

# A Look Back at 2024: Part 2

**May**  
Summers County Shines at Annual Scholarship Reception  
SUMMERS COUNTY W.Va. (Hinton News) - West Virginia is known for its philanthropic spirit. As a testament to this reputation, Summers County illustrated such benevolence at its Annual Scholarship Reception, held on May 13 at the Hinton Freight Depot. Hinton Area Foundation awarded 111 scholarships to 58 students totaling \$127,350. Parents, donors and HAF Board members attended the celebration to honor recipients. Congratulations to all of this year's recipients.  
Campaign 2000 - \$1000 each: Ashton Basham, Ellie Rhodes, Emily Cox, Sydney Farrish.  
Ann Gore Scholarship Fund - \$500 Alvia Harvey.  
CHPR Gwinn Family Scholarship - \$3000 each: Baylee Bentley, Abbie Keaton.  
Bill Van Sant Scholarship Fund - \$2000 Kristen Ratliff.  
SC KIDS Fine Arts Scholarship Fund - \$1000 Chloe Lester, \$250 each: Gavin Pivont, Sullivan Pivont, Krystina Gore, Tania Bond.  
Joyce Jarrell Memorial Scholarship Fund - \$1200 each: Gavin Pivont, Hallie Rodes, Lauren Foster, Kaylee Jones.  
Kiwanis Club of Hinton Scholarship - \$500 each: Sydney Farrish, Kaylee Jones, Emily Cox, Emily Nichole Richmond, Sarah Turner, Hallie Rodes, DaNaylee Long.  
Kiwanis Club of Hinton Scholarship - \$250 each: Karsynn Davis, Harley Ward, Alyvia Harvey, Jordan Rutherford, Ashley Cooper, Emily Renee Richmond, Katelyn Martin.  
Kiwanis Club of Hinton Scholarship - \$150 Sean Cooper, Brian Cooper, Megan Cooper.  
Stokes-Rotary Scholarship Fund - \$1500 Lauren Foster, \$500 Sarah Turner.  
Margaret Peggy Rossi - \$1250 Tania Bond, \$400 Aaliyah Forren.  
Plumley-Rotary Scholarship - \$1500 Bryson Keaton, \$1000 Sarah Turner.  
Randy "Paul" Martin II Scholarship Fund - \$700 Wilson Sears.  
William E. "Billy" Turner Memorial Fund - \$1600 each: Alyvia Harvey, Kayleigh Taylor, Sonny Whitt.  
Hildred Smith Music Scholarship - \$2000 Logan Osborne.  
James & Julia

(Bransford) Cox Fund - \$1000 Ella Jean Gore.  
William Garten Scholarship - \$700 each: Sullivan Pivont, Gavin Pivont, Liv Meador, Avery Pivont.  
Gene Fife Scholars Fund - \$1000 Michaela Wynes.  
First United Methodist Church/Eleanor Meadows Scholarship Fund - \$1500 Carolyn Calpin.  
Summers County Historical Scholarship - \$1000 Tania Bond.  
Lori and Mitch Bowling Student Athletic Fund - \$1500 Liv Meador.  
Dr. Shammaa Memorial Fund - \$800 Jonathan Bennett.  
Burke and Mary-Lou Lilly Memorial Fund - \$2500 Jonathan Bennett, \$2000 DaNaylee Long.  
Smith-Willey Scholarship Fund - \$625 each: Brian Cooper, Sean Cooper, Emily Grimmert, Kristen Ratliff.  
Jones-Willey Scholarship Fund - \$800 each: Ashley Cooper, Megan Cooper, Emily Richmond.  
Kimberley Anne Abbott Scholarship - \$1000 Emily Turner.  
William G. & Joyce H. Meador Lifelong Learning Fund - \$1000 Jordan Ruth-erford.  
Dr. Matthew Ellison Memorial Scholarship - \$1000 each: Nathaniel Day, Krystina Gore, DaNaylee Long.  
FNB of Hinton Scholarship - \$500 Tania Bond.  
Paul E. Hess Memorial Scholarship - \$900 each: Gavin Pivont, Sullivan Pivont.  
Howard Creed Fund - \$1200 each: Sullivan Pivont, Gavin Pivont, Ellie Rhodes, Bryson Keaton, Avery Pivont.  
Claude Johnson Memorial Scholarship - \$1500 Kristen Ratliff.  
NBS Scholarship - \$600 Sean Cooper.  
Ralph Jones Scholarship - \$2500 Lawson Jones.  
Lincoln School Scholarship Fund - \$800 Michaela Wynes.  
John & Betty Hendrick Fund - \$2000 Kristen Ratliff.  
Dr. Joseph F. Marsh, Jr. Scholarship Fund - \$1000 Aaliyah Forren  
Jean Dressler Beasley Fund - \$1000 each: Karsynn Davis, Aaliyah Forren, Madoc Lathroum, Molly Mann, Logan Osborne, Lauren Pack, Kristen Ratliff, Nathan Tickle.  
Clark Family Scholarship - \$500 Kristen Ratliff.  
Coach Julian "Buzzy" Richmond - \$500 Lawson Jones.  
John Henry Historical Scholarship - \$500 Michaela Wynes.  
Robert and Faye Gwinn Scholarship Fund - \$1500 each:

Emily Grimmert, Michael Mann, Lauren Pack, Laci Sears, Nathan Tickle; \$1000 each Micahi Houchins, Emily Justice, John Meadows, Emily Short, and \$500 Jacob Richmond.  
Ellsworth and Beulah Hedrick Scholarship Fund - \$1000 Emily Grimmert.  
Marjorie and Lester Bowles Scholarship Fund - \$1000 Robert Luke Jones.  
Darrell K. Cales Trust Scholarship - \$5000 each: Maggie Gunter, Kaylee Jones, Lauren Foster, Molly Mann, Harmony Richmond.  
Scholarship Committee Chairman, Nancy Durnan states, "We are continually in awe by the generosity of our donors and our community."  
Hinton Area Foundation would like to thank the city of Hinton for providing the venue and Lucky Rivers for catering the event. Additionally, Coach Jerod Ewing and Assistant Coach Austin Lilly of the SCCHS Golf Team and their members for their assistance in setting up the venue: Brian Cooper, Sean Cooper, Christian Dillon, Xavier Honaker, Annalyn Lilly and Avery Lilly.  
**June**  
Shirla and David Ballard named 2024 John Henry Days Parade Marshalls  
TALCOTT W.Va. (Hinton News) - Long-time John Henry Days volunteers David and Shirla Ballard have been named Parade Marshalls for the 2024 John Henry Days Festival. Shirla and David recently spoke about being named Parade Marshalls, volunteering and life.  
Shirla explained that she was raised in Talcott and that her dad was in the Ruritan Club when the original John Henry statue was brought in and put in its spot up on the hill with the caboose. There's a picture of it down at the tunnel, Shirla went on to explain.  
Shirla noted that one of the things she enjoys most about John Henry Days is the rubber ducky race. It's not on the river anymore she said, but she loves selling the tickets and getting to interact with the people. Another favorite thing is running the John Henry Days museum and gift shop. David helps out and greets all the people, including some individuals from places as far away as Hawaii. Both Shirla and David said they consider it a huge honor to have been chosen as parade Marshalls and were so shocked to get

the news. They were in Myrtle Beach with their daughters and were completely taken by surprise.  
Shirla and David wanted to make sure everyone remembers to come out for the free music and bring a chair to stay and enjoy a fun evening. Shirla said the whole event wouldn't be possible without all the volunteers working behind the scenes to make everything go smoothly. She thinks they deserve recognition, too.  
Congratulations to wonderful people on a well-deserved honor.  
**July**  
Three arrested for kidnapping, assault in Summers County  
MEADOW BRIDGE W.Va. (Hinton News) - A 70-year-old man was reportedly kidnapped, robbed and beaten in Summers County on Monday, July 15. Three individuals have been arrested.  
According to a statement from the West Virginia State Police, "On Thursday, July 18, 2024, Senior Trooper S. K. Weikle of the Hinton Detachment, received a complaint regarding an elderly man who had been abducted, beaten and robbed."  
The statement goes on to say, "Senior Trooper S.K. Weikel's investigation revealed that on or about Monday, July 15, 2024, 32 year old Lataura E. Jarrett, 32 year old Wesely S. Taylor and 24 year old Johnathan W. Cales all of the Meadow Bridge/Rainelle area, drove 70 year old Johnny J. Simms, to an abandoned residence on Redden Hollow Road in Summers County. While at the abandoned residence, Lataura Jarrett, Wesley Taylor and Johnathan Cales severely beat and robbed Johnny Simms of his money. Lataura Jarrett, Wesley Taylor and Johnathan Cales then bound Johnny Simms with rope and left him at the abandoned residence without aid. Johnny Simms was able to free himself and escape from the residence sometime on Wednesday, July 17, 2024. Johnny Simms was able to obtain help and was subsequently taken to Charleston Area Medical Center for treatment of his injuries."  
Warrants were issued and police arrested Lataura Jarrett, Wesley Taylor and Johnathan Cales "on charges of Kidnapping, Robbery, Assault During the Commission of a Felony, Malicious Assault, and Conspiracy to Infract Injury," according to the statement.  
Police also notes

that, "Wesley Taylor was transported to and is currently housed at Central Regional Jail. Lataura Jarrett and Johnathan Cales were transported to and are currently housed at Southern Regional Jail. Lataura Jarrett, Wesley Taylor and Johnathan Cales are being held without bond until their appearance before Summers County Circuit Judge Robert A. Irons. The status of this investigation remains active and ongoing."  
**August**  
Musings from Memory Lane: Dad, Me and his guitar  
One thing that was always constant in my Dad's life was music. I think he was born with a love for it down deep in his soul. I remember him telling me about having his friend, Edward Webb, show him how to play the guitar when he was a teenager. He said he had almost given up when a melody strung together and he knew that he had to keep going. From there, Dad's love for music and the guitar kept growing. Soon, he joined a group of friends and was playing local events. They had their own radio show on the local radio station and Dad said some people called him Hinton's own Johnny Cash. While he loved that and all the requests to sing Ring of Fire, he secretly wanted to be known as the local Elvis Presley.  
My earliest memories of my Dad and his guitar involve an old reel-to-reel recorder he had. He loved making recordings of his guitar playing. He would put paper across an oatmeal box to simulate a drum. I thought it was the most fun thing in the world but to my Dad, it was super serious. We were always going to spaghetti dinners, nursing homes, etc. for him to play with his group. Eventually, Dad got a group together at church, and church events were traded for spaghetti dinners. I still have the cassette tapes he recorded with his church group- The Good News Trio. Dad played and sang in the church up until his health no longer allowed it.  
Growing up, we would sit around with Dad playing the guitar. He was a perfectionist. If he messed up, the whole song had to be started over. One of his favorite groups to play was the Statler Brothers. I think that's why I enjoy going to see Jimmy Fortune perform so much now. For a moment, I'm transported back in time and I'm back

with my Dad playing those same songs on his country and western model Gibson hummingbird. That guitar was more than an instrument to my Dad. When he picked it up, it became an extension of his very being. Anyone who ever heard him play would understand.  
After my Mom passed away, Dad clung to that guitar like a lifeline-like it was the only thing keeping him going.  
Now that Dad's gone, I look at the guitar and it's like having a piece of him still with me. It's getting ready to take a place of honor on my wall. It's more than a guitar. It's a symbol of everything my Dad was. A beautiful melody to hear again and again every time I see that Gibson.  
WV Daily News and Hinton News now offer free online access to legal notices  
LEWISBURG, W.Va. (WVDN) - The West Virginia Daily News and Hinton News have announced that all printed legal notices and advertisements will now also be freely accessible online. The legal notices can be searched and viewed on their respective websites, wvdn.com and hintonnews.com.  
In addition to these platforms, the notices are also available through the West Virginia Press Association's statewide legal notice system at wvlegals.com. This move aims to better serve the community by making important legal announcements more easily accessible to the public.  
The new online access is provided as a free service, allowing individuals to search for legal notices and advertisements without any cost. Both newspapers are committed to providing a public service to their readers and ensuring transparency in legal matters across the state.  
Publisher Scot Refsland stated, "By expanding access to both print and digital platforms, the West Virginia Daily News and Hinton News hope to enhance the public's ability to stay informed on legal issues, government proceedings, and other community-related matters."  
The legal notices cover a wide range of topics, including requests for bids, foreclosures, public hearings, and government announcements. With this new initiative, the newspapers aim to ensure that important information reaches a broader audience in the digital age.



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## Two students from Hinton make SNHU 2024 President's List

MANCHESTER, NH (Hinton News) - It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the Fall 2024 President's List. The fall terms run from September to December.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-

point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

Tabitha Meadows of Hinton (25951) and Christopher Beau-doin of Hinton

(25951) Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, nonprofit, accredited institution with a 92-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 200,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 undergraduate, graduate, and certificate programs, avail-

able online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as one of the "Most Innovative" regional universities by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner.

## Summers County 911 Center Reports High Call Volume, Fast Response Times in 2024

Rebecca Stalnaker  
HINTON, W.Va. (Hinton News) - The Summers County 911 Center handled a significant call volume in 2024, answering 31,252 calls for service, according to Director Loyd Lowry.

This equates to an average of over 85 calls

per day. Lowry emphasized that the average wait time for callers to connect with a 911 operator was just six seconds, measured from the moment the last "1" is dialed.

"I am very proud of the staff here at our 911 Center," Lowry said. "We are here when you need us."

## The Hillbilly Storyteller: Jackie's Mandolin

### The Hillbilly Storyteller

Hello everyone. It's the Hillbilly Storyteller again and do I have a good one for you today. I have a friend named Jackie. We live around the road from each other. Jackie is 87 years old and I am 74 years old. We have been friends for a very long time.

Last year when I was over at Jackie's house I was nosing around and saw a beautiful mandolin in a wood and glass case. It was beautiful. I said, "Hey, Jackie. Where did you get this mandolin? It sure is pretty." Jackie looked me dead in the eye and said, "Well, there is a story behind how I come to get that mandolin." I said, "Well, tell it to me. You know I love a

good story." So Jackie started telling me the story. When he was finished I said, "Now Jackie, you need to write that story down. It's a good one." He said, "Well, you know I ain't no writer." I said, "Well, neither am I but give it a shot."

A few weeks later I was at Jackie's house again. He handed me a piece of paper and asked me to read over it and make any changes or corrections. I told him I would. Below is the story written by Jackie of how he got his mandolin.

Music in the Woods by Jackie  
One day while walking in the woods of the old home place I heard a voice say "Come this way There is no time to

waste" So I walked that way As happy as could be And I thought I heard music Coming from an old cherry tree I took the wood home And much to my surprise I could see a mandolin Right before my eyes Now I am a wood worker Almost everyone will agree But to take a mandolin from a block of wood Is not my specialty So I took the wood To an old friend of mine He said "Leave the wood here I take mandolins from wood all the time." Before long the

work began With a very keen eye And a skillful hand After a while the mandolin was set free And it's the very same one I saw in the old cherry tree So I took some scraps of wood from that tree And made a nice cabinet so everyone can see The mandolin in all its beauty Right back in the old cherry tree. Jackie asked me to call him Old Man Jackie. He is kind of humble that way. I drew a picture to go with the story. I took the story and the picture to my sister. She said, "That story is really good. I am glad he wrote it. That is the kind of story people need to read. It will inspire



Old Man Jackie's Mandolin by The Hillbilly Storyteller

them." Then she said, "Well, that story is really good but, Hillbilly, you need to work some more on that picture." I had to agree.

Moral of the sto- Paul D. Bragg

## WV Archives and History Displays New Exhibit Titled "A Flurry of Opportunities"

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (Hinton News) - West Virginia Archives and History is currently displaying a new exhibit titled "A Flurry of Opportunities," which explores the rich history of U.S. naturalization records and the stories of immigrants who have shaped the nation. The exhibit is in the Archives and History Library at the Culture Center, State Capitol Complex, in Charleston. This immersive exhibit, which opened Dec. 18, 2024, will run through March 17, 2025, and is free and open to the public.

The exhibit provides a unique and personal glimpse into the lives of immigrants by showcasing a selec-

tion of naturalization records from the 19th and 20th centuries. These documents, which mark the formal process of becoming a U.S. citizen, reveal not only the procedural aspects of immigration but also the stories of individuals seeking new lives and opportunities in America.

"A Flurry of Opportunities" takes visitors on a journey through time, from the first waves of European immigration to the diverse influx of peoples from around the world. Through the lens of naturalization records, the exhibit explores the significance of citizenship and belonging in a constantly evolving society.

For more information on the exhibit, call the Archives Library at 304-558-0230.

### CIVIL SERVICE APPLICATION DEPUTY SHERIFF

Applications for the Civil Service Examination for the position of **Summers County Deputy Sheriff** will be available beginning **Wednesday, January 15, 2025.**

Application packages shall be received from and returned to Lynn Reed, Summers County Clerk, 120 Ballengee Street, Suite 106, Hinton, WV 25951. All persons interested in this position must make application by **Friday, February 14, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.**

Persons successfully completing the Physical Agility test will be notified of the time, date and location of the Civil Service Examination. All applicants certified or non-certified must take the physical agility test.

We urge all veterans and minorities to apply. Applicants must live within 5 miles of Summers County.

The Summers County Commission is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Discrimination is prohibited due to race, creed, color, religion, sex, orientation or national origin. Applicants must be 18 years old and not more than 45 years old on the date of application.

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## A Peek into Summers County's Past: C&O Railroad Depot in Talcott

**William Jones**  
 TALCOTT, W.Va. (Hinton News) - This week's tale is of various items that are concerning the C&O Railroad Depot in Talcott. First, I am unable to find an exact date of when it was constructed but from the style of it and from stories my late friend and fellow Summers County Historian John Kessler told me over the years, I think he had told me it was constructed in the 1880s. After the tunnel had been completed, the town really started to flourish.

The antique industrial wall oil lamp is from the Talcott depot. It hung in the room where the passengers waited to board the train. My grandfather and I purchased it from friend Betty Hendricks who holds her famous "Barn Sale" on her farm in War Ridge to benefit the Children's Home Society.

The photo you see

of the depot is from roughly the mid-1930s. You can see that Trinity Methodist Church had not been relocated from its original location yet which was closer to the river, where it had flooded several times. The house you see on the left was built by my great-great-grandfather L.W. Thompson, who was a contractor in Talcott.

My good friend Elisa Thompson (no relation) purchased it in 2021 for a second home to stay in when she is here from Florida. The store building you can see directly to the right of her house in the photo was the "Miller Mercantile Company." Remains of the sidewalk on the bank towards the church are still visible which used to be in place beside the store.

The little green flour sifter was recently given to me by my friend Tom Hutchison, who is also



**Talcott Depot. Photo provided by William Jones**

a collector of Summers County memorabilia. The sifter says "The Miller Mercantile Company Talcott, W. Va." This was a promotional giveaway used to advertise the store.

The depot was torn down sometime in the 1940s, one of the biggest

mistakes I ever made in terms of history is the fact that I did not write down important information such as these dates. Again John told me that when the depot was torn down, the lumber that was salvaged and was used to build one of the houses that



**A lamp used in the depot and a small green flour sifter. Photo provided by William Jones**

is on the bank to the right of Second Baptist Church there in Talcott. My collection is so large I forget all that I have. And then I start rummaging through it to find a piece for my story and run across these pieces and the

connection that can be made between many of them. It always gives me an idea for my next piece. However, I am sure it will change or be able to be added to by the time I write it the following Thursday.

## Review of Netflix Series: American Primeval

**Brandon Baker**  
 Last week, in between working and watching the snow pour down outside my basement windows, I decided to give the new Netflix show, American Primeval, a try.

Typically, shows that take place in the 1800s don't keep my interest that well and I either get bored with it and start something else, or doze off multiple times in each episode.

However, neither of those things happened this time as the new hit series kept my attention from start to finish during the 6-episode run.

The show is directed by Pete Berg and stars Taylor Kitsch (plays Isaac Reed), Betty Gilpin (Sara Rowell), and Kim Coates (Brigham Young), among others. Most episodes are close to an hour long, with the fifth one lasting just 36 minutes.

American Primeval takes viewers on a gripping journey into the harsh and untamed frontier of early America. The series, set in the late 18th century, offers a raw and unfiltered portrayal of the lives of settlers, Native Americans, and outlaws as they navigate the brutal realities of survival in a land where

lawlessness reigns supreme.

The series centers around a diverse group of characters, each with their own motivations, strengths, and struggles. From rugged frontiersmen and women seeking a new life, to Native American tribes fighting to protect their lands, the narrative weaves together multiple storylines that highlight the difficulties and conflicts of this tumultuous era.

As the characters' paths intersect, alliances are formed and broken, and the harshness of the environment tests their endurance and re-

solve. The show does not shy away from depicting the violence, hardship, and moral ambiguity that characterized the time, making for a gritty and immersive viewing experience.

While engaged to the TV screen, I often found myself wondering if I could have survived back in those days. Well, I came to a decision that I could not. Just when a certain group of people settled on a piece of land where they felt safe, secure, and protected from would be enemies, another group would ride upon them, threaten them with violence, and the

group would go on the move again. Land protection is a big part of the story, but survival from attacks of all kinds and spending countless nights outside in freezing conditions also play a huge role.

One of the standout aspects of American Primeval is its commitment to historical accuracy. The series creators have clearly done their homework, incorporating meticulous details into the sets, costumes, and dialogue. This attention to authenticity adds a layer of realism to the show and immerses viewers in the period and it provides

a fascinating glimpse into the daily lives and struggles of the era.

The show is very brutal and gory so if there are young children in the household, it may be a good idea to send them to bed before viewing.

There are so many different storylines that intertwine, it is difficult to pick a favorite one to follow, so the best idea is just follow and blend them all together.

I highly recommend American Primeval on Netflix. Watch it and feel an appreciation that we are here today, and not back then.

Rating:  
5 out of 5

## Department of Arts, Culture and History Announces New Art Exhibit

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (Hinton News) - The West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History will open a new exhibition at the Culture Center, State Capitol Complex, in Charleston on Sunday, Jan. 26, at 2 p.m. with a reception and awards ceremony.

This exhibit, titled "West

Virginia Wildlife," is the third installation of Inspired: A West Virginia Series of Juried Exhibitions, featuring four different West Virginia themes. Twenty-six West Virginia artists, representing fifteen counties were selected for the "West Virginia Wildlife" show, which features

thirty-two pieces, including painting, drawing, ceramics, photography, digital illustration, and mixed media. The exhibit will remain on display in the Lower Lobby and Commissioner's Gallery at the Culture Center until May 9, 2025.

The exhibit is free and open to the public.

## Learning Contentment

(continued from last week)

By **Jeremy Paschall**

**"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." (Philippians 4.13)**

Paul had learned contentment by trusting the Lord's Provisions. He believed in Jesus' promise for those who "seek first His kingdom and His righteousness" (Matthew 6.33) and that "God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed" (2 Corinthians 9.8). Furthermore, he trusted "the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ" (Ephesians 1.3), the One "who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think" (3.20).

Paul had learned contentment by trusting **the Lord's Peace**, a serenity enjoyed when we walk with Him — rejoicing, praying, thinking, and doing (Philippians 4.4-9) — and when we allow Him to walk with us (Hebrews 13.5-6). Paul had learned the worth of praying, in the words of T.O. Chisholm, "Be with me, Lord, no other gift or blessing, Thou couldst bestow could with this one compare; A constant sense of Thy abiding presence, Where'er I am to feel that Thou art near."

Paul had learned contentment by trusting **the Lord's Power**. He leaned upon the God "who always leads us in triumph in Christ" (2 Corinthians 2.14), whose "grace is sufficient," and whose "power is perfected in [our] weaknesses" (12.9). When everyone else had abandoned Paul, "the Lord stood with [him] and strengthened [him] . . . and [he] was rescued out of the lion's mouth" (2 Timothy 4.17). Only divine power could impart such confidence.

**"And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4.19)**

Paul's God — the God who fostered Paul's contentment with His provisions, His peace, and His power — is able and willing to supply all our needs from His glorious storehouse of riches. He will cultivate within our hearts that same transcendent calm when we learn to trust "Him who strengthens" (Philippians 4.13). And when we do, we will join the resounding chorus of the content, "Now to our God and Father be the glory forever and ever. Amen" (v. 20).

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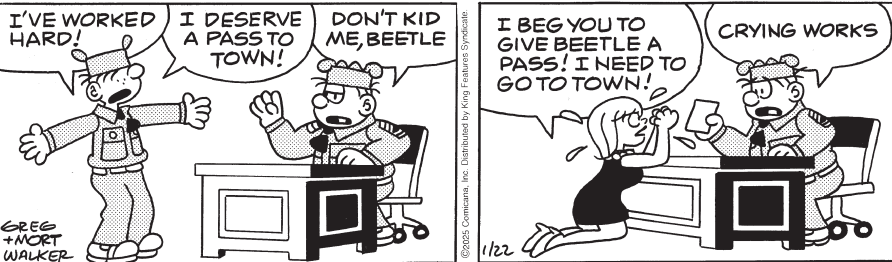
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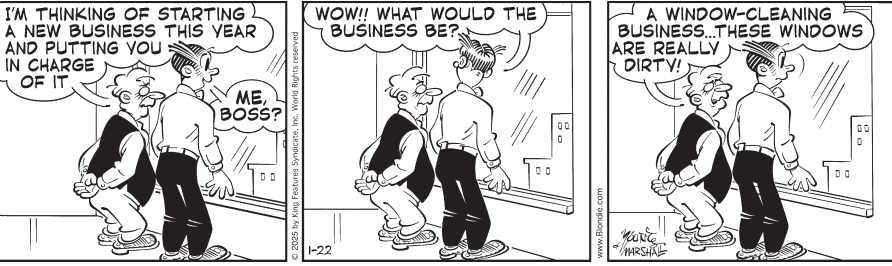


ENTERTAINMENT & COMICS PAGE

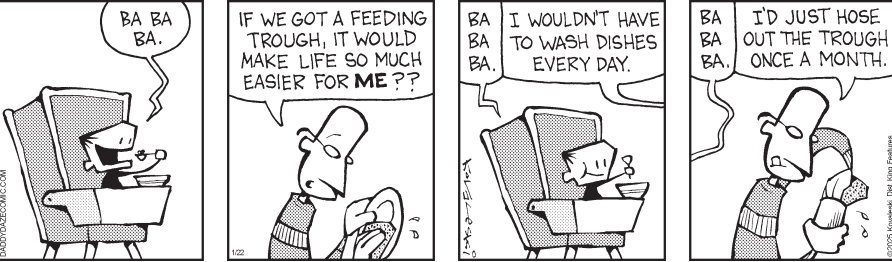
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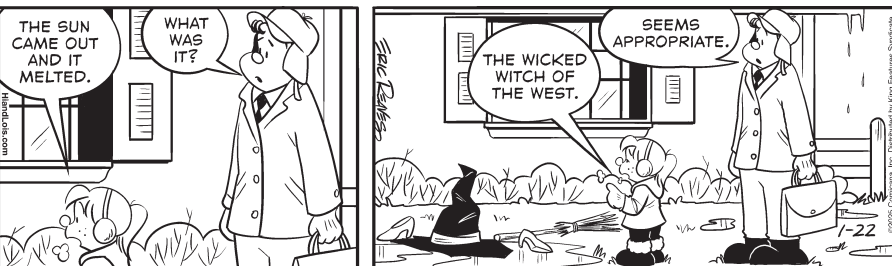
Daddy Daze



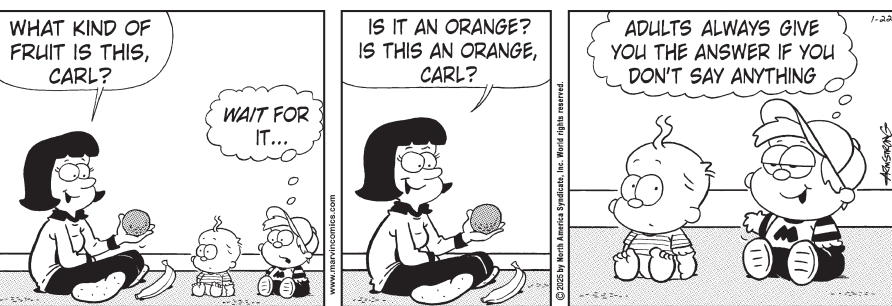
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Hi and Lois



Marvin



Mutts



Zits



SUDOKU PUZZLE

King Classic Sudoku

Sudoku grid with numbers 6, 8, 3, 2, 4, 2, 3, 1, 8, 2, 1, 4, 5, 8, 5, 6, 3, 1, 9, 8, 6, 7, 2, 5, 2, 8, 6, 3, 2, 6

Difficulty: ★★★

1/22

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.

Answer To Last Wednesday's Puzzle: 3 2 9 6 4 7 8 1 5, 7 1 8 9 5 2 4 6 3, 4 6 5 1 3 8 9 7 2, 1 9 4 5 7 6 2 3 8, 2 3 7 8 1 4 5 9 6, 5 8 6 2 9 3 7 4 1, 8 5 3 4 6 9 1 2 7, 9 7 1 3 2 5 6 8 4, 6 4 2 7 8 1 3 5 9

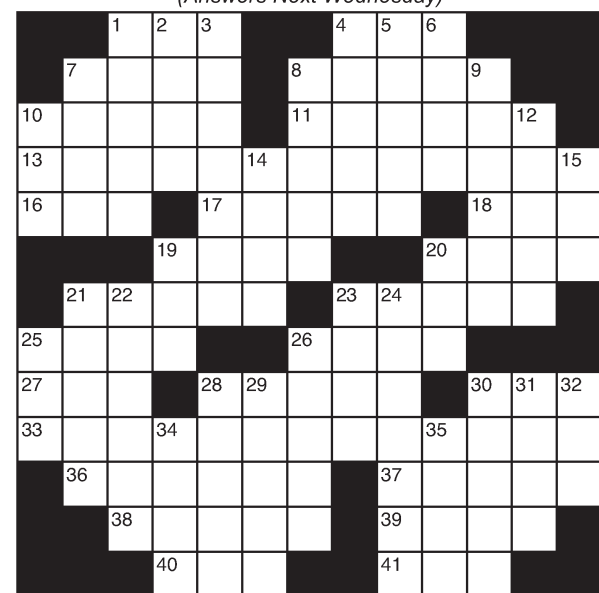
SHEFFER CROSSWORD

- ACROSS: 1 Center, 4 Solo in space, 7 Lawn mower brand, 8 Spoils, with "on", 10 Wanderer, 11 Bee-thoven's Third, 13 Time management aids, 16 Citric beverage, 17 Got up, 18 Mosquito barrier, 19 "— chiel!", 20 Feel sorry for, 21 Mom's sister, informally, 23 "Time in a Bottle" singer, 25 Impudent, 26 Owl call insert, 27 Solid-rock, 28 Spine-tingling film, 30 Lupino of film, 33 Commuters' buys, 36 Turned to mush, 37 Lounges neighbor, 39 Sloth's home, 40 Ballpark fig., 41 Even so, 12 Mountain crest, 14 Quarry, 15 Farm pen, 19 Stick with a kick, 20 Cauldron, 21 Greek storyteller, 22 Faraway orb, 23 Business abbr., 24 Author's birthplace, 25 Actress Dawber, 26 "Papa" of classical music, 28 Molts, 29 Traction aid, 30 Archipelago part, 31 Editing mark, 32 Ninny, 34 Verifiable, 35 Harboring a grudge

Solution time: 23 mins.

Crossword grid with circled letters: R, O, U, T, A, R, G, O, V, E, L, O, C, I, T, Y, E, M, I, L, I, O, S, A, L, R, E, V, O, E, R, A, M, I, R, S, I, B, M, O, V, E, D, A, S, I, F, C, I, C, A, D, A, B, O, I, L, E, T, T, E, R, A, Y, S, O, W, E, R, I, G, N, C, A, A, G, A, R, R, P, E, E, R, E, D, T, A, L, C, R, E, I, G, N, S, T, E, P, B, E, L, Y, E, R, H, A, L, A, M, U, L, E, T, C, A, P, A, C, I, T, Y, E, M, P, I, M, A, N, S, A, Y, A, P, S, E

Last Wednesday's Answer (Answers Next Wednesday)



ROYAL STARS HOROSCOPE

BY GEORGIA NICOLS

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2025:

You are versatile, multitasking and enthusiastic about life. You crave stimulation and adventure! This is a year of exciting change and increased personal freedom. Let go of whatever might be holding you back. Stay flexible so you can grab new opportunities. Travel is likely.

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★ Seek out the advice of someone older or more experienced -- someone you respect -- because they might have some wisdom for you about financial matters, inheritances or how to share or divide something. In fact, relations with parents and bosses are excellent now. Tonight: Listen.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

3★ Today you will have to go more than halfway when dealing with others,

especially partners and close friends. This is not a big deal. It simply requires friendly cooperation. Meanwhile, you are admired by others. If offered increased responsibilities, accept. Tonight: Learn.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

3★ This is a productive day for you. You have a realistic view about what you're trying to do, whether it's your job, your health or a pet. You're willing to put whatever effort is necessary to get the results you want. You've got what it takes. Tonight: Check your finances.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

4★ This is the perfect day to practice a skill and get better at it. Or you might hone a technique related to sports or the performance arts. Whatever the case, you have the patience and willingness to do something, even if it is difficult or demanding. (Impressive.) Tonight: Discussions.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

4★ Parents, or an older friend or relative, might help you today in a very practical way, especially related to home and family. They might give you assis-

tance; they might lend you money. Be open to cooperating with others today; you will benefit. Hey, you don't have to reinvent the wheel. Tonight: Work.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

4★ Today you have a sober and realistic view of life, which is why discussions with others will be practical and probably mutually beneficial. It's a good day to study or learn something, because you have the patience and perseverance to stick to the task. Tonight: Creative ideas!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

3★ You've decided to be sensible about your finances today, which is why you might even draw up a budget. You might ignore this budget in the future, but the thought does count. At least you're becoming more aware of how you spend your money. It's a good day for financial planning. Tonight: Home improvements.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

4★ Today the Moon is in your sign dancing nicely with stern Saturn, which makes you practical, realistic and patient. In fact, you might surprise yourself by how you are willing to put

up with adversity or discomfort to achieve your goals. It's a great day for exercise! Hit the gym. Tonight: Conversations.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

4★ Research will go well today because you're in a serious frame of mind, and secondly, you have the mental perseverance to keep on looking for what you want to find. (Oh yeah, you'll be like a dog with a bone.) In particular, the past will have an attraction for you. Tonight: Money ideas.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan 19)

4★ You're a sign that respects your elders, and today is the perfect day to get wise counsel from someone older or more experienced. Possibly, you are the sage dispensing advice to others. Either way, listen to advice that might come your way, especially if it helps you improve your job. Tonight: Speak up.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

4★ You're high-viz today and people will respect you. They see you as solid, reliable and conscientious. Even if you don't think you are, don't do anything that would break the illusion.



JUMBLE

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

Jumble game with words: GDFEU, NRYIO, TNSRIG, BIALVE. Includes cartoon of a woman on a scale and a man.

Ans. here: KITTY, CIGAR, GLOSSY, TAVERN. They planned to drive from Denver to San Francisco and were expecting a -- ROCKY START

Appearances are everything. It's a solid day for financial discussions with bosses and parents. Tonight: Research. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) 4★ This is an excellent day to make travel plans or to study and learn something new. You will have the patience and mental rigor to stick with what you're doing. Furthermore, you will not overlook details. A professor or teacher might help you today. Tonight: Younger contacts. BORN TODAY Actress Diane Lane (1965), actor Gabriel Macht (1972), actress Jennifer Spence (1977) Find more Georgia Nicols horoscopes at georgianicols.com. (c) 2025 by King Features Syndicate Inc.





### LEGAL NOTICE

**LEGAL NOTICE REQUEST FOR BIDS**

Summers County Commission is accepting sealed bids for a 2013 Dodge 4D VIN No. 2C3CDXAT-6DH721724. This vehicle is being sold "AS IS" and considered non-running. Sealed bids must be submitted to the Summers County Commission at 120 Ballengee Street, Suite 203, Hinton, WV 25951, or presented to the Summers County Clerk, 120 Ballengee Street, Suite 106, Hinton, WV 25951. Bids must be received in the office by the end of business on February 7, 2025, regardless of postmark. Sealed bids will be opened by the Summers County Commission in Regular Session on Wednesday, February 12, 2025.

Terms of payment: Payment shall be made in full within five business days by certified check or cash made payable to the Sheriff of Summers County before possession can be taken. Vehicle must be removed within five business days of receipt of title. In the event that the bid fails to meet statutory requirements, the Commission will reject all bids and refer the said vehicle to auction. To inspect the vehicle, contact Maintenance Supervisor Jerry Grimmett at (304) 890-8432, for an appointment.

Summers County Commission  
Charles W. Saunders, President  
(22ja)

**CIVIL SERVICE APPLICATION DEPUTY SHERIFF**

Applications for the Civil Service Examination for the position of Summers County Deputy Sheriff will be available beginning **Wednesday, January 15, 2025.**

Application packages shall be received from and returned to Lynn Reed, Summers County Clerk, 120 Ballengee Street, Suite 106, Hinton, WV 25951. All persons interested in this position must make application by **Friday, February 14, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.**

Persons successfully completing the Physical Agility test will be notified of the time, date and location of the Civil Service Examination. All applicants certified or non-certified must take the physical agility test.

We urge all veterans and minorities to apply. Applicants must live within 5 miles of Summers County.

The Summers County Commission is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Discrimination is prohibited due to race, creed, color, religion, sex, orientation or national origin. Applicants must be 18 years old and not more than 45 years old on the date of application.  
(15,22ja)

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

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service ([www.bidx.com](http://www.bidx.com)) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia until March 13, 2025 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the construction of the following project(s):  
Call: 002  
Contract: 2021000723  
State Project: S389-STR/IP-25 00  
Federal Project: STP-2025(014)D  
Description: PAVEMENT MARKINGS ROADWAY STRIPING DISTRICT WIDE COUNTY: FAYETTE, GREENBRIER, MONROE, NICHOLAS, SUMMERS  
DBE GOAL: 7% OF CONTRACT BID AMOUNT. BIDDER MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCE OF MEETING GOAL ON FORM IN PROPOSAL.  
REMARKS:

Proposals will be received from prequalified and West Virginia licensed contractors only except that on Federal-Aid Projects a contractor's license is not required at time of bid, but will be required before work can begin. Registration is required with the Department of Administration, Division of Purchasing, in accordance with Chapter 5A,

S/D which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of WRONKE K L, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of SUMMERS County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on May 9, 2023. WVTA LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after April 1, 2025, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before March 31, 2025 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2021 - 1145 .....	\$215.58
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number.....	\$0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2022-1142 .....	\$114.28
Additional taxes with interest .....	\$0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.....	\$158.20
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.....	\$670.14
Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.....	\$514.94
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.....	\$1,673.14

**You may redeem at any time before March 31, 2025 by paying the above total less any unearned interest.**

Given under my hand  
January 8, 2025.  
*Christal G. Perry*  
G. Russell Rollyson Jr.  
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of SUMMERS County, State of West Virginia  
(22,29ja5fe)

Article 3, Section 12 of the West Virginia Code. All contractors submitting bids on project(s) must submit electronically with their bid a Proposal Guaranty Bond for \$500.00 or 5% of the total bid, whichever is greater.

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

The West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex or national origin in consideration for an award.  
(22,29ja)

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

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**A.A. meetings in Hinton**

HINTON W.Va. (Hinton News) - The Hinton Alcoholics Anonymous group holds two weekly meetings on Tuesdays at 8 p.m. and Wednesdays at noon, 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

For more information, please call 304-660-7073 or 1-800-333-5051.

**Wellspring announces Hearts to Table campaign**

GREENBRIER VALLEY W.Va. (Hinton News) - Wellspring is excited to announce its Hearts to Tables campaign; a monthly, recurring donation opportunity to help feed the community.

Officials said, "As many of you know, our list of recipients is growing. This past food pantry, we served over 500 individuals throughout Greenbrier County. We provided shelf-stable groceries, dairy products, frozen foods, fresh produce, and more. We have also been providing over 200 lunches every week through our Bread and Soup Express program."

Because of the growing need for food support, their need for financial support has also increased. If you choose to join the campaign, you will be helping feed 1,000

people every month. Organizers said, "If we can meet the basic need for food, we can move closer to assisting our neighbors with their holistic health needs."

The options for donating are easy—you can even set up recurring payments through PayPal if you choose. For only \$40 per month, you will also receive a rewards card that gives 10% off at participating local businesses including A New Chapter Bookstore, Wolf Creek Gallery, Swift Level Fine Meats and more.

"Please help us spread the word throughout our community; this will directly impact the lives of our low-income, unhoused, and disadvantaged neighbors," officials encouraged. "Thank you for reading this, and if you are interested, contact us."

# Dear Recycle Lady

**Dear Recycle Lady,**

Does the recycle symbol on an item indicate that it is recyclable? **Hopeful**

**Dear Hopeful,**

According to [www.ethicalshift.com/](http://www.ethicalshift.com/), the recycle symbol was originally used to represent an item's capability of being recycled, not that it would be recycled at all recycling facilities. While the item may be recyclable somewhere, it may not be recyclable at your particular location. There are several reasons for this, but the biggest reason is that items accepted for recycling vary not only from state to state and city to city but also from county to county. For example, the Greenbrier Recycling Center does not accept #1 plastic clam shells, whereas larger cities in the state have the capacity to do so. Recyclers should always check with the local recycling center before putting a questionable item in a bin. If in doubt about it being recyclable, throw it out. Putting items in a recycle bin that are not recyclable are contaminants and can spoil an entire bale of good recyclables.

The original recycle symbol was created in 1970 by Gary Anderson, a university student in North Carolina as an entry in a competition sponsored by the first Earth Day. The symbol is a triangle of chasing arrows representing reduce, reuse and recycle, as well as the circularity of reducing waste by

keeping materials in the loop. This Mobius strip design was later used by the plastic industry to indicate the plastic resin code (1 - 7) used to make the product. There are also recycling symbols with numeric codes for cardboard(20), paper(22), steel(40), aluminum(41), and organic symbols, such as wood(50) and cotton(60). For more information on these seldom seen symbols, see [www.rts.com/blog/recycling-symbols/](http://www.rts.com/blog/recycling-symbols/).

**Dear Recycle Lady,**

I am doing some early spring cleaning and have sorted through hundreds of mechanical pencils, ink pens, felt-tip pens, and magic markers. Some of them are usable, but some of them are not. It's simply amazing how many one family can accumulate over the years. Are the unusable pens recyclable? **Too Many Pens,**

**Dear Too Many Pens,**

Ink pens, markers and mechanical pencils are nearly impossible to recycle because they are all made up of several different types of plastic, metal and ink. The Recycling Center does not have the equipment to take these items apart and recycle each of the parts. Paper Mate and Sharpie markers can be recycled through a TerraCycle program ([TerraCycle.com](http://TerraCycle.com)). For additional information on recycling pens and markers, check out the website, <https://recyclenation.com/2015/04/how-to-recycle-markers/>.

We are again looking for an organization to take on the Trex plastic film project. The Boy Scouts, two Girl Scout groups and St. James Episcopal Church have all completed this project. After collecting 1,000 pounds of plastic film, the organization receives a wonderful Trex bench. This project can be completed in two or three months as the community is very supportive and puts plastic film in the collection boxes. It is easy to do, and sorters have the satisfaction of keeping 1,000 pounds of plastic out of the landfill. Plus, groups develop a great camaraderie around a common goal while having a good time. Please text me at 304-667-1434 if you know of an organization that may be interested or if you have questions.

**Good News:** California and Oregon have banned the use of most polystyrene foam food containers. Polystyrene is a lightweight durable thermoplastic that is used for insulation and packaging, and over time it breaks down into small pieces of plastic that take hundreds of years to decompose.

Have questions about recycling or interesting information about recycling? Send questions or requests to [Recyclelady7@gmail.com](mailto:Recyclelady7@gmail.com). Dear Recycle Lady is sponsored jointly by the Greenbrier Recycling Center and Greenworks Recycling.

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## West Virginia Attorney General JB McCuskey Takes Office; Announces Leadership Team

CHARLESTON — John “JB” McCuskey officially became the 35<sup>th</sup> West Virginia Attorney General. The transition happened at 12:01 a.m. Monday, Jan. 13 with a public swearing-in at 11 a.m. Attorney General McCuskey has been working to ensure a smooth transition and with that, he is announcing his senior leadership. The team brings decades of legal experience and will join McCuskey in his fight to preserve West Virginia values and move the state forward.

“I am honored to become the state’s next Attorney General and vow to fight every day to protect the people of West Virginia,” Attorney General McCuskey said. “Today, I am announcing my leadership team. The talent we have been able to attract is second to none, bringing in attorneys from the private sector, those with experience in civil and criminal litigation, and those with experience in state government.

Together, this talented group will continue to lead the way to protect not only West Virginia’s citizens and industries, but also ensure that West Virginia plays a key role in restoring American greatness.”

Jace Goins and Lauren Plymale have been named Chief Deputy Attorneys General. Caleb David will be taking on the role of Deputy Solicitor General, serving under Solicitor General Michael Williams who has done an incredible job in the Morrissey Administration and will continue that work under Attorney General McCuskey. Steven Travis will remain the office’s general counsel. Administratively, Jeff Waybright is joining the team as Chief of Staff, Kallie Cart is Deputy Chief of Staff and Director of Communications and Belinda Carpenter is Executive Assistant to the Attorney General.

“We are moving into a well-run operation, and for that I am thankful,” McCuskey said. “My leadership team and I are looking forward to working with the existing employees, who hold a wealth of knowledge and work hard to protect the people of West Virginia. Those employees, combined with this new crop of talent, ensures a smooth transition as well as a focus on building on the immense success of Governor Morrissey’s administration.”

Senior Leadership Team: •Jace Goins is joining the Attorney General’s Office as Chief Deputy Attorney General. Goins has nearly 30 years of courtroom experience managing complex litigation as a member of Steptoe & Johnson PLLC, where he specialized in civil litigation. He has earned Martindale-Hubbell’s prestigious “AV” rating, which signifies that peers rank him at preeminent levels of legal ability and professional ethics. Goins was also named by Chambers USA as one of “America’s Leading Lawyers for Business” in the areas of Litigation: Medical Malpractice Defense, and was named as one of the Best Lawyers in America in the areas of healthcare litigation, insurance litigation and professional malpractice law. He has a B.A. from Washington & Lee University and a J.D. from West Virginia University College of Law.

•Lauren Plymale is Chief Deputy Attorney General. Plymale brings with her a wealth of experience both inside and outside the courtroom. Most recently, she was General Counsel for the State Auditor’s Office and Director of the Public Integrity and Fraud Unit where her team secured felony fraud convictions and tracked down millions in stolen taxpayer dollars. Prior to that, she served 17 years as an assistant prosecutor in

Cabell County where she tried several high-profile felony cases and fought in front of the West Virginia Supreme Court. She has a B.A. in Management Information Systems from Marshall University and a J.D. from West Virginia University College of Law.

•Michael Williams is the Solicitor General for the State of West Virginia, where he represents the State in strategic litigation and appeals, including cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. Before joining the Attorney General’s Office, Williams co-lead Bush Seyferth PLLC’s complex-briefing and appeals group, representing Fortune 500 companies and others in suits across the country. He also practiced in the litigation groups of two Washington, D.C. firms and clerked with the Appellate Division of the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Maine. His work has been honored with a Best Brief Award from the National Association of Attorneys General and a Leader in Law Award from Michigan Lawyers Weekly. A graduate of the George Washington University Law School, Williams clerked for both the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit and the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland.

•Caleb B. David joins the Attorney General’s Office as Deputy Solicitor General and special counsel to Attorney General McCuskey. David spent the last 10 years in private practice at Shuman McCuskey Slicer PLLC, where he was a member in the firm’s Charleston office. David’s litigation practice included representing the State of West Virginia and its agencies and officials in complex matters in state and federal courts, trying cases to verdict and handling appeals before the Intermediate Court of Appeals, Supreme Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court of the United States.

David is a graduate of Washington and Lee University School of Law and Washington & Jefferson College.

•Steven Travis will remain General Counsel for the Attorney General’s Office. Travis has been with the Attorney General’s Office for the past 10 years; prior to that he worked for Jackson Kelly PLLC. Travis is a graduate of West Virginia University College of Law.

•Jeff Waybright is joining the Attorney General’s Office as Chief of Staff. Waybright was the Chief of Staff in the State Auditor’s Office for 9 years, where he helped run the day-to-day operations and managed the more than 160-person staff. He will bring those skills with him to help with operations within the Attorney General’s Office. Previously, Waybright was the Jackson County Clerk for more than 23 years. He also served on the Jackson County School Board.

•Kallie Cart joins the team as Director of Communications and Deputy Chief of Staff. Previously, Cart served as Deputy Chief of Staff in the West Virginia State Auditor’s Office. Prior to her roles in state government, Cart was an award-winning journalist, earning an Edward R. Murrow



**JB McCuskey**

Award and recognition from the Associated Press and West Virginia Broadcasters Association through-out her more than 15-year career in television news. She spent most of that time at WCHS in Charleston as a reporter and anchor where she held the powerful accountable and now is a crucial part of achieving Attorney General McCuskey’s mission to lead with transparency. Cart is a graduate of the

SI Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University.

•Belinda Carpenter is the Executive Assistant to the Attorney General. Carpenter was the Human Resources Assistant Administrator in the West Virginia State Auditor’s Office, where she helped with the day-to-day operations of the office. Previously, she worked in office management within the medical field.

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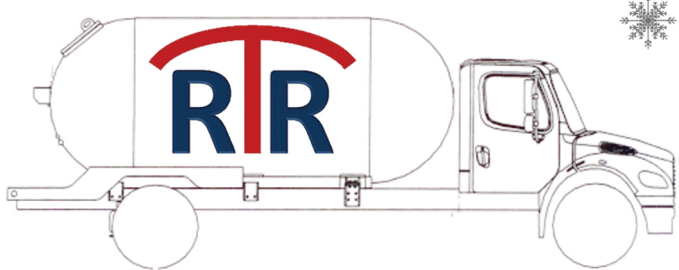
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