not share your ideas? Run them up the flagpole to see if anyone salutes. Tonight: Be spontaneous.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

3★ Keep an eye on your possessions and your assets today, because something unpredictable could impact them. Possibly, you will find money. Then again, you might lose

money. Be smart and protect what you own against loss, theft or damage. Anything related to your wealth is unpredictable today. Tonight: Check your assets.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

4★ Today it's a bit of a crapshoot; nevertheless, you're full of big, inventive, original ideas! These might include travel plans or exploring opportunities in publishing, the media, medicine, the law or something to do with getting further training or higher education. You're stoked! Tonight: Enjoy!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

3★ This is a restless day for you. You have that feeling that you're waiting for the other shoe to drop. A partner or close friend might be a tad contentious or difficult to deal with. Don't take the bait; you have better things to do. Get ready for an unexpected opportunity to travel. Tonight: Privacy.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

4★ A friend might surprise you today or, alternatively, you might meet someone who's a real character. Either way, interactions with others won't be boring. Fortunately, the people

you encounter today (including those from your past) will be interesting. Tonight: Socialize.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

2★ Tread carefully, because someone in a position of authority, including the police, might catch you off guard today. ("Busted!") A boss or a parent might say or do something that you least expect. Don't react immediately. Give yourself a chance to process things. Tonight: Be courteous.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

4★ Surprise travel plans might happen today or, alternatively, travel plans might be canceled or changed. Stay light on your feet, because you want to socialize and have a good time today. And you want to do it on your own terms, because you feel feisty and independent. Tonight: Explore!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan 19)

3★ Make sure you know what's happening with banking matters and anything to do with shared property and inheritances, because something out of the blue could suddenly change things. Don't be caught snoozing. When it comes to your wealth, stay on top of

things. Tonight: Check your finances.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

3★ Today's a bit of a crapshoot, which is why friends, partners and others might catch you off guard. Someone might say or do something you didn't expect. Nevertheless, you're up for whatever happens, because your social skills are strong and smooth. You're Teflon. Tonight: Listen.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

3★ Your job, your work or even your health might be a challenge today. Something unusual might happen, which makes you dig in your heels. You feel independent and you want to fight for your rights. (With Mars in your sign, you will certainly have the energy and courage to do this.) Tonight: Work.

BORN TODAY

Actress Jennifer Garner (1972), actress Phoebe Dynevor (1995), actor Sean Bean (1959)

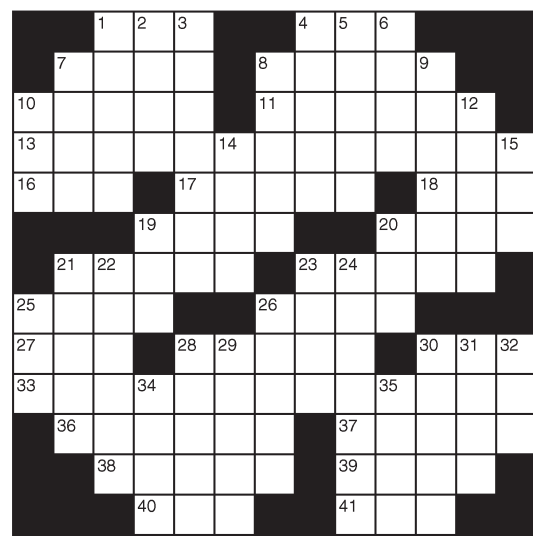
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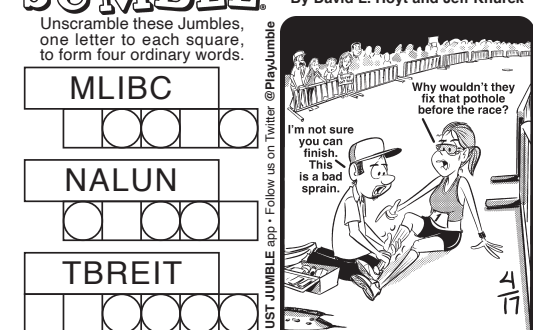
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SHEFFER CROSSWORD

- ACROSS 1 "Dyna-mite" band 4 Stand — (hold firm) 7 Donald Duck's nephew 8 Photo book 10 Daughter of Lear 11 Sheep sounds 13 Piece performed by Yo-Yo Ma 16 Pub order 17 Tennis great Djokovic 18 Physics particle 19 Memory unit 20 Title for Helen Mirren 21 Motif 23 Reads quickly 25 Alum 26 Cambodia neighbor 27 Vacuum's lack 28 Winner's gesture 30 Char-lotte's creation 33 1968 hit single by the Doors 36 Discriminatory, as in hiring 37 Serengeti antelope 38 Gold-loving king 39 Forget-me — (flowers) 40 Oahu, for one (Abbr.) 41 Blaster's need DOWN 1 "Taps" instrument 2 Pond duck 3 The-saurus word 4 First course of action 5 Taken — (surprised) 6 Tooth-paste holder 7 Scoundrel 8 Higher than 9 Robin's love 10 TV pioneer 12 Molecule parts 14 Doves' home 15 In-separable 19 Foundation 20 Wagner's " — Rheingold" 21 Samples 22 Apollo Theater locale 23 Palm starch 24 Mother Superior's home 25 "So frustrating!" 26 Cheery tunes 28 Nullifies 29 Twine fiber 30 Lawman Earp 31 Billions of years 32 Future flower 34 Roman 62 35 North Carolina university



JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME



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

(Today's Answers Next Wednesday)

Last Wednesday's Answers: Jumbles: GEESE AROMA PLIGHT HYMNAL Answer: When the lunar colony opened a new domed restaurant, diners enjoyed its — ATMOSPHERE



SUDOKU PUZZLE

King Classic Sudoku

9x9 grid for King Classic Sudoku with numbers 3, 1, 5, 6, 4, 6, 8, 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 4, 3, 4, 1, 9, 3, 5, 9, 6, 8, 2, 1, 5, 3, 4, 9, 7, 7, 1, 9, 6, 5, 1, 4, 8, 7, 4, 7, 8, 2, 3, 5, 1, 9, 6, 6, 1, 9, 8, 7, 4, 3, 2, 5

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:

9x9 grid for Answer to Last Wednesday's Puzzle: 7 8 1 5 4 3 2 6 9, 9 4 2 7 6 8 5 1 3, 3 6 5 1 9 2 8 7 4, 5 3 7 6 2 1 9 4 8, 8 2 6 4 5 9 7 3 1, 1 9 4 3 8 7 6 5 2, 2 5 3 9 1 6 4 8 7, 4 7 8 2 3 5 1 9 6, 6 1 9 8 7 4 3 2 5

Difficulty: ★★★

4/17



## Annual watershed celebration at Lost World Caverns coming up



Two children checking a display at a past event at Lost World Cavern



Painted rain barrels

LEWISBURG W.Va. (Hinton News) - The Greenbrier River Watershed Association is hosting our annual watershed celebration at Lost World Caverns on Saturday, April 20, from 3 to 7 p.m. Admission is a suggested \$10 donation per person or \$25 for fam-

ilies, which gets you in the cave for free. Learn about our water quality project in the watershed in collaboration with WVSOM, stream ecology, and karst geology. Greenbrier Grotto will be present with their squeeze-box activity to demonstrate what it's like for cavers in-

side tight spaces. There are lots of kid's activities, music, and a fiddler inside the cave! Fairway Fork Food Truck will have great food available, plus our beautiful t-shirts, hats and maps of our watershed are for sale, which further supports our projects.

The rain barrel workshop starts at 3:30 pm with a free rain barrel and attachment kit to take home by registered participants. The rain barrels were sponsored through a grant from Mountain Resource Conservation Development. There is a limit on the

number of barrels available so register here: <https://forms.gle/eb9wTeSFDD-NKJip1A> to save your spot and take home a free rain barrel. Additionally, at 4:30 pm, beautifully painted rain barrels decorated by local students will be raffled.

Please join us to celebrate Earth Day and support our ongoing projects to keep our beautiful Greenbrier River clean and healthy! Stay up to date on all of our activities as well as this event at <https://www.facebook.com/greenbrier.watershed>

# Concord University Has Been Awarded The National Science Foundation's Noyce Grant

ATHENS, W.Va. (Hinton News) - Concord University has been awarded a Continuing Grant under Track 2 of the Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship program in the amount of \$2,317,725 by the National Science Foundation. The funds have been granted for a program titled Utilizing Wrap Around Mentorship and Virtual Reality to Prepare and Sustain STEM Teachers in Rural High-need Schools. The purpose of the project is to increase the number of highly qualified, culturally competent STEM teachers in rural Appalachian secondary schools.

to successfully teach STEM in rural schools. I look forward to seeing the benefits this funding brings, and I will continue to advocate for research and educational opportunities here in the Mountain State."

Comprehensive wrap around mentorship, including virtual coaching, and using low-cost virtual reality technology in the training of new teachers and for use in differentiated learning will prepare fellows to teach in high-need rural schools. Partnerships with local school districts will be strengthened, while a partnership with the West Virginia Science Teachers Association will benefit Concord and Teaching Fellows beyond the grant period. Approximately 600 students per year will be taught by Teaching Fellows of this program, a considerable impact for a rural area, with long-term positive implications for employment and the economy in West Virginia. This project will serve as a model for other institutions serving rural schools, provide a framework that harnesses technology to overcome barriers that affect teaching and learning at all levels.

The funds will be used to recruit 16 STEM professionals as Teaching Fellows, retain Teaching Fellows in the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) program, incorporate the use of Virtual Reality technology in the classroom, and use a combination of institutional software to track Teaching Fellow activities.

Individuals who have degrees in STEM fields (Math, Science, Chemistry, Biology) are eligible to apply to be a Fellow in the MAT program at Con-

cord University. Fellows will compete 12 months of course work, earn a West Virginia Professional Teaching license, and teach a minimum of five years in a high-need school. Fellows will receive a \$15,000 stipend annually for the first five years they teach in a high-need school. Applications for fellows will be accepted for the 24-25 and 25-26 academic years.

Concord's MAT program is a completely online program that provides the professional education courses and clinical experiences, including student teaching, necessary to prepare individuals for teaching in a specific content area in grades PreK-Adult, 5-Adult, or 9-Adult.

Tracey O'Donnell graduated from Concord in 2018 with a Master of Arts in Teaching degree. She began teaching at Montcalm High School in 2017, and is still there today. She teaches Biology, Advanced Biology, Honors Biology, Earth Science, Chemistry, and Forensic Science to grades 7-12. Tracey says of her studies at Concord, "The program taught me to understand relationship building with students. Instruction is not only about student understanding, but also student interest. This concept has made me successful in my classrooms. Everything I learned there was very student driven.

It's important for educators to put students first, and I don't think there's any better place to learn that than at Concord." Tracey also noted a benefit of the program is that students can still work while earning their degree, giving them access to go straight into the classroom.

Dr. Andrea Campbell, Concord's Department of Education Chair and Director of Teacher Education, was instrumental in applying for this grant. "We are beyond excited to get this program started with our first fellows be-

ginning in August. While all teachers and individuals enrolled in programs to become teachers deserve financial support and incentives, this grant makes financial bonuses available to individuals with STEM

content degrees to teach in those STEM areas. These areas tend to be difficult for school districts to hire."

For more information, please contact Dr. Campbell at 304-384-5362 or [acampbell@concord.edu](mailto:acampbell@concord.edu).

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## Salvation By Grace Through Faith

(Part 1)  
by Jeff Asher

The Church at Ephesus was established while Paul briefly passed by that way journeying to Jerusalem at the end of the second tour (Acts 18:19-21).

No mention of specific converts is made until those found in Acts 19:1-5. Paul did in Ephesus as he always did; he preached the word in the synagogue seeking to convert the Jews first. Later, he turned to the Gentile population (Acts 19:8-9).

Ephesus became Paul's third center of evangelism. In the beginning, it was Antioch in Syria. Later, it was Philippi in Macedonia. Now, it was Ephesus. Paul's work in the school of Tyrannus allowed him to spread the Word throughout all Asia (Acts 19:10). During the two years at Ephesus, churches of Christ were established in Laodicea, Hierapolis, Sardis, Pergamos, Thyatira, Smyrna, Philadelphia, Colosse and Troas (cf. Revelation 2 and 3; 2 Cor. 2:12).

The conversions at Ephesus are sometimes misused by those who hold the false doctrine that salvation occurs at the point of faith before and without water baptism. A favorite passage of these people is Ephesians 2:8-9, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works lest any man should boast." Let's consider the evidence which the Scriptures reveal concerning their redemption. Specifically, let's see what the New Testament says about their baptism.

### Not Of Our Own Works, But Of God's Grace

There is no debating about whether or not salvation is a matter of grace—it is (Eph. 2:8). We are not saved by works of our own righteousness but according to God's mercy (Titus 3:5). The question is whether or not there are works of another class included within the realm of grace? Does the Bible teach there are "works" which exclude boasting consistent with divine grace?

The Bible says that Abraham was saved by "works" (Jam. 2:21-23). These were works of faith, that is, obedience to God which was rooted in and sprang forth from faith (Heb. 11:8, 17-19). There is no sense in which the works which Abraham did can be said to have been "his own works." He did not appoint the journey. He did not originate the sacrifice of his only son. God asked for these things and Abraham with implicit trust obeyed God.

Thus, we are urged to walk in the steps of Abraham's faith (Rom. 4:12). How can we so walk, if "doing" nullifies grace?

Peter clearly declares salvation is promised to him that fears God and works righteousness (Acts 10:34-35). Paul affirms that he preached in order to secure from others the "obedience of faith" (Rom. 1:5; 16:26). Such obedience is not inconsistent with grace, but establishes grace (Rom. 6:15-18).

(Continued next week.)

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Send comments to: [zionchurch@padfield.com](mailto:zionchurch@padfield.com)

Paid for by Shockley Hill church of Christ.

We meet at 3293 Tug Creek Mountain Road  
Sunday Morning Worship 9:30  
Bible Study 10:30  
Worship 11:15  
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30  
We would love to have you come and study with us.  
304-466-5907, 304-445-5115, 304-860-7179

## 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.

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**tia@wvdm.com**

THE HINTON NEWS



# City National Bank honored by J.D. Power with customer satisfaction award for fifth time in seven years

CHARLESTON (Hinton News) — City National Bank ranked #1 in customer satisfaction for consumer banking in the North Central Region in the J.D. Power 2024 U.S. Retail Banking Satisfaction Study, claiming the top honor in its region for the fifth time in seven years. City scored higher than

W.Va. all other banks in West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana and Michigan.

“This award is about more than providing excellent service. It is about the way all City employees interact with and support their customers, communities, and each other every day,” said President and CEO Skip Hageboeck.

“We are honored to once again be recognized by our customers.”

The U.S. Retail Banking Satisfaction Study measures satisfaction across seven factors: trust; people; account offerings; allowing customers to bank how and when they want; saving time and money; digital channels; and

resolving problems or complaints.

In addition to ranking highest overall in its region, City also fared best in the factors of trust, people, allowing customers to bank how and when they want, and saving time and money.

The study is based on responses from 105,355 re-

tail customers of the largest banks in the United States regarding their experiences with their retail bank. It was fielded from January 2023 through January 2024. View the full J.D. Power 2024 U.S. Retail Banking Satisfaction Study here: <https://www.jdpower.com/business/retail-banking-study-1>.

### About City National Bank

Headquartered in Charleston, W. Va., City National Bank operates 97 branches in West Virginia, Kentucky, Virginia and Ohio. With \$6.2 billion in assets, City offers a variety of financial products and services for both consumer and business customers.

### Summers County Commission Levy Estimate (Budget) 2024 - 2025 Fiscal Year

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
County of: Summers, West Virginia

In accordance with WV Code §11-8-10, as amended, the Summers County Commission proceeded to make an estimate of the amounts necessary to be raised by a levy of taxes for the current year, and doth determine and estimate the several amounts to be as follows:

General Fund	Estimated Revenues
Fund Balance	\$ 850,000
Property Taxes Current year	2,655,377
Prior Year Taxes	251,415
Tax Penalties, Interest & Publication Fees	78,059
Property Transfer Tax	150,000
Gas and Oil Severance Tax	100,000
Wine & Liquor Tax	4,092
Hotel Occupancy Tax	300,000
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	115
Miscellaneous Energy Tax (Coal Bed Methane)	7,887
Licenses	86
Building Permits	1,514
Federal Grants / Federal Payment in Lieu of Taxes	75,000
Sheriff's Service of Process	9,000
Sheriff's Earnings	7,224
County Clerk's Earnings	36,530
Circuit Clerk's Earnings	11,981
Prosecuting Attorney's Earnings	951
Accident Reports	686
Motor Vehicle License Fee	2,761
Parks & Recreation Fees	135,000
Rents & Concessions	38,000
Franchise Agreement	42,332
IRP Fees (Interstate Registration Plan)	60,720
Fines, Fees & Court Costs	640
Regional Jail Operations Partial Reimbursement	15,739
Interest Earned	25,000
Miscellaneous Revenue	30,000
Sheriff's Commission	4,570
Gaming Income	40,152
Filing Fees	260
Video Lottery	7,392
Refunds/Reimbursements (External Sources)	128,846
Parking	17,500
General School Reimbursements	46,070
Magistrate Court Reimbursements	5,078
Worthless Check Reimbursements	457
Transfers Assessor's Valuation Fund	247,673
<b>Total Estimated General Fund Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 5,388,107</b>

### Summers County Commission Levy Estimate (Budget) 2024 - 2025 Fiscal Year

Coal Severance Tax	Assigned Fund Balance	Coal Severance Tax
	\$ 62,000	20,000
<b>Total Coal Severance</b>		<b>\$ 82,000</b>

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES	General Fund	Coal Severance Tax Fund
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>		
County Commission	\$ 245,006	\$ -
County Clerk	328,613	-
Circuit Clerk	220,910	-
Sheriff - Treasurer	341,075	-
Prosecuting Attorney	335,265	-
Assessor	287,486	-
Assessor's Valuation Fund	247,673	-
Statewide Computer Network	27,209	-
Fiduciary Supervisor	45,000	-
Agricultural Agent	9,000	-
Elections - County Clerk	103,603	-
Purchasing Department	425,000	82,000
Courthouse	380,479	-
Other Buildings	92,500	-
Regional Development Authority	12,000	-
Economic Development	15,750	-
County Clerk Operations	11,495	-
<b>TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>3,128,064</b>	<b>82,000</b>
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>		
Sheriff - Law Enforcement	748,383	-
Sheriff - Service of Process	9,000	-
Regional Jail	320,000	-
Police Special Duty	108,846	-
Emergency Services	62,453	-
Flood Control	17,175	-
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	<b>1,265,857</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>CULTURE AND RECREATION</b>		
Parks & Recreation	120,552	-
4 - H Camp	239,599	-
Visitor's Bureau	150,000	-
Library	6,000	-
<b>TOTAL CULTURE &amp; RECREATION</b>	<b>516,151</b>	<b>-</b>

### Summers County Commission Levy Estimate (Budget) 2024 - 2025 Fiscal Year

CAPITAL PROJECTS	-	-
General Government	463,584	-
Courthouse	14,440	-
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL OUTLAY</b>	<b>478,024</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 5,388,096</b>	<b>\$ 82,000</b>

### Summers County Commission Levy Estimate (Budget) 2024 - 2025 Fiscal Year

SUMMERS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA  
REGULAR CURRENT EXPENSE LEVY  
FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2024 - JUNE 30, 2025

	Certificate of Valuation Assessed Value for Tax Purposes	Levy Rate/\$100	Taxes Levied
<b>Class I</b>			
Personal Property	\$ 0	14.30	\$ 0
Public Utility	0		0
<b>Total Class I</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>		<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>Class II</b>			
Real Estate	\$ 317,405,920	28.60	\$ 907,781
Personal Property	1,735,584		4,964
<b>Total Class II</b>	<b>\$ 319,141,504</b>		<b>\$ 912,745</b>
<b>Class III</b>			
Real Estate	\$ 139,035,180	57.20	\$ 795,281
Personal Property	49,925,402		285,573
Public Utility	98,263,635		562,068
<b>Total Class III</b>	<b>\$ 287,224,217</b>		<b>\$ 1,642,922</b>
<b>Class IV</b>			
Real Estate	\$ 34,864,010	57.20	\$ 199,422
Personal Property	19,304,279		110,420
Public Utility	18,787,469		107,464
<b>Total Class IV</b>	<b>\$ 72,955,758</b>		<b>\$ 417,306</b>
<b>Total Value &amp; Projected Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 679,321,479</b>		<b>\$ 2,972,973</b>
Less Delinquencies, Exonerations & Uncollectable Taxes		7.00%	208,108
Less Tax Discounts		2.00%	55,297
Less Allowance for Tax Increment Financing (if Applicable)			0
<b>Total Projected Property Tax Collection</b>			<b>2,709,568</b>
Less Assessor Valuation Fund		2.00%	0
(Subtracted from regular current expense taxes levied only)			
<b>Net Amount to be Raised by Levy of Property Taxes</b>			<b>\$ 2,709,568</b>

### Summers County Commission Levy Estimate (Budget) 2024 - 2025 Fiscal Year

SUMMERS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA  
Excess Levy/Levies  
FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2024 - JUNE 30, 2025

	Certificate of Valuation Assessed Value for Tax Purposes	Levy Rate/\$100	Taxes Levied
<b>Class I</b>			
Personal Property	\$ 0	0.00	\$ 0
Public Utility	0		0
<b>Total Class I</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>		<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>Class II</b>			
Real Estate	\$ 317,405,920	0.00	\$ 907,781
Personal Property	1,735,584		4,964
<b>Total Class II</b>	<b>\$ 319,141,504</b>		<b>\$ 912,745</b>
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Real Estate	\$ 34,864,010	0.00	\$ 199,422
Personal Property	19,304,279		110,420
Public Utility	18,787,469		107,464
<b>Total Class IV</b>	<b>\$ 72,955,758</b>		<b>\$ 417,306</b>
<b>Total Value &amp; Projected Revenue</b>	<b>\$</b>		<b>\$ 2,972,973</b>
Less Delinquencies, Exonerations & Uncollectable Taxes		7.00%	208,108
Less Tax Discounts		2.00%	55,297
<b>Net Amount to be Raised by Levy of Property Taxes</b>			<b>\$ 2,709,568</b>

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
COUNTY OF SUMMERS

I, Lynn Reed, CLERK OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF SAID COUNTY, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING ARE TRUE COPIES FROM THE RECORD OF ORDERS MADE AND ENTERED BY SAID COMMISSION ON THE 28TH DAY OF MARCH 2024.

(Signature)



# WVU to help fill need for water workforce in Appalachian communities

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. (Hinton News) — Economically distressed McDowell County is one target of a West Virginia University program to connect high school and community college students and others new to the workforce with well-paid jobs in the water sector, which is in urgent need of workers.

A \$1.4 million demonstration grant from the U.S. Department of Labor supports the three-year initiative to develop paid summer internship partnerships with water and wastewater utilities serving disadvantaged areas of West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia.

Emily Garner, assistant professor and Maurice and JoAnn Wadsworth Faculty Fellow in the Wadsworth Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the WVU Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources said there is a national shortage of workers in operations that deal with wastewater, stormwater and drinking water.

A survey Garner's team conducted showed West Virginia water sector professionals ranked recruiting and retaining staff, and planning for employee turnover and transition among their top challenges.

"In McDowell County specifically, the Public Service District told us that having employees to monitor water quality and operate the systems is among their greatest

needs," she said.

"McDowell is a large county with numerous legacy water systems installed by mining companies. Centralized sewer infrastructure is often lacking. Our work indicates over half of water and wastewater utility operators across the state of West Virginia will be eligible to retire within the next decade, so worker shortages like those in McDowell County, along with our state's aging water infrastructure, will only get worse unless we act. Our goal is for this program to serve as a pilot project to establish a model for training new workers for jobs in water and wastewater that can be applied in other locations across the state and Appalachian region."

The need for a training pipeline is clear to Garner, who leads the workforce development effort with Kevin Orner, assistant professor and Maurice and JoAnn Wadsworth Faculty Fellow, and Lauren Prinzo, a WVU Extension specialist in community and economic development.

Their focus is on meeting local workforce needs and providing "good jobs" to participants — jobs offering living wages, benefits, career advancement and wage growth. Nationally, the water sector pays more than other fields: \$25.22 per hour on average for water jobs, versus \$23.86 in all other occupations.

Water jobs also have lower educational requirements than many industries, with

53% of water workers having a high school diploma or less. In place of educational qualifications, water jobs rely heavily on on-the-job training. In fact, a minimum of two to four years of training are typically required before a worker can become a certified water or wastewater operator.

The internship program Garner oversees enables participants to start accruing certification hours right away. Starting this summer, interns will spend an average of 20 hours a week obtaining hands-on experience in water sector jobs, mentored by industry professionals. Virtual and in-person sessions delivered by Garner's team will train interns on safety, licensure and fundamental water treatment concepts.

Interns cannot have previously worked a full-time job for twelve consecutive months, so most will be high school, GED, and technical or community college students or recent graduates. They will earn \$12 an hour and receive a stipend to cover uniform and travel expenses.

"In rural communities, travel times even for participants traveling within a given county can be substantial," Garner said. "We'll cover interns' mileage and make sure they have the high-visibility uniforms and protective footwear they'll need to meet safety standards."

Garner is working with the West Virginia Rural Wa-

ter Association to educate participants about post-internship training opportunities. "The West Virginia Rural Water Association administers apprenticeship programs," she explained, "so they're an ideal partner to facilitate interns' continued training after they've completed our program."

In addition to establishing and running the internship program, Garner and her colleagues will also collaborate with groups like McDowell County Schools, Reconnecting McDowell and 4-H to raise K-12 awareness about water careers and wa-

ter sector issues, and they'll provide resources and support to employer partners.

Garner emphasized that in rural communities like McDowell County, each dollar spent building water or wastewater infrastructure creates \$15 in private investment and adds \$14 to the local property tax base.

"McDowell has West Virginia's lowest workforce participation rate — 28.5%. They have a 32.8% poverty rate and a 7.1% unemployment rate. With coal's decline, McDowell has seen a steady decrease in employment opportunities and

population since the 1970s," she said.

"We cannot support business development for Appalachian communities like McDowell if they don't have adequate access to water and sanitation. Availability of drinking water and wastewater services is a prerequisite for economic growth, and well-trained water sector workers are essential to those services and to economic development. Our job is to enable people from these rural communities to obtain local careers, remain in the region and thrive here."

### NOTICE

Notice: the below ballot will be included in the Summers County Election on May 14, 2024.

### SAMPLE OFFICAL BALLOT

Special Election to Authorize Additional Levies According to the Order of The Board of Education

of the County of Summers entered on January 23, 2024

A special election to authorize additional levies for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2024, July 1, 2025, July 1, 2026, July 1, 2027, and July 1, 2028, in the total average amount of approximately \$1,502,230.84 annually, for the purpose of paying the general current expenses of The Board of Education of the County of Summers, including for the purposes hereinafter set forth in the table below; all according to this Official Ballot and the Order of the Board entered on January 23, 2024, and as more particularly described below.

The approximate average annual amount considered necessary for each purpose, subject to variation from year to year as provided herein, is set forth as follows:

PURPOSE FOR WHICH ADDITIONAL FUNDS ARE NEEDED	AVERAGE ANNUAL AMOUNT FOR EACH PURPOSE
<b>A. Safety and Security</b> , including, but not limited to, school resource officers; probation officer; cyber security; and building security.	\$350,000.00
<b>B. Student Academic Services and Transportation</b> , including, but not limited to, support (interventions, tutoring, student assistant teams, and other support); avoiding split classrooms; Communities In Schools Programs; After-School and Summer-School Programs; Work Programs; field trips; Career and Technical Education (CTE); band/music competitions; and academic and athletic competitions.	\$652,712.00
<b>C. Building and Grounds</b> , including, but not limited to, maintenance of existing buildings and grounds (including needed repairs and renewal and replacement); playgrounds; and facilities.	\$500,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,502,712.00</b>

As noted above and in the next paragraph, below, the amounts set forth in the table above are the approximate average annual amounts for each purpose. The actual amounts for each purpose will likely vary from one fiscal year to the next. If any item in the above-stated purposes is declared unconstitutional or invalid due to judicial or legislative action, then any affected funds will be distributed among the remaining constitutional and valid itemized purposes.

The actual amounts budgeted, as well as the amounts actually spent, for each purpose and in aggregate, likely will vary from one fiscal year to the next depending on the realized tax collections and the needs of the Summers County School District, as determined by the Board with respect to each fiscal year and, further, are subject to downward adjustments (if any) required to be made for any fiscal year under Section 8, Article 9B, Chapter 18 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended. If the amounts budgeted by the Board for a specific purpose or purposes for a fiscal year are not able or needed to be spent entirely in such fiscal year, then the unspent amount shall be carried over and spent on such specific purpose or purposes in subsequent fiscal years.

The proposed additional rate of levy in cents per one hundred dollars of assessed valuations on each class of property within Summers County School District for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2024, July 1, 2025, July 1, 2026, July 1, 2027, and July 1, 2028, is as follows:

Class I	8.035
Class II	16.07
Class III	32.14
Class IV	32.14

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

The Board of Education of the County of Summers is hereby authorized and empowered to expend, during the term of this levy, the surplus, if any, accruing in excess of the amounts needed for any of the above-stated purposes, or for the enrichment, supplementation and improvement of educational services and/or facilities in the public schools.

In the event that the actual amount collected is less than the approximate annual amounts allocated for the above-stated purposes for any one or more fiscal years, the Board is hereby authorized and empowered to determine (i) which one or more of the above-stated purposes shall be reduced for each such fiscal year and (ii) the amount of each such reduction for such fiscal year; provided, however, that the total of all such reductions shall not exceed the amount of such collection shortfall each year and; provided, further, that if any such reduction for one or more of the above-stated purposes is necessary, then subject to downward adjustments (if any) required to be made for any fiscal year under Section 8, Article 9B, Chapter 18 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, the funds allocated for Purpose A and B set forth in the table of purposes and average annual amounts above shall be the last purpose considered by the Board for a reduction in funds in the event of a shortfall.

The Board of Education of the County of Summers, to the extent permitted by then-existing law, reserves unto itself as the levying body the right and authority to reduce the rates of the excess levy should increased assessments produce funds beyond projected needs in any year specified in the levy call in accordance with Section 6g, Article 8, Chapter 11 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended.

For each fiscal year beginning on and after July 1, 2024, The Board of Education of the County of Summers, to the extent permitted by then-existing law, may reduce the levy rates proportionately for all classes of property when increased assessed valuations, excluding appraisal or valuation due to new construction or improvements to existing real property, including beginning recovery of natural resources and newly acquired personal property, would cause an increase of more than four percent in the total projected property tax revenues from the previous year's projected property tax revenues. In that event the levy rate, to the extent permitted by then-existing law, is reduced so as to cause such rate to produce no more than one hundred and four percent from all classes of property, excluding appraisal or valuation from new construction or improvements to existing real property, including beginning recovery of natural resources and newly acquired personal property, of the previous year's projected property tax revenues from all property.

For the Levies   
Against the Levies

### INSTRUCTION TO VOTERS

Those favoring the additional levies shall mark after "For the Levies"; those against such levies shall mark after "Against the Levies."

-----END OF FORM OF SAMPLE OFFICIAL BALLOT-----

## PSC Promotes Safe Dig Month



Left to Right: Jason Porter, GOWV; Rich Swiger, President of WV811; Brandon Hahn, Director, WV Damage Prevention Board; Mary Friend, Gas Pipeline Safety Director, PSC; Jerry Poage, Executive Director, WV811; Morgan O'Brien, President/CEO, Hope Gas; and Jonell Carver, COO, Hope Gas.

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (Hinton News — April is the month when people shake off winter doldrums, get ready to cut the grass again, and foray into outdoor construction jobs. The Public Service Commission of West Virginia reminds you that April is Safe Digging Month. Before you dig, call WV 811.

Gov. Jim Justice declared April is Safe Digging Month in West Virginia at the request of the PSC. Early this month, that proclamation was presented to officials of WV811 by Mary Friend, director of the PSC's Gas Pipeline Safety Division.

The presentation to Jerry Poage, executive director of WV811, and Rich Swiger, the organization's president, came at the third annual Damage Prevention Seminar, hosted by the Gas

and Oil Association of West Virginia.

Safe Digging Month reminds all, from professional excavators to backyard gardeners, that you are legally required to call 811 before you start to dig. Call two days, excluding weekends and holidays, before you start your project. The 811 team will notify utility companies, which will send locators to your site. They will mark the locations of underground facilities with flags, stakes, or paint. Once the buried facilities have been marked, you or your contractor can dig.

The depth and location of utility lines can move over time as the ground freezes and thaws, as tree roots grow, or after a large amount of rain. So, even if you have had an area marked previously, you still

need to call 811 before you dig. Striking a natural gas pipeline, a wire, or a cable can result in utility service outages, which can leave you liable for costly repairs or significant legal fines. A line strike also can cause serious injury or death.

"Everyone needs to be aware of the importance of calling 811 before they dig," PSC Chairman Charlotte R. Lane said. "Whether you are a homeowner or a professional contractor, always call 811 before you begin to dig. It is required by law, and the 811 call is free. This protects you, your property, and our underground utility infrastructure."

For more information about West Virginia 811, visit [www.wv811.com](http://www.wv811.com) or [www.psc.state.wv.us](http://www.psc.state.wv.us) and click on the 811 link.

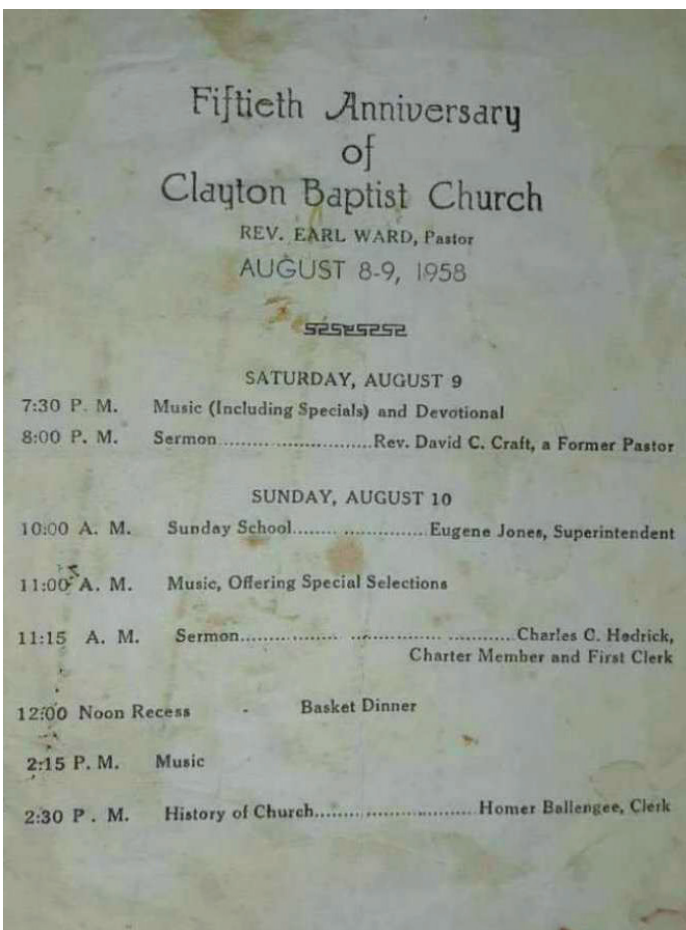
# A Peek into Summers County's Past: Clayton Baptist Church



The modern church. Photo provided by William Jones



Photo of the original structure. Photo provided by William Jones.



An original church document. Photo provided by William Jones

William Jones

CLAYTON W.Va. (Hinton News) - This week's piece is about the early history of the Clayton Baptist Church in Clayton, West Virginia. One of the first permanent settlers in this region was the Graham family in 1813. A plot of land was given by the Grahams to be used for a church.

It was decided to a Board of Trustees: Henry Still, John R. Ballangee, David Graham, Larry Graham and Samuel Ayers on February 21, 1851. This plot was used as a cemetery for the community and they erected a log cabin on it

that became known as the "Graham Meeting House" to hold church services and other functions in the small town of Clayton.

It was utilized by the Baptists, Methodists and Presbyterians who resided in the area. School was also conducted in the meeting house until it was destroyed by fire in 1882. The origins of the Clayton Baptist Church date back to 1781 when members of the Old Greenbrier Baptist church and the man for whom Alderson, West Virginia is named, John Alderson reached out to the adjacent communities

Work again fell to the

doors for service on September 16, 1909. The church was dedicated as "debt free." This was the first time that the new bell for the church that had been donated by Kyle Ballangee rang and the sound echoed through the valley.

When this church was first started it was referred to as the Baptist Mountain Grove Meeting House. As the population of this area grew the one-room Bush school was built to educate the children. In this same building the "Baptist Church" was organized that preceded the formal founding of the "Clayton Baptist Church". This church was eventually called "The Hope Baptist Church." The black and white photo of the one-room school is the only photo of the Bush School I have ever run across in all of my years of collecting local history.

In 1902 the community came together with C.H. Graham conducting the meeting and it was decided to construct a Baptist church. This is what would become the "Clayton Baptist Church." Money was started to be raised for the construction and work soon commenced. Although work was stalled for various reasons over the years, the community never lost faith, and met on August 8, 1908, to formally dedicate the "Clayton Community Church".

Work again fell to the wayside but was completed and opened its

doors for service on September 16, 1909. The church was dedicated as "debt free." This was the first time that the new bell for the church that had been donated by Kyle Ballangee rang and the sound echoed through the valley.

Central Baptist in the town of Hinton, West Virginia gifted the newly formed church a chandelier of oil lamps to be used for evening and nighttime services. Central Baptist also donated the seating that completed the church and allowed them to conduct regular services. I have yet to find an early photo of this church. I am including one of how it looks today that was provided to me by my friend and fellow historian of this area Karen Richmond Wygle.

My family has ties to this story just like many of my others. My grandfather David Eugene Jones became a faithful member after marrying my grandmother Catherine in 1952. They moved to Clayton where he farmed while starting his career in the maintenance department of the Alderson Federal Prison.

Grandpa became the Sunday School Superin-

tendent as can be seen in this original Fiftieth Anniversary of Clayton Baptist Church pamphlet dated August 8-9, 1958. After purchasing their farm and moving to Pence Springs in 1962 he transferred his membership to Pence Springs Community Church where he later became a deacon of the church and one of the Sunday School teachers.

Other prominent family names of the community are listed such as Hedrick and Ballangee. My mother's father Bernard Thompson was a faithful member of the Clayton Baptist Church until he passed away in 2018.

If you have a story from the area's history to share, send an email to [news@hintonnews.com](mailto:news@hintonnews.com).

**Jim Umberger**  
UNITED STATES CONGRESS 2024

**LET'S GET TO WORK**



[JimUmbergerForCongress.com](http://JimUmbergerForCongress.com)

Paid for by Jim Umberger for Congress

**YOUR CONSERVATIVE VOTE**

**DOUG SKAFF JR.**  
SECRETARY OF STATE

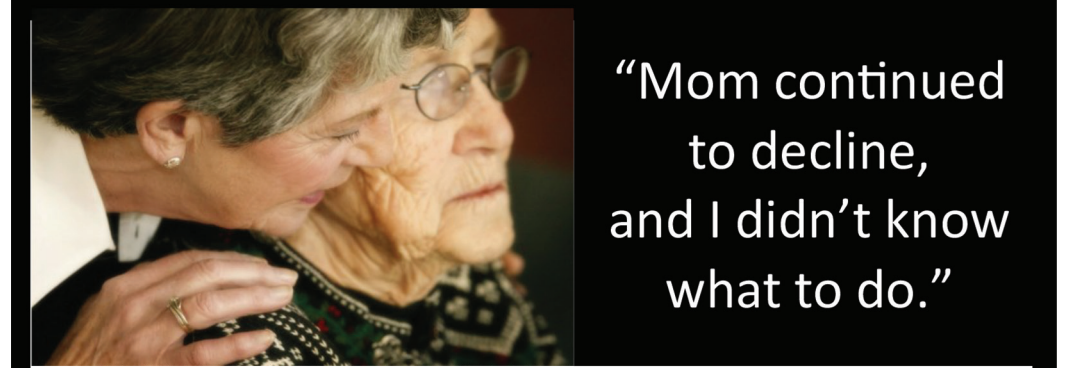
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*Learn More*

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"Mom continued to decline, and I didn't know what to do."

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