



# Summers County's JC Wheeler Named 2025 State Officer of the Year



JC Wheeler (right) at the conference. Photo courtesy of WVDNR Facebook

Rebecca Stalnaker  
Hinton News

SUMMERS COUNTY W.Va. (Hinton News) — Summers County is celebrating one of its own after the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR) announced that Natural Resources Police Officer (NRPO) JC Wheeler has been named the 2025 State Officer of the Year.

The prestigious recognition highlights Wheeler's outstanding

service and commitment to the conservation and enforcement efforts across the state.

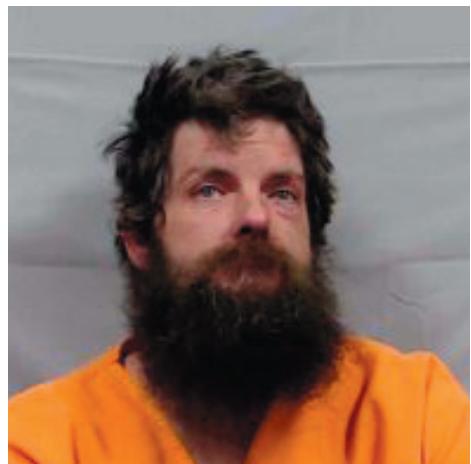
The announcement was made by the West Virginia Natural Resources Police, which encouraged the public to join in congratulating Wheeler on the lifetime achievement.

Wheeler recently attended the Southeast Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies (SEAFWA) conference, where he was formal-

ly recognized alongside 14 other officers from various southeastern states for their dedication and hard work in the field.

The SEAFWA represents 15 state wildlife agencies and is dedicated to advancing the conservation and management of fish and wildlife resources. Officer Wheeler's award places him among the top conservation law enforcement professionals in the region.

## Officer Responds to Domestic Disturbance, Arrests Summers County Man



**Bobby Barker**

Lisa Abshire  
Hinton News

SUMMERS COUNTY W.Va.

(Hinton News) - According to a criminal complaint, on Tuesday, Nov. 18, an officer was dispatched to a call for a domestic disturbance. When the officer arrived, he reportedly saw a shirtless male standing on the porch yelling at someone located inside the residence on the other side of the door.

The officer made an attempt to contact the accused. At that time, the accused became very upset and struck the door with a closed fist, according to the complaint. The accused then reportedly forcibly opened the door in an effort to find someone. The officer at that point

detained the accused and put him in the back of a police cruiser for safety reasons and so the officer could further investigate.

The officer then went in search of the victim. When the officer found the victim, she stated that the accused was very intoxicated and had been stumbling around in the kitchen before the physical altercation started.

The criminal complaint states that the victim said the accused started making accusations of her being unfaithful before the verbal fight began. The victim allegedly went on to say that during the fight, the accused grabbed her by

the face and pushed her into the couch while several juveniles were reportedly trying to get the accused off her. During this time, the victim told the officer that the accused grabbed one of the juveniles by the hair and kicked her. According to the criminal complaint, the officer spoke to the juvenile, who corroborated the story.

The officer then placed the accused, later identified as Bobby Barker, under arrest and transported him to the Summers County Sheriff's Department.

At the time of publishing, Barker is not listed as an inmate at Southern Regional Jail.

## Hinton News Wishes Community A Happy Thanksgiving

Hinton News Staff

HINTON, W.Va. (Hinton News) — The staff of The Hinton News extends its warmest wishes to all of our readers, advertisers, and the entire Summers County community, and beyond, for a happy and peaceful Thanksgiving holiday.

As families gather this Thursday to share meals and reflect on the past year, we want

to take a moment to express our sincere gratitude. Serving this community remains the most rewarding part of our work, and we are thankful for the trust you place in us to deliver the local news and stories that matter most.

From high school sports to town council meetings, and from local business spotlights to features on Summers County's beautiful landscapes, we appreciate the individuals, organizations, and dedicated public servants who contribute to making this paper a vital part of Hinton's life.

We hope your Thanksgiving is filled with good food, the warmth of family and friends, and time for rest and reflection.

The Hinton News offices will be closed Thursday, Nov. 27, in observance of the holiday, and will reopen Monday, Dec. 1, for regular business hours.

Happy Thanksgiving!

## Hinton to Host "A Charlie Brown Christmas Beach Bash"

HINTON, W.Va. — The p.m.

Christmas season is hitting the sand early this year as the community prepares for "A Charlie Brown Christmas Beach Bash" on Saturday, Nov. 29, 2025, the weekend immediately following Thanksgiving.

The event, set at Batteau Beach at Hinton Landing (79 Grace Street), offers a unique blend of holiday spirit and lakeside fun.

The full day of activities is scheduled to include:

**Special Visitors:** Two special holiday visitors, Santa and Mrs. Claus, will be arriving in Hinton.

**Rides and Entertainment:** A trackless train will be available for rides, adding a festive touch for children. 2-5:30

**Food and Refreshments:** Several food trucks will be on site to provide a variety of options.

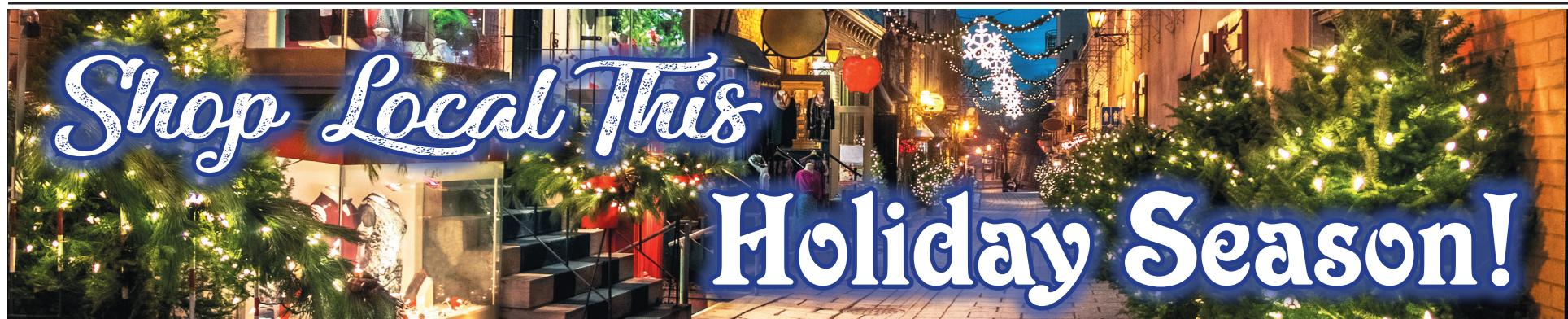
**Free Activities:** The event will feature various free activities geared toward children.

**Outdoor Movie:** The evening will conclude with a free outdoor showing of the holiday classic, A Charlie Brown Christmas, complete with complimentary popcorn.

The Beach Bash provides a perfect opportunity for families to kick off the holiday season locally and support the community.

Be sure to check out the Facebook event page for more information and updates of the beach bash.

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## Hinton Salon Avant Garde Celebrates 12 Years of Style, Service



Lisa Abshire  
Hinton News

HINTON W.Va. (Hinton News) - Hinton is home to an elite hair salon located on 212 Temple Street. Owned by Chadd Vinson and Harry Peck, it is a full-service salon.

When you step into Avant Garde, you're stepping into an experience that

Vinson has been gaining since 1986. Vinson is proudly following in the footsteps of several family members, one of those being his mom. He said that he would actually help his mom

hair, folding towels, and taking appointments before he went to school to do hair himself. Vinson said he attended a private cosmetology school in Atlanta, Georgia, where he was taught the Pivot Point program. Vinson considers that to be a

very great program.

Vinson said for Avant Garde, he's for 12 years and the first five years added a new stylist plans to be there after cosmetology as part of his team. for at least another school, he worked for corporate salons, then moved to booth rental, and from there, he quickly moved on to owning his own salon.

Vinson proudly talks of the fun that was had doing work on hair and make-up for a couple of women's magazines' cover shoots.

Vinson considers one of his strengths in doing hair to be color. Everything from balayage to highlights, he thinks it never gets boring.

For the holidays, Vinson is offering a free cut with color service. To add to the appeal of trying

The new stylist is 12. Avant Garde is Chanah Ratliff. Vinson describes her as an energetic young lady with a bright future. He says the salon is now better able to accommodate walk-ins

Vinson says Avant Garde has been in its current location

### Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

This holiday season, all of us at MountainPlex wish you joy, peace, and wonderful moments with loved ones. We hope your celebrations are filled with magic and meaning.

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## COMMUNITY OBITUARIES



**Lakisha Janine Bond**

The beautiful soul of Lakisha Janine Bond,

age 47, went home to be with the Lord on Thursday, November 13, 2025.

Born on August 29, 1978, she was the daughter of Sheila Marie Bond of Lincoln, NE, and Robert "Bobby" Maurice Gore, Jr. of Hinton, WV.

Lakisha was a mother, grandmother, daughter, niece, sister, cousin, friend, and forever our little bunny rabbit! She loved her family and friends spiritedly, intensely, and unremittingly more than anything. She

adored her late grandmother, Shirley Bond, for whom she had requested her remains be eternally attached too. Last, she loved her MUSIC!

She was preceded in death by her maternal grandparents, Bethel J. Bond and Shirley M. Bond; paternal grandparents, Robert Maurice Gore, Sr. and Jewel M. Gore; uncles, Donald Gore and Michael Lee Gore; aunt, Michelle Missy Gore; half-sister, Brittany Gore. Although these beloved family mem-

bers have moved on, for this moment, through Lakisha, they are here with us now! God bless us all.

Those left to cherish her memory include her two sons, Raheem B. Bond and Kishaun A. Jones, both of Beckley, WV; two grandchildren, Kehlani A. Jones and Legend A. Bond; half-brother, Brandon Gore of Chicago, IL and half-sisters, Amy Gill of Sandstone, WV and Savannah Bond of North Dinwidde, VA; aunts, Anita Buchanan (John), Christal

Henry, Martha Ann gies to all!

Bond, Phyllis Hannah, Janima Bond, Cherly Newkirk (Floyd), Angela Bond, Karen Gore; uncles, Anthony "Tony" Gore, Phillip A. Bond, and Keith Bond and wife Ashley. There are numerous cousins that also survive and whom she loved dearly, especially Laconda Gore and Shane Colin. She had a slew of lifelong friends, but her forever friends are Michelle Gross, Autumn Ford and Tomarra Harshaw. If anyone has been left out, my sincere apolo-

gies to all! Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 22, 2025 at Pivont Funeral Home Chapel in Hinton with Rev. Matthew Saunders officiating. Friends could visit from 12:00 p.m. until the time of services on Saturday at the Funeral Home. Interment will be in the Esquire Cemetery at a later date.

Online condolences at [www.pivontfuneral-home.com](http://www.pivontfuneral-home.com).

Arrangements by Pivont Funeral Home, Hinton, WV.

## Letter to the Editor: Loose Dogs in Forest Hill Problem for Hunters

**Donna Jones**

Dear Editor,  
I am writing this as a concerned citizen and hunter. I own land in Marie, W.Va., and I hunt mostly every morning and every evening. I have been hard at it since the opening day of Bow Season in September. I work very hard to prepare and nurture my 3 spots between 2 properties; I put a lot of time and money into this sport in order to enjoy the solace in the woods and harvest my own food. I also enjoy the challenge of harvesting bigger bucks. But, for the past 6 weeks, however, I have had to work around at least 4 different dogs, 3 with collars, who are almost daily running the bucks now, mostly since they have a stronger scent from the rut, making them easier targets. I and my adjoining neighbors are very frustrated, and I fear that these dogs may be

harmed once the rifles come out on Monday. I also fear for the more vulnerable deer that cannot outrun these dogs; I witnessed a doe this week with her leg missing, and this broke my heart. She hasn't learned to walk on 3 legs yet and was hobbling to move and dragging her hind quarters through the leaves. I have also observed two of them in with cattle disturbing their peace.

I have driven down the roads surrounding my hunting grounds (Webb Gate Road and Marie Road, and Pem Ellison Road) and have spoken to a few residents, the UPS man and looked for these dogs to no avail. Most people say to just shoot them. I have contacted the DNR, who have also asked a few locals about these dogs; people say they have seen the black one with the orange collar (the ring leader), but don't know

who he belongs to. It is believed by some of us given the properties they have harassed the wildlife on that they are coming from the Pem Ellison Rd. If you own these or any dog, it would be appreciated if you would kindly contain them and protect them from getting hit by a car, potentially causing a car wreck that could hurt people, prevent them from harassing the wildlife, and keep them safe from disgruntled hunters. I think I am

speaking on behalf of many property owners and lovers of the hunting sport. If you know who owns these dogs, please share this article with them and/or contact the Beckley DNR Office at 304-256-6945.

We were able to capture pictures of two of them on game cameras.

There is another long-haired, big, black dog with brown fur on the feet and a medium-sized, short-haired cocker spaniel/

poodle looking white dog (has a collar).

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**LEGAL NOTICE****NOTICE OF SALE  
UNDER DEED OF  
TRUST**

Under authority of a certain Deed of Trust from Larry E. Rhodes, Sr. and Rebecca Ann Rhodes, dated the 11th day of October, 2023 and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Summers County, West Virginia, in Book 317 at page 137 to secure Summit Community Bank which by merger and name change is now Burke & Herbert Bank; default having been made in the payment of the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust and sale having been requested by the beneficial owner, the undersigned will offer for sale at the front door of the Courthouse of Summers County, West Virginia, on **Thursday, December 18, 2025 at 10:00 o'clock a.m.**, that certain real estate conveyed by said Deed of Trust as described on the Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made a part hereof.

And being the same property heretofore acquired by Larry E. Rhodes, Sr. and Rebecca Ann Rhodes as joint tenants with rights of survivorship by deed from Larry E. Rhodes, Sr. dated September 11, 2018 and of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Summers County, West Virginia in Deed Book 264, at page 9.

**TERMS OF SALE**

1. The property will be sold and conveyed in an "AS IS" physical condition by Deed containing no warranty, express or implied, subject to any Internal Revenue Service right of redemption, all property taxes, prior Deeds, liens, reservations, encumbrances, restrictions, rights-of-ways, easements, covenants, conveyances, and conditions of record in the Clerk's office or affecting the subject property.

2. The Purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the transfer taxes imposed by the West Virginia Code §11-22-2.

3. The Beneficiary and/or the Servicer of this Deed of Trust and Note reserve the right to submit a bid for the property at sale.

4. The Trustee reserves the right to continue the sale of the subject property from time to time by written or oral proclamation, which continuance shall be in the sole discretion of the Trustee.

5. The Trustee shall be under no duty to cause any existing tenant or person occupying the property to vacate the property and any personal property and/or belongings remaining at the property after the foreclosure sale will be deemed to constitute ABANDONED PROPERTY AND WILL BE DISPOSED OF ACCORDINGLY.

6. The total purchase price is payable to the Trustee by cashier's check, cash, or the equivalent on day of sale.

7. FEDERAL TAX LIENS:

IF THERE ARE FEDERAL TAX LIENS AGAINST THE SUBJECT PROPERTY AND AS A RESULT THE UNITED STATES WOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO REDEEM THE PROPERTY WITHIN A PERIOD OF 120 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THE SALE OR ANY OTHER PERIOD ALLOWABLE FOR REDEMPTION UNDER LOCAL LAW, WHICHEVER IS LONGER.

Given under my hand this the 19th day of November, 2025.

/s/ A. David Abrams, Jr.  
A. David Abrams, Jr., Substitute Trustee

**EXHIBIT A**

All that certain lot, tract or parcel of land, together with the buildings thereon, a tract or parcel of land being a 0.080 acres tract, situated on Backus Mountain Road, Green Sulphur District, Summers County, West Virginia and being more particularly described as follows:

## Property One:

Beginning at a 1/2 - inch rebar, set, on the southern right-of-way line of Backus Mountain Road (West Virginia County Route 24), said rebar being on the common line between William Forest Ennis and Clifford Burdette; thence leaving said right-of-way line with said common line S 80° 35' 54" W 229.45 feet (passing a 1/2 - inch rebar, set, at a distance of 140.29 feet, said rebar being a common corner of said Ennis and United States of America; thence leaving said Ennis and with

Ennis S 19° 09' 13" E 69.34 feet (passing a 1/2 - inch rebar, set on line, at a distance of 61.60 feet) to a point, on the line of United States of America; thence with said United States of America the following two (2) calls; S 80° 57' 37" W 257.55 feet to a point on painted rock, said point being a common corner of said United States of America and Ennis; N 10° 31' 14" W 69.00 feet to a 1/2 - inch rebar, set, on the line of previously mentioned Burdette, said rebar being a common corner of said United States of America and with said Burdette N 80° 35' 54" E 140.29 feet to the point of beginning and containing 17,200 square feet (0.395 acres), more or less, as surveyed by Eastern Surveying, Inc. in January, 1997.

And being the same property heretofore acquired by Larry E. Rhodes, Sr. and Rebecca Ann Rhodes as joint tenants with rights of survivorship by deed from Larry E. Rhodes, Sr. dated September 11, 2018 and of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Summers County, West Virginia in Deed Book 264, at page 9. (26no3de)

**NOTICE OF  
REDEMPTION**

2024-C-000044  
Summers County  
To: AMAYESING RENTALS LLC, AUDREA ADKINS, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.

**DISTRICT HINTON CORP MAP 5 PARCEL 0059 0000 0000**

You will take notice that ROBERTO TOMAS GONZALEZ, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert No. 2024-C-000044**, located in HINTON CORP District, BLOCK Z 302 1/2 JAMES ROW which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of WYGAL WILMA SUSAN, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2023-6905 .....

..... \$98.58

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 2024-5128.....\$296.60

..... \$0.00

Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.....\$122.15

..... \$0.00

Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.....\$302.88

Additional Statutory Fees with Interest.....\$0.00

Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check .....

..... \$538.16

You may redeem at any time before April

30, 2026 by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.

Given under my hand November 10, 2025.

*Christal G. Perry*

Christal G. Perry

Deputy Commissioner of

Delinquent and

Nonentered Lands of SUMMERS County, State of West

Virginia

(26no3,1ode)

**NOTICE OF  
REDEMPTION**

2024-C-000074  
Summers County

To: WYGAL WILMA SUSAN, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.

**DISTRICT HINTON CORP MAP 6 PARCEL 0021 0001 0000**

You will take notice that ROBERTO TOMAS GONZALEZ, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert No. 2024-C-000074**, located in HINTON CORP District, 1 ACRE 152 POLES NEW RIVER HILLS which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of WYGAL WILMA SUSAN, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2023-6905 .....

..... \$98.58

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 2024-5128.....\$296.60

..... \$0.00

Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest .....

..... \$14.55

Additional taxes with interest .....

..... \$0.00

Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest .....

..... \$122.15

Amount paid for Title

Examination, notice to

redeem, publication, personal

service, Secretary of State

with interest.....\$302.88

Additional Statutory Fees with Interest .....

..... \$0.00

Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check .....

..... \$538.16

You may redeem at any time before April

30, 2026 by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.

Given under my hand November 6, 2025.

*Christal G. Perry*

Christal G. Perry

Deputy Commissioner of

Delinquent and

Nonentered Lands of SUMMERS County, State of West

Virginia

(19,26no3de)

6667 .....

..... \$14.55

Additional taxes with interest .....

..... \$0.00

Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest .....

..... \$122.15

Amount paid for Title

Examination, notice to

redeem, publication, personal

service, Secretary of State

with interest.....\$302.88

Additional Statutory Fees with Interest .....

..... \$0.00

Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check .....

..... \$538.16

You may redeem at any time before April

30, 2026 by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the issuance of the deed described above.

Given under my hand November 10, 2025.

*Christal G. Perry*

Christal G. Perry

Deputy Commissioner of

Delinquent and

Nonentered Lands of SUMMERS County, State of West

Virginia

(26no3,1ode)

C/O MICHAEL HARVEY, HEIRS OF REBECCA BLUNT, CURRENT RESIDENT, MICHAEL HARVEY, JACOB BLUNT, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.

**DISTRICT HINTON CORP MAP 12 PARCEL 0131 0001 0000**

You will take notice that CITY OF HINTON LAND REUSE AGEN, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert No. 2024-C-000046**, located in HINTON CORP District, LOT 3 WALNUT STREET which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of BLUNT SCOTT & REBECCA W/S, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of SUMMERS County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on May 21, 2025. CITY OF HINTON LAND REUSE AGENCY requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after May 1, 2026, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before April 30, 2026 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 2023 - 5243.....\$390.67

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 2024-5241.....\$288.61

Additional taxes with interest .....

..... \$0.00

Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest .....

..... \$147.05

Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.....\$930.31

Additional Statutory Fees with Interest .....

..... \$0.00

Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check .....

..... \$1,756.64

You may redeem at any time before April

30, 2026 by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

If the above real estate is your primary residence, you may petition the Auditor to redeem the real estate in not more than three incremental payments that equal the total amount required to redeem the real estate prior to the

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**In the Circuit Court of Summers County, West Virginia**  
Case No. CC-45-2025-C-43  
Judge Amy L. Mann

**Patricia Meador,**  
Plaintiff,  
v.

**M.D. Tomkies & Sons, Defendant**

**Order Approving Motion for Publication**

The object of the above-entitled action is to quiet title to property owned by Petitioner Patricia Meador as set forth in the Petitioner's "Suit to Quiet Title". In addition, Petitioner asserts that she is unable to locate the Respondent after due diligence and Petitioner moves for an Order of Publication pursuant to W. Va. R. Civ. Pro. 4(e)(1)(C) so that proper notice of said "Suit to Quiet Title" may be served upon the Respondent or other interested persons.

After the review of the Affidavit for Publication, this Court agrees that the Petitioner and Petitioner's Attorney used due diligence in locating the Respondent but was unable to locate it and that there may be other interested persons. As such, it is **ORDERED** that publication be made. It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent appear and serve upon Anna R. Ziegler, counsel for plaintiff, whose address is 110 James Street, Hinton, West Virginia 25951, an answer or other defense to the Complaint filed in this action within thirty (30) days of the first date of publication otherwise judgment by default will be taken against them.

A copy of said Petition and Motions can be obtained from the undersigned Clerk at her office in Hinton, Summers County, West Virginia.

Entered by the said Clerk of Court this 3rd day of November, 2025.

Teste: Stacy D. Ford, Summers County Circuit Court Clerk  
/s/ Amy L. Mann  
The Hon. Judge Amy Mann  
Circuit Court Judge  
/s/ Amy L. Mann  
Circuit Court Judge  
30th Judicial Circuit  
(19,26no)

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF SUMMERS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA**

Case No.: CC-45-2025-C-42  
Judge: Amy L. Mann

**BRANDON SMITH,**  
Petitioner

v.  
**THE HEIRS OF CHARLES JAMES BUCKLAND,**  
aka Charley Buckland  
Respondents

**ORDER OF PUBLICATION**

THE OBJECT OF THIS ACTION IS TO QUIET TITLE TO REAL ESTATE

To Respondents: THE HEIRS OF CHARLES JAMES BUCKLAND

It appearing by Affidavit filed in this action that the Petitioner, Brandon Smith, has used due diligence to ascertain the identity and whereabouts of the heirs of Charles James Buckland, aka Charley Buckland, without effect, it is hereby ORDERED that Respondents,

the heirs of Charles James Buckland, serve upon John H. Shumate, Jr., John Shumate Law Firm LC, the Petitioner's attorney, whose address is 526 Main Street, Mount Hope, WV 25880, an Answer, including any related counterclaim or defense that he may have to the Complaint filed in this action on or before thirty (30) days from the date of the first publication of this Order of Publication. If the Respondents fail to timely serve such answer, judgment by default may be taken against any of them for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

DATED this 4th day of November, 2025

Prepared by:  
/s/ John H. Shumate, Jr.  
John H. Shumate Jr. (WVSB # 3392)  
John Shumate Law Firm LC  
526 Main Street  
Post Office Drawer 231  
Mount Hope, West Virginia  
25880  
(304) 877-5516  
/s/ Amy L. Mann  
Circuit Court Judge  
31st Judicial Circuit  
(19,26no)

**WVDNR seeks art for WV Wildlife Calendar Contest**

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (Hinton News) — The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) today announced that it is accepting original wildlife paintings for the 2027 edition of the West Virginia Wildlife Calendar.

All artists, especially those from West Virginia, are encouraged to submit their work for consideration by Feb. 12, 2026. The WVDNR awards \$200 for each painting that is chosen for publication and an additional \$500 for the painting selected for the cover.

The calendar is horizontal and art should be at least 14.5 inches wide by 11.5 inches high. Artists who want to send art should mail a high-resolution copy to the following address:

WV Division of Natural Resources  
Wildlife Calendar Art  
P.O. Box 67  
Elkins, WV, 26241

Artists may send multiple paintings and artwork not chosen in previous years may be resubmitted.

Digital copies of paintings of at least 300 dpi may be emailed to [Santa.D.George@wv.gov](mailto:Santa.D.George@wv.gov). For more information about submitting art for the West Virginia Wildlife Calendar or to purchase the 2026 edition while supplies last, visit [WVdnr.gov/wildlife-calendar](http://WVdnr.gov/wildlife-calendar).



# Dear Recycle Lady

Dear Recycle Lady,

I have been tearing off the corner of stapled papers before I put them in recycling. Is it possible to recycle paper with staples in it?

Staple Remover

Dear Staple Remover,

Yes, paper can be recycled with staples left in it. Ordinary staples are made from 100% steel, which makes them easily recycled. According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), "Paper mills that process recovered paper are set up to remove common contaminants such as staples and paper clips from the pulped paper." Therefore, it is not necessary to remove staples before recycling paper.

Dear Recycle Lady,

Why must recyclables such as plastic bottles, steel cans, aluminum cans and cardboard be clean and dry when they are recycled? Isn't there equipment that cleans everything before bailing? To Wash or Not To Wash

Dear To Wash or Not To Wash,

There is one BIG reason for putting only clean and dry items in the recycling bins: contamination. It only takes one dirty item to contaminate an entire load of acceptable recyclables. The Recycling Center does not have the equipment to clean recyclables, so they must depend on the recyclers to bring items clean and dry.

Companies that use recyclables to make new products have been known to toss an entire load of recyclables into the trash when finding a single contaminated piece.

Another type of contamination, called recycling contamination, occurs when a recyclable is tossed into the wrong bin. For example, a plastic bottle (even though clean and dry) thrown in with paper could contaminate the entire load of paper.

In 2018, 800,000 tons of recyclables were rejected by one of the largest users of recyclables because they were contaminated. They all ended up in a landfill and were of no value to anyone.

Dear Recycle Lady,

It's time to put fall decorations away, including pumpkins.

What can I do with my pumpkins besides put them in the trash? Decorator

Dear Decorator,

Used or cut pumpkins can be composted and will add green material to your compost. Before putting them in the compost pile, smash or chop up your pumpkins into smaller pieces so they will compost faster.

Roasted pumpkin seeds are a healthy snack for both humans and birds as they are high in protein, fiber and healthy fats. See [www.tasteofhome.com/article/roast-pumpkin-seeds/](http://www.tasteofhome.com/article/roast-pumpkin-seeds/) for step-by-step instructions for roasting pumpkin seeds.

Raw, dried or slightly roasted pumpkin seeds can be put in a dish, feeder or mixed with suet for a healthy bird snack that gives birds both nutrients and energy. Be sure there is no salt, seasoning, flavoring or candy on the seeds as these are not healthy for

birds.

The website, <https://www.beakybites.co.uk/blog/can-birds-eat-pumpkin-seeds-the-best-way-to-feed-them>, has good ideas for preparing pumpkin seeds for birds.

Deer and other wildlife also like pumpkins. Just put them out in a field or lightly forested area. One word of caution: break open your pumpkins so a hungry deer won't get its head stuck inside the pumpkin! Feeding humans, deer, or birds with used pumpkin seeds is so much better than sending them to the landfill.

Pumpkins taken to the landfill emit a potent greenhouse gas called methane, which generates carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and contributes to climate change. According to the World Economic Forum, landfills around the country receive about 900,000 tons (1,800,000,000 pounds!) of pumpkins each fall.

Interesting Information: Did you know that the name Jack-O'-lantern was used in the 1600s as the name for lantern-carrying night watchmen? At that time, "Jack" was a name used for a man whose name was not known, and since he was carrying a lantern, he was called Jack-O'-lantern. According to Merriam-Webster, by the 1800s, Jack O'lantern meant "a carved pumpkin used as a lantern." The name may have come from ancient rituals or folk tales about lantern-carrying spirits. It also may have come from young pranksters who carved scary faces into pumpkins.

Have questions about recycling or interesting information about recycling? Send questions or requests to [recycle-lady@greenbrier-swa.com](mailto:recycle-lady@greenbrier-swa.com). Dear Recycle Lady is sponsored jointly by the Greenbrier Recycling Center and Green-works Recycling.



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# A Peek into Summers County's Past: Historic Pence Springs Items



Photo provided by William Jones

William Jones  
Hinton News

PENCE SPRINGS W.Va. (Hinton News) - This week's tale has a different twist to it in that what is inside this collection will lead to future stories once I have gotten a chance to go through it. I received this collection of mainly historic Pence Springs items just last week, after having seen them over a decade ago. This belonged to the late Melvin Harris, who was just as passionate about its history as I am.

Around 15 to 18 years ago, my late friend Lorene Cales put me in touch with Mr. Harris because he was also very interested in the history of our hometown. I contacted his wife, Kay, and I set up a time when they would be here at their camp from their home in South Carolina. Mom and I went to meet them, sat on their back porch overlooking the Greenbrier River, and shared Pence Springs history for hours.

I had scanned his early photos and documents that day, but my computer had crashed and I had lost them. Mr. Harris passed away on July 18, 2019. My friend Anita Comer of Riverside Rest became good friends with Melvin and Kay years ago. She still goes to visit Kay every so often.

Anita went recently,

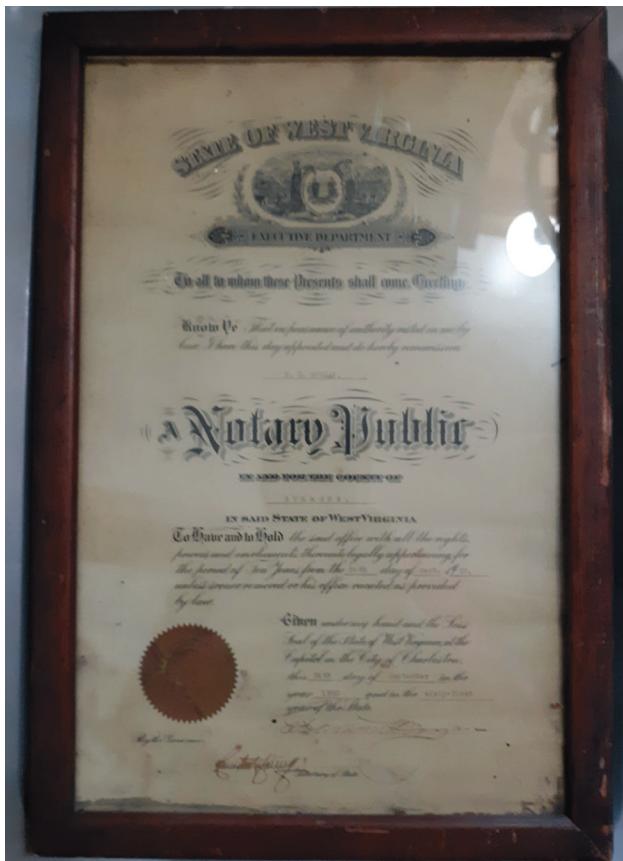


Photo provided by William Jones

and after she returned home, she sent me a message that Kay had sent me several things that I was going to love. She brought

them to me, and after looking through them, I found several early Pence Springs photos I had never seen,

a history booklet that Melvin had written

himself about the history of the town, and an old Hinton High School football program.

As well as a few other things, one in particular was this unique framed notary certificate where M.C. "Mac" Nowlan was a notary in Pence Springs. The Nowlan family was a very influential family around these parts. Having numerous businesses, held several titles, the Nowlan family had ties as one

of the early in-laws in the Graham family.

I am still digging through this treasure and am sure I will find other things. I called Kay to thank her, and it was the first time we had talked since I first met her. She was pleased to know Melvin's collection would be treasured just like he had. The more we talked, we realized we may be distantly related through the Mann side of my family. To be continued....

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## The Noble Bereans

(Part 3)

by David Padfield

(Last time we continued our study of the Bereans. We found out they were considered "noble" because they received the word with all readiness and they searched the scriptures daily. We will complete that study today.)

Why did the Bereans study the Scriptures "daily"? Hadn't an apostle of Christ preached to them? Yes, but they wanted to see it for themselves. As Paul would tell the saints in Rome, "Let God be true but every man a liar" (Rom. 3:4).

Becoming a Christian involves establishing a new set of habits or patterns in your life, including the "putting off" of the old man of sin, and the "putting on" of the new man (Eph. 4:20-32). One of the best habits you can develop as a Christian is a daily study of the Scriptures. Once this habit is developed and nurtured, you will be on your way to a greater knowledge of God and His will. Not only that, your daily study of the Scripture will give you boldness in the face of opposition and make you far more effective in teaching others—you will be able to "save both yourself and those who hear you" (1 Tim. 4:16).

Your daily study of the Scriptures will draw you closer to God, give you peace of mind in this life and prepare you for the world to come. Your life will be blessed as you study and meditate on the word of God (Psa. 1:1-6; 19:7-11).

### Many Of Them Believed

As a result, of hearing the gospel and of studying the Scriptures, they were led to become converts to the message Paul preached. In many cities, the majority of converts were of Gentile background. At Berea it is different—"many" Jewish people became Christians! But this is only natural—they had carefully listened to the message preached and examined the Scriptures daily—I would expect such people to render obedience to the gospel of Jesus Christ, for "faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Rom. 10:17).

In every case of conversion recorded in the book of Acts, the gospel was preached by men to men (cf. Acts 8:12; 14:1; 18:8). There is not a single example of someone obeying the gospel without first having heard the message of the cross. Since faith comes by hearing, your faith will be increased as you read, study and search the Scriptures! The more I study the Old Testament the stronger my faith is in God and His providential care for His children (Rom. 15:4). The examples of faith from the Old Testament give me hope (1 Cor. 10:1-13).

Grace and peace come through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord (2 Pet. 1:2-4).

### Conclusion

"The Jews in Berea applied seriously to the study of the word preached unto them. They not only heard Paul preach on the Sabbath, but daily searched the Scriptures, and compared what they read with the facts related to them. The doctrine of Christ does not fear inquiry; advocates for His cause desire no more than that people will fully and fairly examine whether things are so or not. Those are truly noble, and likely to be more and more so, who make the Scriptures their rule, and consult them accordingly. May all the hearers of the gospel become like those of Berea, receiving the word with readiness of mind, and searching the Scriptures daily, whether the things preached to them are so." (Matthew Henry).

Do you have a spirit as worthy as the noble Bereans?

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(Having looked at several congregations of Christ's church as described in the New Testament, next week we will study about that same church here in the United States before Alexander Campbell.)

*Paid for by Shockley Hill church of Christ.*

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EOE

# Occupancy at Full Capacity at New County Kennels Heading into Holiday Season



**Summers County Humane Society/ACWP volunteer Martha Braswell receives a grant from the Hinton Area Foundation's Greg Vandall (left) for \$1500 to support K900 field trips to take a van full of dogs to a local park, on a designated day, in the hopes of drawing out new volunteers to come and meet the dogs and give them some exercise. Christina Cochran (right) explained, "It's hoped these field trips will result in some new volunteers for the humane society, some happy pups, and more community awareness of what we do."**

SUMMERS COUNTY W.Va. (Hinton News) - Summers County's new state-of-the-art temporary dog kennels in Hinton remain full with rotating occupancy and overflow, requiring some dogs to be temporarily housed in kennels outdoors. With winter approaching and outdoor temperatures dropping, the local humane society is actively recruiting and training new volunteers, seeking adoptive forever homes for eight adult dogs as foster families care for another 15 dogs and puppies as the holidays approach. New volunteers are needed, and if you love dogs, this is a great gig.

The dogs living temporarily in the kennels belong to the Sheriff's department, but the Summers County Humane Society/ACWP helps care for them and assists in operating the kennels, feeding, socializing, transporting to veterinary care, offering outdoor activity, and delivering the dogs to partnering rescues when spots are available. Fostering a dog allows extra time to locate forever homes, and sometimes dogs live in foster homes for a few days, a few weeks, or sometimes longer, and the humane society provides all the food, vaccinations, and spay-

Bash Christmas Adoption Event, where folks can meet some dogs in need of homes. The public is asked to bring dog food, toys, towels and blankets to donate to the dogs on Saturday November 29th from 2:00 until 6:00 pm at Hinton Landing.

To make room for other dogs in need, the humane society is actively publicizing available dogs with the help of the Hinton News weekly spotlight and Mountainplex Media's Fur Baby Fridays on Classic Hits 98.3 FM and WMTD-AM 1380, featuring a different dog every week on the radio stations' Facebook page. Dogs available for adoption can be found at pet.com, Petfinder.com, and at [www.acwp-wv.org/adoptions](http://www.acwp-wv.org/adoptions).

"We have been launching numerous promotional campaigns with the goal of keeping loving and amazing dogs 'top of mind' in our community," according to ACWP Board Member Gayle Rancer.

A series of western saloon-style "Wanted" posters can be seen on bulletin boards and shop windows throughout the area.

"We get to know the dogs while they're in our volunteer care, and we can evaluate how they are with other pets, children, and their distinct personalities. They're all good dogs, whether abandoned, stray, neglected, rescued, or surrendered, often let down by their original owners, or mourning the loss of a deceased owner, worthy of love and a caring, safe, and loving home. We are just trying to match them up with a second chance in a secure situation. The sooner we can place them, whether temporarily or

permanently, the sooner we can free up space at the kennels for the next dogs in need."

To apply to volunteer to explore a new purpose in life, to include temporary foster dogs in your home, or to adopt, please reach out to our Volunteer Coordinator at [volunteer@acwp-wv.org](mailto:volunteer@acwp-wv.org).

Since the ribbon cutting for the new kennels, ACWP Board President Christina Cochran says there's a great need for additional funding, both public and private. "We are always grateful for donations of food, supplies, toys, blankets, and financial gifts. Year-end giving is something our organization can always use, and donations to our Hinton Area Foundation ACWP Fund ensure recurring annual funds for the future." To donate to the Humane Society's endowment fund, please mail checks made out to Hinton Area Foundation to PO Box 217, Hinton, WV 25951. Memo Line: ACWP Fund.

The Humane Society thanks the community for the outpouring of support to help the Sheriff's Department open and operate the new kennels at the Summers County Recycling Center, for generous sponsorships of events from the new golf tournament to benefit the Humane Society to our outreach at Railroad Days

and other local events.

"We've helped care for a lot of dogs this year and we go through a lot of food and treats. We are always happy to receive dona-

tions from food drives at area businesses and organizations, and we wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving and holiday season."

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