



# ‘You Matter:’ Weston Hartwell’s Mission to Lift Up Those Struggling with Addiction

Lisa Abshire  
Hinton News

SUMMERS COUNTY W.Va. (Hinton News) - Statistically speaking, you have a 32% chance of drug use affecting your life. To put it another way, a one in three chance. A study conducted in 2023 showed that around 19 million children live with at least one parent or caregiver with a drug use problem.

To bring it local, a 2022 study showed 12% of adults in the Hinton area of Summers County have reported having a drug use problem.

Weston Hartwell is here to bring hope and help to the community for the drug problem through the Summers County Pathways to Prevention Coalition. Hartwell started a journey with REACHH, and that led to this position.

“For as long as I can remember, I’ve always felt deeply for those struggling with addiction, whether it be to alcohol, drugs, or something else,” Hartwell said.

“I have several people close to me that I have watched struggle with substance use disorders for my entire life. Some were able to beat it. Some unfortunately lost their lives to it,” Hartwell went on to say. Hartwell said that prevention and awareness were just something that came naturally to him, and he genuinely loved it.

According to Hartwell, substance abuse among youth in the area is somewhat middle of the road, meaning it’s there but could be worse. Vapes and pens are still a big problem locally, Hartwell said, according to what information the coalition has. “The problem will become more prevalent if we don’t

act on it now,” Hartwell says.

The coalition has only recently gotten back up and running and they’re staying busy doing outreach, according to Hartwell.

“I want to create that safe space where you will not be judged for reaching out but rather only feel lifted up, loved, and supported by me and my team,” Hartwell explained. He went on to say that he understands how asking for help in a world that stigmatizes substance use disorders is hard, but he hopes that anyone dealing with it can understand they won’t be judged by the coalition or by Hartwell himself.

It’s very clear when talking to Hartwell that he is passionate about helping people. That he cares deeply about the people and community he’s dedicated to helping.

Hartwell offered these tips for drug

use prevention. A five-step process beginning with assessment, then moving to capacity, and then planning. Next up would be implementation, and last is evaluation. According to Hartwell, this model is taken from SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration).

Hartwell urges anyone struggling with addiction to reach out for help. Contact a helpline, a doctor, a therapist, whatever it takes to get the help you need. Hartwell wants anyone who has already taken that first step to know he’s incredibly proud of you for that.

If you’re in Summers County and need help, contact Weston Hartwell at REACHH at 304-466-2226. Simply stopping by the office located at 411 Temple Street is also an option. Hartwell wanted to end this by saying, “You matter. Genuinely.”

## Hinton Public Meeting Breaks Down Proposed 20% School Levy

David Ziegler  
Hinton News

HINTON W.Va. (Hinton News) - On Monday, March 30, about 25 people attended a public information meeting at the Hinton Dairy Queen to learn about the school levy on the May primary ballot. Superintendent Dr. Linda Knott led the meeting with input from Chief School Business Officer Lauren Crook. Dr. Knott explained that all the items in the levy were requested through a general public survey last fall. There are nine separate line items in the levy, and if the levy passes, the School Board is required by law to spend those amounts as specified.

The first line item is \$422,235 to hire teachers and service personnel who are not covered by the state school aid formula. This is the only line that seemed to confuse the meeting, so

some explanation is needed. Most of the funding for Summers County schools comes from the State pursuant to a 10-step formula based on adjusted net enrollment of students. The easiest way to visualize this is that the more students you have, the more money a system gets. There are funds for teachers, for service personnel, for buses, and so forth. If a school system hires more teachers or service employees than the formula allows, the school system will not be reimbursed for those over the formula. The local system has to come up with the money elsewhere.

Right now, the Summers County system has nine service personnel, which includes several aides, more than allowed by the formula. These aides are required by law in grades one through three, in special ed, and in other programs. In effect, the School Board is faced with an unfunded mandate. If the levy passes, that first line item should cure the problem. The word ‘supplement’ is used in the levy call; it is used in the sense that it ‘supplements’ the money from the formula; it does not increase any individual’s salary.

The second line item will provide funding for athletic travel

## A Hero’s Turn for Help: Community Rallies for Veteran Firefighter

Lisa Abshire  
Hinton News

SUMMERS COUNTY W.Va. (Hinton News) - For twenty years, Ray Toth stayed ready. Whenever the fire pager chirped, he answered, sacrificing his time, energy, and personal resources to help strangers in their darkest hours. As a volunteer, Toth gave without hesitation to the Summers County community, never asking for anything in return.

Today, the roles have reversed. The man who spent two decades protecting local homes now finds his own in a state of dangerous disrepair, and he needs his neighbors to answer the call.

According to Curtis Yearego, Executive Director of WV Dis(EN)Able, Toth’s struggle began in 2023 when his residence required essential structural repairs. Despite Toth’s initial attempts to seek assistance, his requests went unanswered for years. Now, three years after his troubles began, WV Dis(EN)Able has stepped in to ensure Toth is no longer left behind.

The most urgent issue is a collapsed porch, which has stripped Toth of a safe entrance to his own home. While a structural failure of this size is a hazard for anyone, Toth’s disability makes the situation tenable. Currently, he faces the daily fear of further injury just trying to access his front door.

He is not one to complain, Yearego noted. He only wants what anyone wants: a safe place to live where he doesn’t fear getting hurt just going inside.

When Yearego learned that Toth’s disability and financial situation were preventing these critical repairs, his organization immediately mobilized. WV Dis(EN)Able is partnering with P&M Development and Daniel Lucas AIA Ar-



Photo provided by Curtis Yearego

chitecture to spearhead the restoration. Lucas, a respected architect, has already successfully completed two prior projects with the organization.

However, professional expertise is only half of the equation. To restore safety and dignity to Toth’s home, the project requires the financial backing of the community he once served.

For projects like this to be successful, it requires a lift from the community, Yearego noted. The organization is looking for support from the neighbors Ray helped so selflessly for 20 years, and from anyone who wants to make a tangible difference in the life of a man who gave so much.

Donations are currently being accepted to fund the materials and labor required for the renovation. To contribute or to learn more about the project, please contact Curtis Yearego. Website: wvdinc.org. Social Media: Follow the WV Dis(EN)Able Facebook page for real-time updates on the construction progress.



# A Peek into Summers County's Past: John Henry



*East Portal of Great Bend Tunnel  
6,880 feet long.*

**William Jones**  
Hinton News

TALCOTT W.Va. (Hinton News) - I may have mentioned this rare photograph before in one of my earlier pieces, but this being my 161st weekly Summers County history, I am not sure. With the 29th annual John Henry Days

fast approaching on the 10th-12th of July of this year, I feel it is proper to start paying homage to the Legend of John Henry. People often have the misconception that "legend" being tied to this local tale is somehow fake. This, however, is quite the contrary;

"legends" are rooted in real historical events. The fact that John Henry was one of the characters in the 1995 Disney movie "Tale Tales", about Pecos Bill and Paul Bunyan, only added fuel to the fire, so to speak. I am a firm believer that John Henry lived and died in a contest at the Great Bend Tunnel at Talcott, WV, between 1870 and 1872.

My grandfather, Bernard Thompson, was born in Talcott in 1927. He grew up there and spent a large part of his life in Talcott. He said that when he was a young boy in the 1930s, many older people in town told similar stories of having been present to witness the contest, or of their parents' first-

hand accounts of the battle that took place at The Great Bend Tunnel.

This is the oldest known photo of the construction of the tunnel, which makes a seven-mile stretch through the Big Bend Mountain. Over 800 African American. They cut a 6,880-foot-long tunnel through this mountain.

I love this photo because I like to think that at least one of the men in it witnessed the "legend" firsthand. Granddad always told me, even though I have yet

to be able to uncover any documentation of it. The University of Kentucky came to Talcott in the late 1930's and interviewed the locals who said they had witnessed the fight. Everyone interviewed told such similar "first hand" stories that it helped it to be a proven historic event.

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## Jesus, The Way To God

(Part 1)

by Mark A. Copeland

[https://executableoutlines.com/topical\\_series/jesus-the-way-guide/jtw\\_01.html](https://executableoutlines.com/topical_series/jesus-the-way-guide/jtw_01.html)

We are looking at a series of lessons concerning Jesus as the Way. We have looked at Jesus as the Way to a better life and Jesus as the Way to forgiveness.

In the last lesson, we saw that by His death on the cross, Jesus made possible the forgiveness of our sins. When our sins are forgiven, we are no longer the objects of God's wrath. As Paul stated in his wonderful epistle to the Romans:

**Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. (Romans 5:9)**

As wonderful as being justified by the blood of Jesus may be, we need more than this...we need the kind of close friendship that existed between God and Adam before the "Fall." But if a close relationship is to exist between God and ourselves, we must understand God and feel comfortable in approaching Him.

When we contemplate the difference between God and man, we can see that this is not easy...

### THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GOD AND MAN

Think for a moment on the difference between God and man; when we consider the nature of God as revealed in the Bible and nature, we see:

- One with unlimited **power**, unlimited **wisdom**, unlimited **holiness**
- One who is the **Creator** of all things, the **Sustainer** of all things, the **Knower** of all things
- One who is **eternal**, **immortal**, and **invisible**

Indeed, this **Supreme Being** fills the entire universe with **His Presence**:

**"Am I a God near at hand," says the LORD, "And not a God afar off? Can anyone hide himself in secret places, So I shall not see him?" says the LORD; "Do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the LORD. (Jeremiah 23:23-24)**

On the other hand, man is mortal, finite in knowledge and understanding. Man is the **created** one, the one who is **sustained** by the God who supplies all his needs. As Paul proclaimed in his sermon at Athens:

**"God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, 'For we are also His offspring.'" (Acts 17:24-28)**

The difference between God and man is so great, it ought to overwhelm man with awe. Notice the reflections of David as expressed in the Book of Psalms:

**O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word on my tongue, But behold, O LORD, You know it altogether. You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain it. Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me. If I say, "Surely the darkness shall fall on me," Even the night shall be light about me; Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, But the night shines as the day; The darkness and the light are both alike to You. (Psalms 139:1-12)**

Next week, we will continue looking at Jesus as the Way to God.

*Paid for by Shockley Hill church of Christ.*

We meet at 3293 Tug Creek Mountain Road  
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## ROAD TRIPPING WORD SEARCH

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I V I H A A T L A S P D R S P D S P V D  
R Z N H H I D A A S P H A L T H E L P H  
B S A E T A T S R E T N I C T Z D A E A  
R S V S V H V C C Y T I L O E S I Y G A  
P W I G H Y B H B O H S O R E I S L A R  
S K G S W R I P I W O B U R W A D I E P  
C T A M K A L G I G L L R L H U A S L Z  
B N T M O R L R K L H H E L R U O T I S  
Y Z I N R E B H O D Z W N R K E R E M U  
K G O B H N O T S W B O A O P N D H D L  
P R N I D I A B Y S Z L O Y G D T N G D  
N I E H A T R T R I K L O Y M H T N A T  
T C T U Z I D V R E R C C W M O T E L W  
A C A S A V S O V E T V A S T N E S S O  
N D B R T B H U V R U E L N Z O D A M D  
W A G Z A O P O N R L N M D S D Y U K I  
L E O Y V V P V P S C L S O G I K V O Y  
R U O T E D A I N G E Z D W D L N P U S  
T K D K R O T N U A Z T H N I O A R P V

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

### WORDS

ASPHALT	DETOUR	NAVIGATION	SNACKS
ATLAS	HIGHWAY	ODOMETER	SUNSET
BILL-BOARDS	HORIZON	OVERLOOK	TOLLBOOTH
CARAVAN	INTERSTATE	PITSTOP	VASTNESS
COOLER	ITINERARY	PLAYLIST	WANDER-LUST
	MILEAGE	ROADSIDE	
	MOTEL	SCENIC	

# HAE Panthers Are on the Prowl for Excellence



Photo courtesy of Hinton Area Elementary School Facebook page

**Hinton Area Elementary School**

HINTON W.Va. (Hinton News) - Hinton Area Elementary is on the prowl for excellence in several ways, including teacher retention, decreasing the chronic attendance rate, and improving test scores in reading and math. Our theme this year has been "Accept the Challenge". While challenges are great, we choose to focus on what is in our control to impact change and continue to move forward.

Three years ago, we had nine vacancies that had to be filled with long term substitutes or people who had not had education classes because there was a shortage of teachers. In addition, we had hired teachers who

lived in surrounding counties previously who we would get trained and provide experience to and then they would leave for better pay, better benefits and to be closer to home when a job opened up. We have managed to recruit from within Summers County and have had several teachers go through an alternative certification program to become fully certified. We have had such a strong staff this year and have had much better teacher retention rates in the last couple of years. In addition, HAE has had the honor of having the Summers County Teacher of the Year for the past two years and the Service Personnel of the Year a couple of years ago.

Chronic attendance

rates in our county have climbed dramatically since Covid, but we are now seeing improvements. Chronic attendance is when a student misses ten percent or more of the school year. We knew we had to do something to change the mindset of all stakeholders to emphasize the importance of being in school. Our Communities in Schools Coordinator has worked with families to provide resources and to do home visits.

Messaging has gone out on the effects of poor attendance, incentives for good attendance have been provided, and the school counselor has started the Perfect Attendance Luncheon this year where par-

ents can come eat lunch with their child at the decorated tables to celebrate. Students track their own attendance in their Leadership Binders to help them take ownership of their data. As of April 1, 2026, our chronic attendance rate has decreased 11.67% from 39.9% last year to 28.23% currently. If students are not in school, we cannot teach them. We will continue to work on further reducing the chronic attendance rate with help from the families of our students.

Test scores are also improving in ELA, math, and science at HAE. The number of students who scored mastery last spring increased by 7% for ELA,

4% for math and 11% for science when compared to the previous school year. We have many action steps in place within our strategic plan to keep the momentum going. We are currently updating our strategic plan for the next school year, and all stakeholders are invited to provide input by contacting Mrs. Gumm or attending a PTO or LSIC meeting.

Hinton Area Elementary has good things happening and is proud to be a part of the Hinton community. While there will always be challenges, we are committed to improving the education of our students and are appreciative of the community support we have had and continue to enjoy. We will continue to "Accept the Challenge" to further school improvement efforts.

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Published by  
 ECENT CORPORATION  
 188 Foster Street,  
 Lewisburg, WV 24901

Publisher:  
 Scot Refsland, Ph.D.  
[publisher@wvdn.com](mailto:publisher@wvdn.com)

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Circulation Manager:  
 Heather Felts  
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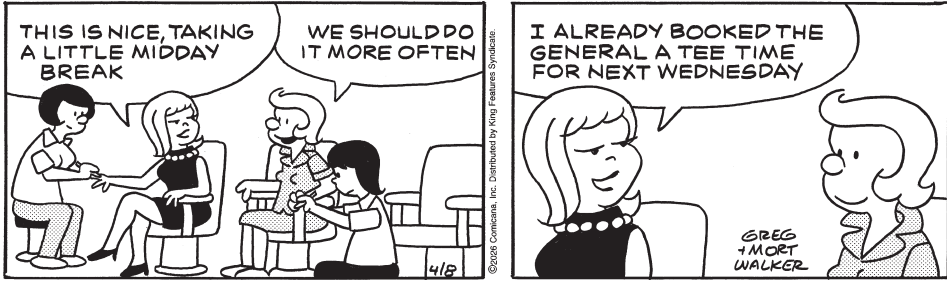
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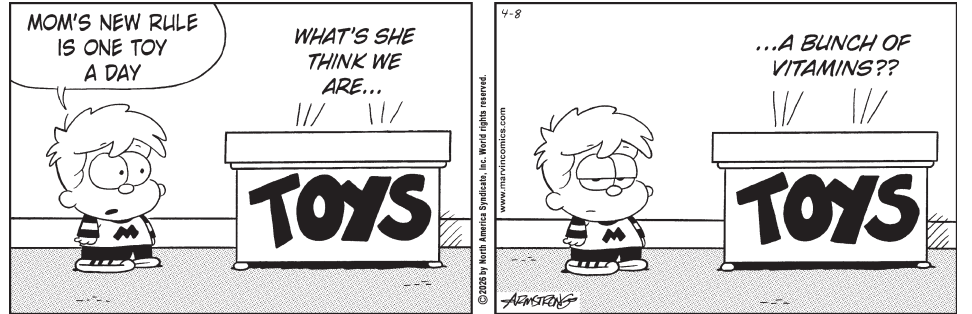
THE **HINTON NEWS**

# ENTERTAINMENT & COMICS PAGE

## Beetle Bailey



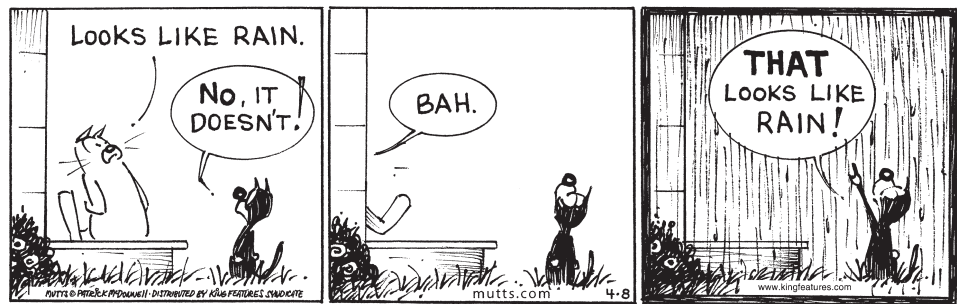
## Marvin



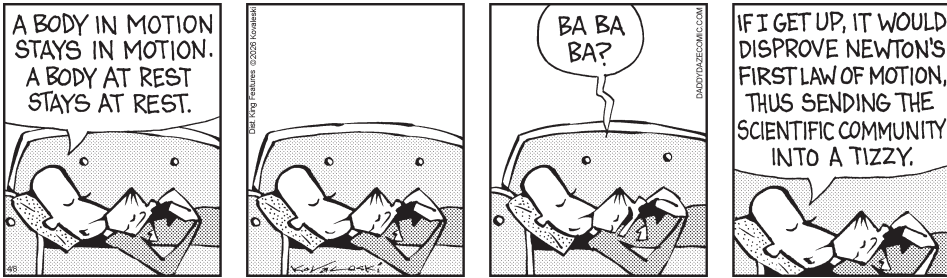
## Blondie



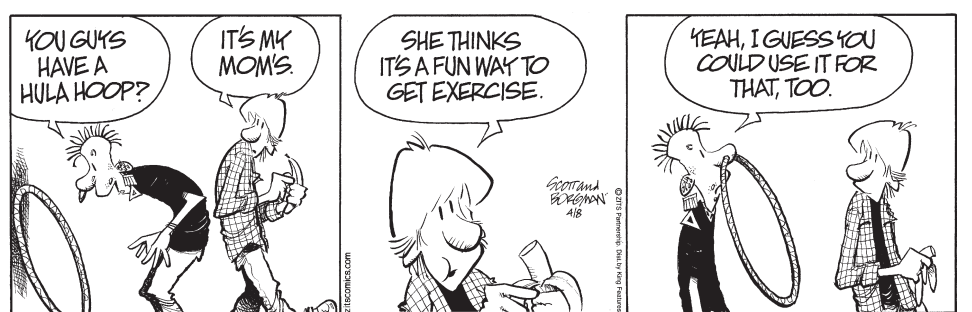
## Mutts



## Daddy Daze



## Zits



## Dustin



## Hi and Lois



## SHEFFER CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Actress Hatcher
  - 5 Mac rivals
  - 8 Madrid miss (Abbr.)
  - 12 "East of Eden" son
  - 13 — polloi
  - 14 Eye drop
  - 15 Ginormous amount
  - 17 Hold sway
  - 18 Allergy season sound
  - 19 Makes amends
  - 21 Heavy weight
  - 22 Taylor of "Mystic Pizza"
  - 23 Alphabet starter
  - 26 Use a shovel
  - 28 "Welcome to Maui!"
  - 31 Harvest
  - 33 Tic-tac-toe loser
  - 35 Elitist
  - 36 Director Frank
- DOWN**
- 1 Bar bills
  - 2 Speed skater — Jackson, Olympic gold medalist
  - 3 Actor's quest
  - 4 Cove
  - 5 Capital of Arizona
  - 6 Anti
  - 7 Twine fiber
  - 8 Casual walks
  - 9 Family gatherings
  - 10 Yarn
  - 11 God of war
  - 16 Sport shirt brand
  - 20 Aunt, in Acapulco
  - 23 Lob's path
  - 24 Arthur of "Maude"
  - 25 Photo subtitles
  - 27 Sailor
  - 29 "Yoo- —!"
  - 30 Six-pack muscles
  - 32 College official
  - 34 Party dress fabric
  - 37 Parisian pal
  - 39 Workout count
  - 42 Brazilian dance
  - 44 Poppy drug
  - 45 "Toodlee-oo!"
  - 46 Baseball stats
  - 48 Unrivaled
  - 49 Author Bagnold
  - 50 Bygone fliers
  - 53 Have a bug

Solution time: 23 mins.

MA	AM	RAF	LSAT
ARGO	ASU	YEAR	
SEAHAWKS	CARO		
SARAH	SK	KEWED	
	I	AGO	PEA
USSR	HUGO	LAD	
RUE	SETUP	LBS	
NEA	FEEES	PSST	
	SAP	RHEA	
SHONDA	TYKES		
AUNT	SEAC	COAST	
GRAS	TLC	FRAU	
ALLY	IMS	FLUB	

Last Wednesday's Answer (Answers Next Wednesday)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13			14				
15			16				17				
18						19	20				
23	24	25		26		27	28		29	30	
31			32		33		34		35		
36				37		38		39		40	
		41			42		43		44		
45	46						47		48	49	50
51					52	53					
54					55				56		
57					58				59		

## SUDOKU PUZZLE

King Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty: ★★★

4/8

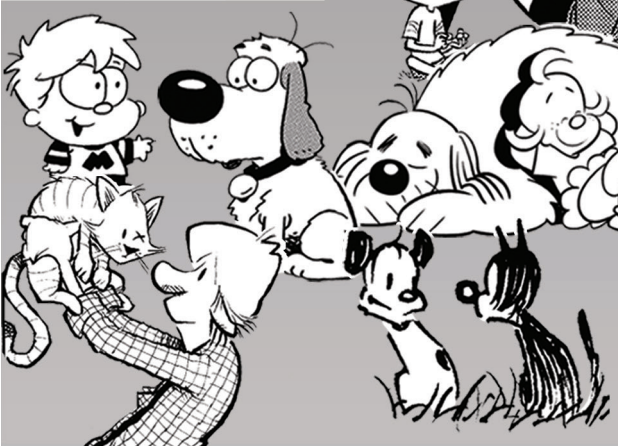
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9. That means that no number is repeated in any row, column, or box.

(Today's Answers Next Wednesday)

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

Difficulty: ★★★

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## JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

IEETL

OIAPT

RLOFAL

GHNECA

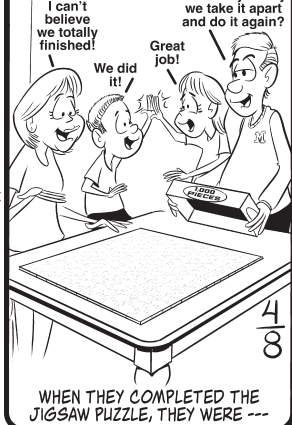
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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Today's Answers Next Wednesday)

Last Wednesday's Answers: Jumbles: ISSUE HOARD POLICE JOYFUL Answer: When confessing the April 1 winning lottery ticket was fake, he made a — "FOOL" DISCLOSURE

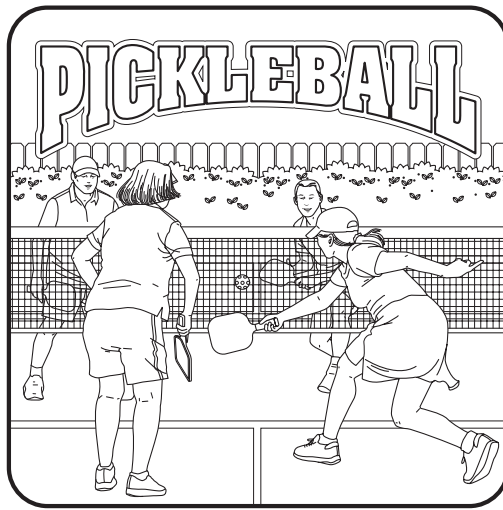


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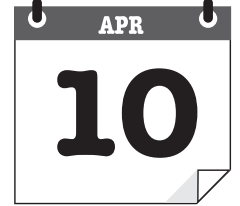


### Creative Coloring

Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.



### DAY IN HISTORY



**1606:** The Virginia Company of London is established by royal charter.

**1816:** The Federal government of the United States approves the creation of the Second Bank of the U.S.

**1912:** RMS Titanic sets sail from the United Kingdom.

### SPORTS FACT:



This is a low-impact paddle sport that mixes rules of tennis, paddle ball and more.

Answer: Pickleball

### Double Word Puzzle

Unscramble the individual words to reveal letters for the phrase.

LPREAY

1	2	3				
---	---	---	--	--	--	--

ROECS

4				5	6
---	--	--	--	---	---

OIPTN

				7	8
--	--	--	--	---	---

ATCKAT

						9
--	--	--	--	--	--	---

8		H		6
---	--	---	--	---

1							B				3	2	2
---	--	--	--	--	--	--	---	--	--	--	---	---	---

				Z		6
--	--	--	--	---	--	---

Answers: Player, Score, Point, Attack: The pickleball craze

### NEW WORD

#### BASELINE

the line marking each end of a court

### How they say that in...

- English:** Ball
- Spanish:** Pelota
- Italian:** Palla
- French:** Balle
- German:** Ball

### Did You Know?

Although pickleball seems like a recent phenomenon, it actually was created in 1965. The game initially was played using makeshift equipment.



### Get the PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Pickleball and paddle



**MEDICAL CENTER**  
Excellent Health Care Right At Home

**Alderson Medical Center**  
101 Railroad Avenue,  
Alderson, WV 24910  
• (304) 445-3140

**Summers County Health Center**  
37 Bobcat Drive, Hinton, WV  
25951 • (304) 660-1155

**Rainelle Medical Center Family  
Medicine And Pediatrics**  
176 Medical Center Drive,  
Rainelle, WV 25962  
• (304) 438-6188

**& Rainelle Medical Center  
Pharmacy (304) 438-6186  
& Rainelle Dental Center**  
(304) 438-1922

**Lewisburg Pediatrics  
And Family Health Center**  
2140 North Jefferson St., Suite  
200, Lewisburg, WV 24901  
• (304) 660-1155

**Maxwelton Health Center  
& Pharmacy**  
390 Industrial Park Road,  
Maxwelton, WV 24957  
• (681) 318-3610

**& Maxwelton Dental Center**  
(681) 318-3611

**Midland Trail Health Center**  
26709 Midland Trail, Hico, WV  
25854 • (304) 969-8080

**Lewisburg Health Center**  
296 Fair Street, Lewisburg, WV  
24901 • (304) 647-4747

**Meadow Bridge Clinic**  
1502 Meadow Bridge Road,  
Meadow Bridge, WV 25976  
• (304) 484-7755

**White Sulphur Springs  
Health Center**  
128 Community Lane,  
White Sulphur Springs, WV 24996  
• (304) 956-2577

**Eastern Greenbrier Health Center**  
595 Spartan Lane, Lewisburg, WV  
24901 • (304) 645-1052

**Rupert Health Care Center**  
458 Greenbrier St., Rupert, WV  
25984 • (304) 632-6602

**LEGAL NOTICE****TRUSTEE'S SALE  
OF VALUABLE  
REAL ESTATE**

The undersigned Substitute Trustee, by virtue of the authority vesting in it by that certain Deed of Trust recorded on February 27, 2020, in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Summers County, West Virginia, in Book 297 at Page 651, Treston L. Treadway did convey unto Andrew C. Skinner, as Original Trustee, certain real property described in said Deed of Trust; and the beneficiary has elected to appoint Elk River Trustees Inc., as Substitute Trustee by virtue of a Substitution of Trustee recorded on March 18, 2026, in Book 326 at Page 173 in the aforesaid Clerk's Office; the undersigned Substitute Trustee has been requested, in writing, by the beneficiary of said Deed of Trust to sell the real estate described below, as there has been a default under the terms and conditions of said Deed of Trust. Therefore, the undersigned Substitute Trustee having been instructed by Rocket Mortgage, LLC s/b/m Nationstar Mortgage LLC to foreclose thereunder will offer for sale, at a public auction at the front door of the Summers County Courthouse in Hinton, West Virginia, on

**April 30, 2026  
at 2:00 PM**

the following described real estate, together with its easements, improvements, and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate in Green Sulphur District, Summers County, West Virginia, and more particularly bounded and described as follows:

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

All of the following described real estate, together with the buildings and improvements located thereon, and the rights-of-way, easements and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate, lying and being in Green Sulphur District, County of Summers, State of West Virginia, and being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a point set, a 5/8" steel rebar and cap being a point on the southerly edge of West Virginia Route 20 and being a point on the easterly edge of a 15' wide right of way and being a corner to Judy Thomas; Thence with said Thomas and said 15' wide right of way, S. 20°10' W. 18.86 feet to an 8" post; Thence S. 20°10' W. 31.14 feet; Thence S. 20°10' W. 164.12 feet to a gate post; Thence S. 14° 16' W. 300.13 feet to a fence post on the bank of Coon Creek; Thence S. 19°24' W. 9.59 feet to a point in the center of said Coon Creek; Thence leave said Thomas and with said Coon Creek, N. 84° 17' W. 12.92 feet to a point in the center of said Coon Creek being a corner to Kathy Gill; Thence leave said Coon Creek and with said Gill, N.03°01' E. 13.08 feet to a point set, a 5/8" steel rebar and cap; Thence

N. 03°24' E. 274.68 feet to a point found, a 5/8" steel rebar being a corner to Dale S. Vandall Sr.; Thence leave said Gill and with said Vandall, N. 03°27' E. 77.63 feet to a roof bolt; Thence N. 03° 27' E. 42.12 feet to a 1/2" steel rebar, Thence N. 21°43' E. 127.30 feet to a culvert being a point on the southerly edge of said Route 20; Thence leave said Vandall and with said Route 20, S. 74°38' E. 95.96 feet to the place of beginning. Said tract of land contains 0.77 acres of land more or less as surveyed by Jeffery J. Chambers, PS in March of 2019, as shown on a map or plat of surveyed entitled "Lands of June Vance Groves & The Walter R. Lorenz & Mynda V. Lorenz Trust, recorded herewith and incorporated herein by reference, and designated as tract "A" thereon.

THIS CONVEYANCE IS MADE EXPRESSLY SUBJECT TO that certain 15' wide right-of-way running down the eastern boundary of the above-described tract of land, as shown on the aforesaid map or plat of survey, which is RESERVED for ingress and egress to and from traces" as also shown thereon, and a portion of which such right-of-way is also used for ingress and egress to and from an adjoining tract of land as likewise shown thereon.

At the time of the execution of the Deed of Trust this property was reported to have an address of as 17631 N State Route 20, Meadow Bridge, West Virginia 25976.

The above referenced real estate will be conveyed with no covenants of warranty and subject to any and all easements, rights of way, conditions, covenants, restrictions, exceptions, reservations, leases and other servitudes, which may be a matter of record in the aforesaid Clerk's Office or visible upon the ground. The sale of the referenced real estate will also be subject to all prior liens and including any and all other deeds of trust, judgments, liens, and all other encumbrances of any nature whatsoever, if any, having priority over the subject Deed of Trust.

The subject property will be sold in an "AS IS" condition. The Substitute Trustee makes no representations and warranties of any kind or character including, but not limited to, the condition of the real estate or the title to the real estate to be conveyed. The Substitute Trustee shall be under no duty to cause any existing tenant or person occupying the subject property to vacate said property.

In the event that there are federal tax liens against the property, the United States has the right to redeem the property within a period of one hundred twenty (120) days from the date of the sale. The Substitute Trustee reserves the right to adjourn the sale for a time, or from time to time, without further notice, by announcement at

the time and place of the foreclosure sale described herein.

**TERMS OF SALE**

1. \$5,000.00 (Five Thousand Dollars) in cash and/or certified funds made payable to "Elk River Trustees, Inc." due as a deposit at the time of sale, with the balance of the final sale price due and payable within thirty (30) days of sale. Personal checks will not be accepted.

2. The purchaser at the sale shall be responsible for payment of all real estate taxes.

3. The purchaser shall be responsible for payment of the recording cost of the deed and also for payment of the tax on the privilege of transferring the real property (transfer tax) imposed by West Virginia Code § 11-22-2.

4. The parties secured by the Deed of Trust reserve the right to purchase the property at the foreclosure sale.

5. The purchaser, if applicable, shall be responsible to provide all necessary information, including but not limited to entity full legal name and DBA, dates of birth and EIN/tax identification numbers, entity owner information, trust information including date of execution, trust beneficial owner information, etc., to the Substitute Trustee to ensure compliance with any necessary United States Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) reporting requirements. Failure to provide the information will void the sale.

ELK RIVER TRUSTEES, INC.

714 Venture Drive, #132  
Morgantown, WV 26508  
Telephone: 304-241-6962  
Fax: 330-436-0301  
Reference file # 26-00715  
(1,8ap)

**NOTICE OF  
ADMINISTRATION  
TO CREDITORS,  
DISTRIBUTEES &  
LEGATEES**

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

West Virginia Code § 44-2 or 44-3A.

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

**First Publication Date:** Wednesday, April 1, 2026

**Claim Deadline:** Sunday, May 31, 2026

**ESTATE OF:** REBECCA JUNE RAKES

**ADMINISTRATRIX:** ANGELA CATHERINE GARRETT

**ESTATE OF:** NEYSA JEAN SIEDLECKI

**EXECUTRIX:** DEBORAH B. ELLINGTON

**ESTATE OF:** PAUL LAWRENCE WALDRON

**EXECUTOR:** TRAVIS G. WALDRON

**ESTATE OF:** ARRETTE FOX

**EXECUTOR:** WILLIAM W. FOX

**ESTATE OF:** DIXIE LEE BENNETT

**ADMINISTRATRIX:** KAREN SUE YANCEY

**ESTATE OF:** DEAN LEE GORE

**ADMINISTRATRIX:** BRENDA GORE

**ESTATE OF:** GARLAND LEE BENNETT

**ADMINISTRATOR:** TODD A. BENNETT

**ESTATE OF:** MARTHA BIGONY BRIERS

**EXECUTOR:** JOHN CHARLTON BRIERS

**ESTATE OF:** SHARON LYNN TURNER

**ADMINISTRATRIX:** BRENDA RILEY

**ESTATE OF:** LAWRENCE RAY KEATON

**ADMINISTRATOR:** JAMES KEATON

Subscribed and sworn to before me on March 25, 2026.

Donald R. Basham Jr.  
Fiduciary Supervisor of Summers County  
(1,8ap)

PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION  
OF WEST VIRGINIA  
CHARLESTON

CASE NO. 26-0073-G-EFPP  
INTERSTATE GAS SUPPLY, LLC,  
d/b/a IGS ENERGY

Enhanced Firm Pooling Program

**NOTICE OF FILING**

Application of Interstate Gas Supply, LLC, d/b/a IGS Energy (IGS Energy) for approval to offer, render, furnish or supply natural gas supply services to the public in West Virginia, in West Virginia Public Service Commission Case No.


26-0073-G-EFPP.

IGS Energy has filed an application with the West Virginia Public Service Commission ("PSC") for participation in an Enhanced Firm Pooling Program to provide natural gas supply services as a supplier or aggregator of natural gas services. IGS Energy proposes to sell natural gas and related services in all counties of West Virginia with the exception of Hampshire, Pleasants, Pocahontas, Taylor and Webster.

The PSC may consider this application without a hearing. Protests directed to the technical or financial fitness of IGS Energy may be filed within 15 days of the date of this notice with the Executive Secretary of the PSC, 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, WV 25301. Please include the Case No. listed above on the protest.

Additionally, please send copies of any protest to IGS Energy's attorney listed below.

Susan J. Riggs, Esq.  
Spilman Thomas & Battle,  
PLLC  
P.O. Box 273  
Charleston, WV  
25321-0273  
[sriggs@spilmanlaw.com](mailto:sriggs@spilmanlaw.com)  
(8ap)



# Weekly Recipes

## Pecans Tweak The Flavor Profile Of A Beloved Baked Good

When it comes to baked goods, it's hard to deny the appeal of a homemade brownie. Whether eaten on their own or paired with ice cream, brownies are a welcome treat that few can resist.

Though chocolate dominates the flavor profile of brownies, these beloved treats can be enhanced with additional delicious ingredients, like pecans. Anyone who wants to throw a little extra flavor into their next batch of brownies can consider this recipe for "Pecan Brownies" from Lines+Angles.

### Pecan Brownies


**Makes 12 brownies**

**Ingredients:**

- 12 ounces plain dark chocolate, 70 percent cocoa solids
- 2 sticks of butter
- 3 large eggs
- 1 1/4 cup dark brown sugar
- 1/4 cup flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 5 ounces chopped pecan nuts

**To Decorate:**  
Icing sugar

1. Heat the oven to 325 F. Grease an 7" x 11" rectangular baking dish and line the base with non-stick baking paper.
2. Put the chocolate and butter in a pan and heat gently, stirring until melted. Allow to cool slightly.
3. Whisk the eggs in a mixing bowl until pale and frothy, then add the sugar, a spoonful at a time, whisking until thick and glossy.
4. Gently fold in the melted chocolate mixture. Sift in the flour, baking powder and salt and fold in the pecan nuts.
5. Spoon the mixture into the baking dish, level with the back of a spoon and bake for 40 minutes, until the top has a cracked appearance and the center is still a little soft to the touch. Do not overbake, or you will lose the famous sticky brownie texture. Cool in the pan.
6. Cut into slices and sift over a little icing sugar.



**LEGAL NOTICE**

TO: The Lincoln School Alumni Association  
 FROM: Anna R. Ziegler  
 Attorney for the City of Hinton  
 Ziegler & Ziegler, L.C.  
 110 James St.  
 Hinton, WV 25951  
 RE: Notice of Condemnation Hearing for 203 Hill

St. Hinton, WV 25951  
**NOTICE OF CONDEMNATION HEARING**  
 Pursuant to the City of Hinton's "ORDINANCE FOR DILAPIDATED STRUCTURES IN HINTON, WV" and West Virginia Code § 8-12-16 you are hereby NOTIFIED that the Municipal Court of Summers County, West Virginia, will

be holding a hearing to determine the property's state of disrepair, dilapidation, or dangerous condition on **Thursday, May 7, 2026, at 6:00 P.M.** at the Hinton City Hall located at 322 Summers Street, Hinton West Virginia, 25951. You, members of the Association, or any occupants of the Property may appear with

or without counsel to submit testimony and evidence concerning this matter. Failure to appear at this hearing may result in the condemnation of the property and a lien on said property. A copy of the complaint can be obtained from the undersigned, at her office located at 110 James Street, Hinton, West Virginia, 25951.

Respectfully Submitted,  
 The City of Hinton,  
 By Counsel:  
 /s/ Anna R. Ziegler  
 Anna R. Ziegler  
 (WV State Bar 9954)  
 Ziegler and Ziegler, LC  
 110 James Street  
 Hinton, West Virginia 25951  
 304.466.1224  
 (8,15ap)

**A.A.**

HINTON W.Va. (Hinton News) - The Hinton Alcoholics Anonymous group holds multiple weekly meetings on Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Wednesdays, noon, and Saturdays, 5 p.m. in Ascension Episcopal Church.  
 For more information, please call 304-660-7073 or 1-800-333-5051.

**Summers County Commission Levy Estimate (Budget)  
 2026 - 2027 Fiscal Year**

**Summers County Commission Levy Estimate (Budget)  
 2026 - 2027 Fiscal Year**

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
 County of: Summers, West Virginia

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

General Fund	Estimated Revenues
Fund Balance	\$ 1,000,000
Property Taxes Current year	3,356,846
Prior Year Taxes	304,435
Tax Penalties, Interest & Publication Fees	103,842
Property Transfer Tax	165,000
Gas and Oil Severance Tax	36,012
Wine & Liquor Tax	5,913
Hotel Occupancy Tax	300,000
Miscellaneous Energy Tax (Coal Bed Methane)	3,245
Licenses	109
Building Permits	2,976
Federal Grants / Federal Payment in Lieu of Taxes	82,090
Sheriff's Service of Process	7,650
Sheriff's Earnings	7,168
County Clerk's Earnings	32,259
Circuit Clerk's Earnings	10,569
Prosecuting Attorney's Earnings	797
Accident Reports	852
Motor Vehicle License Fee	2,637
Parks & Recreation Fees	210,000
Rents & Concessions	37,740
Franchise Agreement	40,032
IRP Fees (Interstate Registration Plan)	61,758
Fines, Fees & Court Costs	322
Regional Jail Operations Partial Reimbursement	17,092
Interest Earned	7,580
Miscellaneous Revenue	12,547
Sheriff's Commission	15,000
Gaming Income	40,374
Filing Fees	2,432
Video Lottery	7,517
Refunds/Reimbursements (External Sources)	27,809
Transfers From Other Funds	25,000
General School Reimbursements	26,883
Magistrate Court Reimbursements	3,778
Worthless Check Reimbursements	92
Transfers Assessor's Valuation Fund	339,938
<b>Total Estimated General Fund Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 6,298,294</b>

Coal Severance Tax	Estimated Revenues
Assigned Fund Balance	\$ 15,000
Coal Severance Tax	20,000
<b>Total Coal Severance</b>	<b>\$ 35,000</b>

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES	General Fund	Coal Severance Tax Fund
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>		
County Commission	\$ 260,644	\$ -
County Clerk	356,899	-
Circuit Clerk	245,725	-
Sheriff - Treasurer	361,004	-
Prosecuting Attorney	379,203	-
Assessor	284,582	-
Assessor's Valuation Fund	339,938	-
Statewide Computer Network	35,000	-
Fiduciary Supervisor	70,000	-
Agricultural Agent	9,000	-
Elections - County Clerk	103,649	-
Purchasing Department	565,600	35,000
Courthouse	415,634	-
Other Buildings	81,500	-
Regional Development Authority	12,000	-
Economic Development	15,500	-
County Clerk Operations	15,050	-
<b>TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>3,550,928</b>	<b>35,000</b>
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>		
Sheriff - Law Enforcement	955,703	-
Sheriff - Service of Process	7,650	-
Regional Jail	320,000	-
Emergency Services	20,552	-

**ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES**

**PUBLIC SAFETY**  
 Dog Warden/Humane Society  
 Flood Control

**TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY**

**CULTURE AND RECREATION**

Parks & Recreation  
 Swimming Pools  
 4 - H Camp  
 Civic Promotion  
 Visitor's Bureau  
 Library

**TOTAL CULTURE & RECREATION**

**Summers County Commission Levy Estimate (Budget)  
 2026 - 2027 Fiscal Year**

**CAPITAL PROJECTS**  
 General Government

**TOTAL CAPITAL OUTLAY**

**Total Expenditures**

**Summers County Commission Levy Estimate (Budget)  
 2026 - 2027 Fiscal Year**

**SUMMERS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA  
 REGULAR CURRENT EXPENSE LEVY  
 FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2026 - JUNE 30, 2027**

	Assessed Value for Tax Purposes	Levy Rate/\$100	Taxes Levied
<b>Class I</b>			
Personal Property	\$ 0	14.07	\$ 0
Public Utility	0		0
<b>Total Class I</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>		<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>Class II</b>			
Real Estate	\$ 363,043,400	28.14	\$ 1,021,604
Personal Property	2,016,854		5,675
<b>Total Class II</b>	<b>\$ 365,060,254</b>		<b>\$ 1,027,279</b>
<b>Class III</b>			
Real Estate	\$ 151,342,240	56.28	\$ 851,754
Personal Property	48,461,554		272,742
Public Utility	204,208,902		1,149,288
<b>Total Class III</b>	<b>\$ 404,012,696</b>		<b>\$ 2,273,784</b>
<b>Class IV</b>			
Real Estate	\$ 37,384,930	56.28	\$ 210,402
Personal Property	17,425,790		98,072
Public Utility	19,694,878		110,843
<b>Total Class IV</b>	<b>\$ 74,505,598</b>		<b>\$ 419,317</b>
<b>Total Value &amp; Projected Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 843,578,548</b>		<b>\$ 3,720,380</b>
Less Delinquencies, Exonerations & Uncollectable Taxes		7.00%	260,427
Less Tax Discounts		2.00%	69,199
Less Allowance for Tax Increment Financing (if Applicable)			0
<b>Total Projected Property Tax Collection</b>			<b>3,390,754</b>
Less Assessor Valuation Fund (Subtracted from regular current expense taxes levied only)		1.00%	33,908
<b>Net Amount to be Raised by Levy of Property Taxes</b>			<b>\$ 3,356,846</b>

**Summers County Commission Levy Estimate (Budget)  
 2026 - 2027 Fiscal Year**

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
 COUNTY OF SUMMERS

I, LYNN REED, CLERK OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF SAID COUNTY, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING ARE TRUE COPIES FROM THE RECORD OF ORDERS MADE AND ENTERED BY SAID COMMISSION ON THE 25th DAY OF MARCH 2026.

*Lynn Reed*  
 (Signature)

# Featured Dog of the Week: Jasper



SUMMERS COUNTY Hinton News “Dog of the W.Va. (Hinton News) — Weighing approximately 35 pounds, Jasper is taking center stage as the



staff as a versatile companion who balances high-energy play with a calm, affectionate demeanor.

According to the staff, Jasper has already mastered several foundational behaviors often sought by adopters, including being both crate-trained and house-trained. The

young pup has also shown strong social compatibility; shelter records indicate he is friendly toward other dogs, cats, and children.

“He’s got the perfect mix of playful puppy energy and snuggly cuddle bug vibes,” the shelter stated, noting that Jasper enjoys exploring before

settling down for what staff calls “professional” cuddling.

As the featured pet of the week, Jasper is highlighted as a candidate who can adapt quickly to most loving envi-

ronments. Prospective adopters or those interested in meeting him are encouraged to contact the Summers County Humane Society-ACWP for more information on the adoption process.

## Hinton Public Meeting... Continued from Page 1

as well as some academic field trips at each of the schools. Now students often have to raise money for travel. The third line item will fund playground renovations at Hinton Area Elementary and Talcott Elementary.

There are four line items enhancing school security: four, five, eight, and nine. Four funds for a safe school entrance at Jumping Branch. Five hires a school resource officer at the high school. Eight funds for one-way curtains at all the schools. And nine provides for exterior lighting at the high school.

Line item six will fund deferred maintenance at all buildings. Line item seven will allow the Board to purchase a service vehicle for the Transportation Department to replace the 2004 model pickup truck it now has.

Crook noted that it is only a 20% levy. Someone noted that

one of our surrounding counties has four separate 100% special levies. It was also noted that taxes paid on motor vehicles could be reim-

bursed by the State as a credit on tax returns, meaning that while the school system would get the money, it costs the taxpayer nothing.

The Superintendent’s office has prepared a brochure explaining the levy and a cost breakdown of the levy, depending on the class and the value.