

Post Hoc, Ergo Autumn Hoc

Henry Jones

SUMMERS COUNTY W.Va. (Hinton News) - The autumn season is mostly characterized by pleasant weather, leisurely hours, and for many, the start of a new school year.

With fall and everything autumnal returning once more, Hinton experiences the wave like many oth-

ers, but our city has unique characteristics that make the fall season stand out. As mentioned earlier, the weather becomes significantly more enjoyable, with more predictable days. This transformation allows Hinton to come alive, free from the fear of soaring temperatures.

The downtown area stands to be remarkably di-

verse, with a vibrant atmosphere that lasts throughout the year. Yet, unique to this season, the prevalent fall colors throughout the town, with orange hues ablaze, and the soft backdrop of the mountains, give Hinton a distinctive glow. The allures that attract visitors from surrounding states and areas to Hinton has been noted as an untouched treasure

of the region.

Former President John F. Kennedy stated while in our town during his campaign, “The sun does not always shine in West Virginia, but the people do.” This sentiment remains relevant today.

On Explore Summers County’s website, they share and assure visitors that autumn is a lively season. Such

as regular trivia nights at the Lucky Rivers restaurant, as well as live music, and a farmer’s market every Saturday in town.

Residents and visitors can also enjoy the Festival of the Rivers and the town-favorite Railroad Days —a weekend-long celebration (October 10–12), filled with activities honoring Hinton’s rich train culture.

As the colors shift across the Appalachian hillsides and the New River reflects autumn’s brilliance, it’s clear why visitors return year after year. Exploring the streets, boarding a train, or simply standing along the riverbank, you’ll find yourself immersed in a season that feels transformative. Autumn is best experienced in Hinton.

Tabitha Meadows Named to SNHU President’s List

MANCHESTER, NH (Hinton News) - Tabitha Meadows of Hinton (25951) has been named to Southern New Hampshire University’s (SNHU) Summer 2025 President’s List. The summer terms run

from May to August. 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.

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, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as one of the “Most Innovative” regional universi-

ties 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.

Hinton Residents Charged with Obstruction and Assault After Officer Responds to Call

Lisa Abshire

HINTON W.Va. (Hinton News) - According to a criminal complaint, on September 6, an officer received a call to respond to an address in Hinton through a notification from Summers County 911. The caller stated that an individual was throwing objects at a home.

When the officer arrived at the residence, he made contact with the person making the complaint and observed what appeared to be the remnants of water balloons lying on the ground and on the siding of the house.

The caller advised that the suspects had entered a residence, and the officer went there and found an individual sitting on the porch. The officer reportedly approached and identified himself, and the subject went inside and closed the door behind him. The officer then opened the screen door and partially crossed the threshold and called out to an individual identified as Xavier Eugene Epperly. He was allegedly given multiple commands to identify himself and step outside, and refused to comply, according to the criminal complaint.

During this same time, a female identified as Juana Catalina Villegas Cantos interfered with the officer’s investigation, according to the criminal complaint. Santos, on multiple occasions, reportedly yelled over the top of the officer, refused to identify herself, and tried to forcibly remove him from the residence.

The criminal complaint states that while the officer was attempting to gain compliance, Santos, along with Epperly, forcibly closed the door on him, hitting the officer in the area of the abdomen with the door handle.

After this, the officer reopened the door and attempted to take Epperly into custody. At this point, another male came into the room. This person was identified as Daniel Ray Harris. Harris inserted himself between the officer and Epperly. Harris was making an attempt to obstruct the arrest and then pushed the officer out of the residence.

As stated in the criminal complaint, the officer, in response to Harris’s continued interference, used his department-issued taser. That proved to be ineffective, so the officer took Harris to the ground, where a

struggle ensued. The struggle continued down the steps and caused damage to the porch railing.

As the officer was making an attempt to handcuff Harris, Santos grabbed a piece of the broken railing and raised it behind her head, and approached the officer in a threatening way. The officer then drew his service weapon and advised Santos to drop the board and back away. Santos did as she was told, and the officer was able to get Epperly and Harris in handcuffs.

The officer obtained an additional set of handcuffs and advised Santos that she

was under arrest. She was then instructed to place her hands behind her back to be handcuffed. Santos instead fled back inside and locked the door behind her, barricading herself inside. The officer made several lawful commands asking Santos to exit the residence, but she didn’t comply. She was advised that a forced entry would be made if she continued not to comply. After multiple refusals, forced entry was made. The criminal complaint states that a brief physical struggle took place before Santos was in custody.

Discord Call Leads to Domestic Battery Arrest in Summers County

Lisa Abshire

HINTON W.Va. (WVDN) - According to a criminal complaint, on August 31, an officer received a call through Summers County 911. The call was regarding a possible domestic violence situation in Hinton. The call was placed by an individual from Georgia who reported hearing threats involving two people.

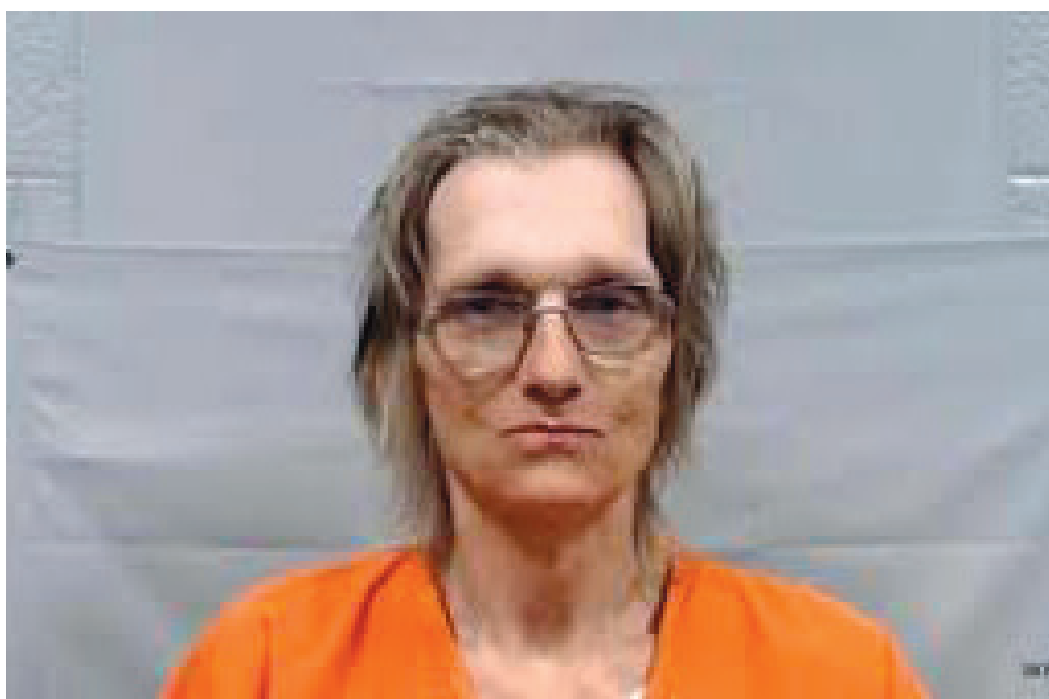
The officer reportedly arrived on scene, separated the parties,

and conducted interviews with each individual separately. According to the criminal complaint, the victim stated that while lying in bed, during an argument about his online usage, the suspect hit him open-handed across the left side of his face. He also said he was on a Discord call with the person who called 911 at the time the incident occurred.

The officer then reportedly contacted the

911 caller to confirm the victim’s version of events. The 911 caller said that after hearing the slap, he asked if he should call 911, and the victim allegedly responded, “Yes.” He then proceeded to call Summers County 911 and give them the victim’s address.

With the evidence reportedly matching up, the officer placed Michelle-Lae Bryanna Norsworthy under arrest for domestic battery.



Michelle-Lae Bryanna Norsworthy

Summers County Library Hosts Weekly Coffee Hour

HINTON, W.Va. (Hinton News) — The Summers County Public Library is hosting a weekly Coffee Hour for the community every

Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. The event features a different topic each week, encouraging attendees to engage in a

variety of discussions. The final two meetings of each month are dedicated to presentations from local organizations, providing

a platform for groups to share their work with the community. Groups interested in presenting should contact the library’s Face-

book page. The weekly gathering offers a way for residents to connect, learn, and enjoy a warm cup of coffee in a welcom-

ing environment. The community is encouraged to stop by on Sept. 17 to see who the week’s presenter will be.

Monroe County Assistant Principal Removed from Duty Following Drunken Incident at School

Hinton News Staff

MONROE COUNTY W.Va. (Hinton News) - According to multiple reports, the assistant principal at Mountain

View Elementary - Middle School was found to be under the influence of alcohol while on school grounds on Sept. 5. Additionally,

the assistant principal allegedly had alcohol present at the school. Parents were reportedly notified of the situation at the end of

the day on Sept. 5 via a robocall. According to a statement from Monroe County Superintendent Jason Conaway, report-

ed by WVNS, law enforcement is charging the assistant principal with two misdemeanors. The statement also notes that the individu-

al in question has been removed from duty, and additional personnel action is set to be presented at an upcoming board meeting.