



State Fair Comes to a Close After Another Year of Fun and Made Memories



The new Mega Drop ride was quite a hit in 2026 (Photo: Brandon Baker)

Brandon Baker

The Greenbrier Independent

FAIRLEA- Another summer tradition has come and gone in Greenbrier County as the 101st State Fair of West Virginia wrapped up Saturday night, bringing an end to 10 days filled with music, agriculture, carnival rides, addicting food, and entertainment.

Running from Aug. 13-22, the fair once again brought thousands of visitors through the gates in Fairlea and offered a little something for nearly everyone. From the sounds of the midway and the smell of longtime fair-food favorites to livestock barns and nightly entertainment, the event continued a tradition that has brought generations of West Virginians together each summer.

A power outage on opening night and some spotty storms kept things interesting at the start of the week, but as it kept going, only the sun and the heat it provided would be the worst thing that happened.

For me personally, the fair has become a getaway during a busy workday, and a place I want my children to experience. Seeing the pure excitement on their faces when they saw a light flash, an animal, an ice cream cone, and of course, the rides, made all the money spent and the tiring hours all worth it. It's become quite a tradition for many local families now.

Music was once again one of the biggest attractions. The Grandstand lineup covered another wide range of genres, with country veterans Trace Adkins and Aaron Tippin, West Virginia native Sierra Ferrell, Christian artists CAIN and Leanna Crawford, country group Shenandoah, hip-hop stars Paul Wall and the Ying Yang Twins, country superstar Dierks Bentley, and rising country artist Gavin Adcock all taking the stage during the fair. The concert series concluded Saturday night when rock band Stone Temple Pilots helped put an exclamation point on the final evening of the 2026 fair.

Music wasn't limited to the Grandstand, however. Center Stage provided free performances throughout the 10-day run, showcasing a variety of regional and local talent. The lineup included Caden Glover, Zoe Jean Fowler, Philip Bowen, The Goodson Boys, the Gospel Harmony Boys, Glen Shelton, Corduroy Brown, Caleb Carpenter, Chad Nickell and the Loose Change, and Brett Mahon. Many of those performers have ties to West Virginia and Appalachia--with Glover and Mahon from 25 minutes down the road-- giving fairgoers another opportunity to hear homegrown talent alongside the nationally known acts appearing at the Grandstand.

Away from the music, agriculture remained at the heart of the State Fair.

The barns were filled throughout the event with cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, horses, rabbits,

llamas and other animals, while exhibitors competed for ribbons and recognition. Youth involved in 4-H and FFA programs were once again an important part of the fair, continuing the agricultural traditions that have helped define the event for more than a century.

The popular Draft Horse Pull also returned, giving spectators a chance to see teams of powerful horses compete in one of the fair's longstanding attractions and did so with the sun not bearing down on everyone like it did for much of the week.

Educational opportunities were mixed with entertainment throughout the grounds. The Farm Credit Dairy Birthing Center gave visitors a chance to learn about dairy farming and potentially witness the birth of a calf, while Heritage Corner and the Farm to Food Pavilion helped introduce younger visitors to agriculture. Llama and alpaca competitions were also among the events held during the closing days of the fair.

There was no shortage of entertainment between stops at the barns. The Flores Circus Thrill Show, DockDogs, Granpa Crachet, the Oregon Trail Display, Hot Glass Academy and the Moogician were among the attractions available throughout the fair. Reithoffer Shows once again filled the midway with everything from children's rides and games to thrill rides such as the Zipper, Tornado, and Ring of Fire. Can we just go ahead and add the Wild Mouse to that list as well? Yes.

And, of course, a trip to the State Fair would not be complete without the food.

Longtime staples joined newer creations as vendors served everything from sweets and ice cream to the deep-fried foods that have become synonymous with a day at the fair. Some vendors have been part of the tradition for decades, including Ben Ellen Donuts, which dates its fair presence to 1952, and Trudy's Dairy World, known for homemade ice cream. The annual New Fair Food Contest also gave vendors another opportunity to get creative and visitors something new to try.

For 10 days, the fairgrounds became one of West Virginia's busiest gathering places -- a combination of concerts, competition, agriculture, food, rides, shopping and family entertainment. More importantly, the 101st State Fair demonstrated that even after passing the century mark, many of the traditions that built the event remain very much alive.

Attendance numbers have not been announced at the time of this writing, but they will most likely be on par with other years. This year, however, there did seem to be shorter lines for the rides no matter day or night, weeknight or weekend.

Still, as the midway lights went dark and the final concert came to an end Saturday night, another chapter in the history of the State Fair of West Virginia officially closed. After 10 days of activity in Fairlea, organizers, vendors, exhibitors and visitors can now begin looking ahead to year No. 102.

Football Programs Work Together to Get Facilities Ready for 2026



A couple weeks ago, the Summers County Football Family got together and got a ton of work done!

Our fantastic program exhibited one of our best qualities, TEAMWORK! Players, Parents, and Coaches from Summers County Youth Football League, Summers Middle School Football, and Summers County High School Football worked together to get our facility up to our standard.

Massive amounts of weed eating, pressure washing, deep cleaning, rearranging, and much more was conducted TOGETHER!

Just one of the great qualities of our program and our community. Gotta love Summers County and put our best foot forward.

Thank you to Lauren Osborne Crook for coordinating this event and placing our student-athletes at the top of your priority list. Thank you to all of those who were there to work from 7:30 until we left at 11; THERE WERE TOO MANY PARTICIPANTS TO THANK EVERYONE INDIVIDUALLY!

Per Justin Pugh's Facebook

We've Caught Up on Rainfall, But the Earlier Drought Has Had Lasting Impacts

Katherine Collins

The Greenbrier Independent

With recent rains of anywhere from 2 to 7 inches across WV alone, rivers are running much higher, and the water table is in better shape than before, including the Greenbrier Valley area. The Greenbrier Valley Airport as of August 20th has received 32.06" of rain for the year so far, now above the average 28.22"

While not a record-breaking drought for our neck of the woods, January through July 2026 was still the 33rd driest period on record for the state of WV, with 25.24" of total precipitation, 2.57" below the normal amount. Recent rains in July and early August have helped us play catch up a bit, but despite the recent improvements, the lack of rain earlier in the year has had lasting impacts through our summer months.

According to the USDM, "61 percent of the hay crop in West Virginia is in

poor or very poor condition. In addition, some pasturelands remain in poor or very poor condition, including 55% of West Virginia pastures." Ironically, after a period of prolonged drought, sudden heavy rainfall can also lead to a higher risk of flash flooding, as the rain is not absorbed into the hard ground initially, resulting in a lot of excessive runoff. This exact scenario helped lead to severe flooding across the northern and central parts of the state earlier in the season. Much to the author's dismay, most of the summer, the Greenbrier River has stayed below ideal levels for paddling, but it looks like late August and September might be the time to get back out there.

The NOAA Climate Prediction Center has WV in an average to a slightly wetter than normal period through the beginning of September, which should help keep any drought or abnormally dry conditions at bay for a while.



Treasurer Pack Returns More Than \$12,000 in Unclaimed Property Funds to Summers County Schools

HINTON, W.Va. – “We are really fortunate to be able to submit for this unclaimed property,” Lauren Crook, Treasurer of Summers County Schools said. “Every dollar counts for Summers County Schools and we will be utilizing these funds for our students.”

Last month, Treasurer Pack announced his Office’s Unclaimed Property Division returned nearly \$40.2 million worth of unclaimed property funds to individuals, businesses and organizations during Fiscal Year 2026.

The State Treasurer’s Office has more than \$527 million worth of listings in its database statewide. There are more than 18,000 unclaimed property listings worth more than \$1.8 million in Summers County.

For more information about the unclaimed property program or to find out if the Office is holding any money for you or your family, visit www.WVUnclaimed-Property.gov.

Treasurer Pack presented \$12,252.25 to Summers County Schools Superintendent Linda Knott and other school leaders on Thursday morning. The funds came from stale dated checks.

Peek into Summers County’s Past: Pence Springs Flood of 1973

William Jones

People often discuss the Flood of 1985 and the Flood of 1996. The Flood of 1973 is often forgotten about since each one of the big ones progressively got higher and more destructive. The Greenbrier rose to 20.3ft in Alderson on December 27th, 1973.

I can remember seeing these three photos from the schoolhouse side of the river in Pence Springs at Grandma Jones’s house when I was a kid. My father, David Jones, took these when he was 17 years old. He recalls this being the time the river rose much slower than usual.

As usual he helped with saving the contents of Country Roads Store. It was rising much slower than usual as I said, so this time they stayed in the store and moved items up shelf by shelf as the water rose. I don’t recall the exact measurement in the store, but it would have been around 2-ft deep when it finally crested.

The other two photos show the recently constructed factory in Pence Springs with the dike around it. And the dip in Route 3 on the other side of Echo Valley Farm. Notice the truck that had stalled when someone attempted to go through the water.

The other photo is on the post office side of Pence Springs. My late friend and fellow local historian Lorine Cales gave me this copy for my collection. You can see by the debris on the guardrail the river had started to recede when this photo was taken.

This bridge was taken out during the Flood of 1985 when a house hit it late that night. That flood reached a height of 23.95-ft on November 5, 1985. An interesting note on this event was that the owners of Country Roads Store were staying up on the hill above the store in the parking lot of Pence Springs Community Church that night.

My mother, Cheryl Jones, was talking to Nova that night on the CB Radio. Nove just happened to have the mike keyed when the house struck the bridge, so mom could hear it across the CB, and it could be heard the sound on the other side of Pence Springs both. Mom exclaimed “what was that, Nova?”

She replied: “something just took the bridge out!”

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Governor Morrisey Releases Statement on Lloyd Nathan Gaining Majority Control of Greenbrier Casino

Charleston, W.Va. (WVDN) — Governor Patrick Morrisey issued a statement on Lloyd Nathan gaining majority control of The Greenbrier Casino: “Today, New York-based Kennedy Lewis, a financial institution and the new controlling owner of the Greenbrier, received approval from the Lottery Com-

mission for complete operation of the casino. I am hopeful that the new controlling owner will bring much needed financial stability to the iconic Greenbrier resort. While the Greenbrier remains under the Lottery Commission’s financial watch, our administration will continue its monitoring of

the casino and remain vigilant in our ongoing efforts to protect West Virginia jobs. As Lloyd Nathan, the new Chairman of the Board of the Greenbrier Resort, becomes more acquainted with the Greenbrier Valley, we are committed to working with him to refurbish and enhance this historic property.”

2026 Summers County Student Writing Contest

This fall, 4th through 12th-grade students in Summers County have an opportunity to win cash for writing. The 2026 Summers County Student Writing Contest is now open with a deadline of October 30. Students may submit short stories. There is no entry fee. Eligible students include any student living in Summers County or attending a Summers County school. This contest is being sponsored by the Jones Writing Fund as well as the Student Writing Contest Pass-Through Fund, which is facilitated through the Hinton Area Foundation. The sponsors hope this contest encourages new writers to share their creations, get some valuable feedback to refine their craft, and hopefully, get some cash as a reward for their efforts. Prizes are \$40 for first place, \$20 for second place, and \$10 for third place in each category. Winners will be selected from each grade (4th grade through 12th). Winners will be announced in December. Contact Cheryl Kula

WV Office of Entrepreneurship invites public to help design new logo

Charleston, W.Va. (The Hinton News) – WV Secretary of State Kris Warner and the WV Office of Entrepreneurship (WVOE) are inviting entrepreneurs, designers, and community members from across the Mountain State to help shape the Office’s visual identity by submitting ideas for its new logo. The launch of the WVOE took place on July 1st. The launch coincided with the first day on the job for Office of Entrepreneurship Coordinator Lesli Taylor. Taylor has spent her first month traveling throughout West Virginia to meet with members of the WV Entrepreneurship Ecosystem (WVEE), business owners, community organizations,

state leaders, and other stakeholders. During the WVEE’s monthly conference call held on Tuesday, Taylor announced the WVOE’s effort to gather public input on the logo design. “We want the logo to reflect the spirit of entrepreneurship in West Virginia and the people who are helping build that future,” Taylor said. “This is an opportunity for creative minds across the state to contribute ideas and help shape the identity of this new office.” Participants are encouraged to submit anything from verbal descriptions and design concepts to individual visual elements or fully developed logo designs. There are no size, shape, or format requirements.

“Whether you’re a professional designer, business owner, entrepreneur, student, or simply someone passionate about West Virginia’s future, we welcome your ideas,” Taylor said. “This is a blank canvas, and we want the design process to be collaborative.” All submissions will be reviewed, and concepts that best represent the WVOE’s mission and vision may be incorporated into the final logo design. The WVOE exists to serve as the State’s representative for entrepreneurs and small business owners by filling the gap between government requirements and what the private sector needs to be successful in new business creation.

Community Obituaries



Herbert (Herb) Steven Ellison

Herbert (Herb) Steven Ellison, 74, of Hinton, passed away peacefully on August 23, 2026, in Sarasota, FL, after a long illness. Born August 23, 1952, in Hinton, WV, he was the son of the late Herbert Otis Ellison and the late Aileen Ellison. Herb was born in Hinton and attended Bellepoint Elementary School, before attending Hinton High School and graduating in

1970. He then studied journalism at West Virginia University. Herb returned to Hinton and pursued work in publishing, working at the Hinton newspaper, the Hinton print shop, and later working as an independent typesetter. In 1993, Herb was ordained as the priest of Ascension Episcopal Church and served there for 11 years. While serving at Ascension, Herb and his wife, Mary, founded the “Free Books for Kids and Teens” program, which gave away thousands of free books to Summers County youth over the course of many years. Herb was an excellent musician and played dozens of musical instruments, including piano, harp, ukulele, Irish whistle, guitar, and many others. In his younger years, he was a state champion banjo player and played in a bluegrass band. Survivors include his beloved wife of 50 years, Mary Ellison; his son, Tim Ellison; his daughter, Lora Harrell, and her husband, Andy. He is also survived by his four grandchildren, Zoe, Thomas, and Ally Harrell, and Charlotte Ellison; and his brother, Rob Ellison, and his wife, Sherri. Herb is to be cremated, and a memorial service will be held at Pivont Funeral Home in Hinton at a time to be announced later, with Rev. Dr. Isaiah Kim officiating. Online condolences at www.pivontfuneralhome.com. Submitted by Pivont Funeral Home, Hinton, WV.

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Finding Jesus, The Way

(Part 7)
by Mark A. Copeland
https://executableoutlines.com/topical_series/jesus-the-way-guide/jtw_01.html

Last week, we began to conclude the lesson on finding Jesus. We ended with a question asking if you had truly found Jesus. We will complete the conclusion and include a few questions this week.

You have truly found Jesus if you are heeding the implications of His Great Commission:

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen. (Matthew 28:18-20)

Those who have truly found Jesus are those who:

- **Accept the authority (power) He has in heaven and on earth**
- **Have been baptized (upon faith and repentance) as He commanded**
- **Are careful to observe ALL things that He commanded**

Such are the only ones who have the assurance: **“I am with you alway, [even] unto the end of the world.”** They are ones who have “found” Jesus!

Let Jesus be Your Way to everything that is truly good! Trust and obey Him today!

Questions To Stimulate Your Thinking...

1. **What value is the Old Testament for us today? (2 Timothy 3:14,15)**
2. **What did Isaiah prophecy 700 years before Christ about His birth? (Isaiah 7:14)**
3. **What did Isaiah prophecy the reason for Christ’s suffering? (Isaiah 53:4-6)**
4. **What purpose did the Law of Moses serve? (Galatians 3:24-25)**
5. **What was the purpose of the gospels? (cf. John 20:30-31)**
6. **Who will enter the kingdom of heaven according to Jesus? (Matthew 7:21)**
7. **What did Jesus expect of those who would be His disciples? (Luke 9:23-25)**
8. **How do people become disciples according to Jesus? (Matthew 28:19-20)**
9. **What did Jesus promise His apostles? (John 16:12-14)**
10. **How should we view the writings of the apostles? (1 Corinthians 14:37)**
11. **What has God given us through the apostles of Christ? (2 Peter 1:3)**
12. **For what are the Scriptures all sufficient? (2 Timothy 3:16-17)**
13. **What is our duty regarding that which has been revealed? (Jude 3)**
14. **What of anyone (even an apostle or angel) who teaches a different gospel? (Galatians 1:8, 9)**
15. **How do we know if we are truly the disciples of Jesus? (John 8:31-32)**
16. **How do we show our love for Jesus? (John 14:21, 23)**
17. **How do we put on (receive) Jesus? (Galatians 3:27)**
18. **What is our responsibility after baptism? (Matthew 28:19-20)**
19. **What happens when one is in Christ? (2 Corinthians 5:17)**

Next week we will begin another lesson on the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Paid for by Shockley Hill church of Christ.

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Bible Study 10:30
Worship 11:15
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30
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Animal
FACT:

Many dog owners need to apply for this, which provides a record of ownership.

Answer: Pet license

Math Blocks

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-20.
The numbers in each row add up to the totals on the right.
The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

7		1	18
6	8		14
		5	10
15	21	6	

5	3	2
0	8	9
1	10	7

Solution

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

EPGTNTI HET GDO

Answer: Petting the dog

DAY IN HISTORY

SEP

5

1836: Sam Houston is elected as the first president of the Republic of Texas.

1882: The first United States Labor Day parade is held in New York City.

1980: The Gotthard Road Tunnel opens in Switzerland as the world's longest highway tunnel.

NEW WORD

PANTING

breathing with short, quick breaths

How they say that in...

English: Wag

Spanish: Menear

Italian: Scodinzolare

French: Remuer

German: Wedeln

Did You Know?

Millions of dogs enter shelters every year. Even though many are adopted, some shelters face tight space and a lack of supplies and volunteers.

Get the PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Dog with toy in mouth

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Dear Abby: Roommate’s ‘All-Nighter’ Causes Worry



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I’m a college junior in need of advice. I share an apartment with two other female students, “Wendy” and “Lauran,” who roomed together before I met them. Wendy is sweet and easygoing, but she grew up in a rural area and seems very sheltered. For example, she can’t swim and thinks that eating shrimp is

exotic, but she likes to clog dance and play the mandolin. She has never mentioned having a boyfriend or even dating. We are completely different, but until recently we got along well.

A few weeks ago, Wendy asked me to go with her to hear a bluegrass band at a club near campus. By 11 p.m., I was ready to leave, so she drove me to our nearby apartment and said she was going back to keep listening to the band. I woke up around 4 a.m. (long after the club had closed) and realized that Wendy hadn’t come home. I was freaked out and

tried to call her but discovered that she had left her cellphone at the apartment. I went looking for her (in my car) all over campus and anywhere else I thought she might be. I seriously considered calling the police.

However, when Lauran got home around 8 a.m., she said, “Oh, Wendy has done this before. She probably hooked up with some guy. I should have warned you.” Then Wendy rolled in all starry-eyed about this “great guy” she had slept with, who was a stranger she knew only as “Joe.”

Wendy was unapologetic about the distress

she had caused me by disappearing and staying out all night. I was exhausted and furious. When she wondered out loud whether “Joe” would be calling her, I snapped, “Why would he? He’s probably sober by now.” However, I’m now wondering if I am the sheltered one. Am I being judgmental, and was my concern for Wendy’s well-being an overreaction? -- **NERVOUS IN NORTH CAROLINA**

DEAR NERVOUS: You now know that Wendy is not as unworldly as you originally thought. It is regrettable that you weren’t told how well

she gets along with other fans of bluegrass, but now you know. You and your roommates should consider making a pact that if you plan to stay out all night, you will inform the others, because your concern was not unfounded. She could have been in any kind of trouble. Luckily, this time she wasn’t, and no, you did not overreact.

DEAR ABBY: I’ve been married for almost 40 years to a woman who is verbally abusive. When we went to counseling 30 years ago, she agreed to stop hitting me, which she has mostly adhered to. She still says hurtful

things frequently and then laughs them off. What should a man do to leave an abusive wife? Why should I put up with abusive and demeaning behavior anymore? -- **ABUSED IN TEXAS**

DEAR ABUSED: You should not put up with it. Inform your wife that the verbal jabs hurt you as much as the physical blows did. Offer to return to counseling with her so she can learn to treat you with more kindness and respect. In the meantime, consult a lawyer and be prepared to part ways if she continues to believe her abuse is funny.

Weekly Recipes

Rice Is At Home In Salads, Too

Rice is enjoyed in just about every corner of the globe. Rice can be a healthy component of a person’s diet and it is especially beneficial for people who cannot enjoy other grains due to dietary intolerances.

While many people might think of rice as a side dish to meat or fish, rice is the star of the show in this recipe for “Southwestern Rice Salad with Black Beans” from Line+Angles.

Southwestern Rice Salad With Black Beans

For 4 servings

For the salad:

1 cup white long-grain rice, rinsed	4 green onions, rinsed, trimmed and sliced
3/4 cup canned sweet corn, drained	Kosher salt
1 3/4 cups canned black beans, drained	Freshly ground black pepper
2 cups grape tomatoes, rinsed and halved	

For the dressing

1 lime, juiced	4 tablespoon olive oil
1 red chili pepper, trimmed, seeded and finely diced	1 small handful fresh cilantro, chopped

To serve:

1 lime, sliced into wedges

- For the salad: In a medium saucepan, bring 2 cups of lightly salted water to a boil; add rice.
- Reduce heat to low, cover with a lid and cook for 15 to 20 minutes, or until water is absorbed and rice is tender to the bite. Remove from the heat and let cool, still covered, to one side.
- Once the rice has cooled, rinse the sweet corn and black beans in cold water; drain thoroughly.
- Fluff the rice with a fork before combining with the sweetcorn, black beans, tomatoes, and chopped green onions in a large serving bowl.
- For the dressing: In a small bowl, whisk together lime juice, 1/2 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon pepper until salt has dissolved.
- Whisk in olive oil in a slow, steady stream until incorporated. Stir in the diced chili pepper and chopped cilantro.
- To serve: Drizzle dressing over the salad and gently toss. Serve with lime wedges on the side for squeezing over.

Weekly + HOROSCOPES

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, you are bursting with momentum, but your tongue may move faster than your brain this week. You don’t need to force a final decision or push an agenda right now. Speak thoughtfully.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Reshuffled schedules might test your patience, Taurus. Focus on finding a healthy balance and do your best to adjust.

GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21

A gap between your grand vision and your current reality might feel frustrating, Cancer. However, necessity is the mother of invention. Trust the small opportunities that crop up.

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, right now you are focused on rest and relaxation. It’s been a busy time for you and the batteries certainly can do with some recharging.

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, even though you love supporting others, this week is all about redirecting energy inward. Practice care with whom you trust. Allow yourself to rest later in the week.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Your hands may be tied by technicalities, but you have creative free reign to improvise in a situation that pops up this week, Virgo. Stick with your intuition right now.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

A roadblock might delay you for a little while but it’s not going to completely stop your progress, Libra. Find a way to settle a discrepancy with a coworker before it escalates.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, if you recently came out on top of a conflict, let the other person bow out with dignity. Do not make a big deal of your win.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

You are in a position where you need to be direct but not very pushy, Sagittarius. Figure out what you need or want, and then step back to let others make up their own minds.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, you cannot expect others to read your mind. You must spell out in detail what you mean and what you expect from those around you.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

Pay attention to informal conversations around you this week, Aquarius. The “little things” often can provide a lot of meaning and insight.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

Step into natural leadership role at work or in a volunteer environment, Pisces. Trust the opportunities that come from your steady presence.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST 30	SEPTEMBER 1	SEPTEMBER 4
Cameron Diaz, Actress (54)	Zendaya, Actress (30)	Beyoncé, Singer (45)
AUGUST 31	SEPTEMBER 2	SEPTEMBER 5
Chris Tucker, Comic Actor (55)	Keanu Reeves, Actor (62)	Michael Keaton, Actor (75)
	SEPTEMBER 3	
	Shaun White, Athlete (40)	

ARIES

TAURUS

GEMINI

CANCER

LEO

VIRGO

LIBRA

SCORPIO

SAGITTARIUS

CAPRICORN

AQUARIUS

PISCES

LEGAL NOTICE

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, September 2, 2026

Claim Deadline: Sunday, November 1, 2026

ESTATE OF: CHARLES RAY SURBAUGH JR.

EXECUTRIX: SARA DAWN SURBAUGH

ESTATE OF: DIANA SUE PUCKETT

EXECUTRIX: MISTY FAWN SMITH

ESTATE OF: BONNIE JEAN AYERS

EXECUTOR: GARRY LEE AYERS

ESTATE OF: ORIS JENNINGS LILLY JR.

ADMINISTRATOR: LUKE LILLY

ESTATE OF: RALPH ALAN GWINN

EXECUTOR: THOMAS A. GWINN (DECLINED TO SERVE JULY 21, 2026)

EXECUTOR: RANDALL W. PATTERSON

ESTATE OF: RICHARD ELLISON MCWHORTER

EXECUTRIX: ANN L. F. MCWHORTER

ESTATE OF: BETTY JEAN ELLISON

EXECUTRIX: JESSICA RODES

Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 26, 2026.

Donald R. Basham Jr.

Fiduciary Supervisor of Summers County (2,9sp)

Notice To Creditors, Distributees, and Legatees Proposed / Short Form Settlements

To the Creditors and Beneficiaries of the within named deceased persons:

I have before me the Final settlements and Proposals for the estates of the following deceased persons, which shall be presented to the County Commission of Summers County, at the Courthouse thereof, in the City of Hinton, West Virginia on the 9th day of September, 2026, at or near 10:00 a.m. These proposed settlements and short form settlements have been presented to me by the fiduciary of such estates which settlements I have approved as indicated below:

Estate: Gary Lee Charlton

Fiduciary: Teri Pinson

Estate: Richard Scott Cook

Fiduciary: Michelle L. Cook

Estate: Garland Lee Ben-netty

Fiduciary: Todd A. Ben-nett

Any person having any interest in the estate of any such deceased person, may appear before the County Commission at the time and place hereinabove specified and thereupon protect his interests as they may appear or else may be forever thereafter barred from asserting such interest.

Given under my hand this the 26th day of August, 2026.

Donnie Basham

Fiduciary Supervisor (2sp)

Dear Recycle Lady, Metal, Plastic Jugs & More

Dear Recycle Lady, Inside one of the boxes containing a prescription were many sheets of directions on white paper folded into very tight folds and glued together in one place. Does this tightly folded paper need to be unfolded before recycling it? Just Wondering

Dear Just Wondering, Yes, the paper should be unfolded to help reduce the volume of the paper and to make it easier to transport. It also eliminates any contaminants that might have been inside the folds. Flattening the paper helps with sorting and improves the processing in the recycling facility. Thanks for taking the time to unfold the directions and remove any glue that might have been used to hold the paper tightly folded. The Recycling staff appreciates you!

Dear Recycle Lady, I found some old, rusty pieces of scrap metal in the barn this morning and I don't know what to do with them. Can they be recycled? Do I need to clean them up? Cleaning up the Barn

Dear Cleaning up the Barn, Old rusty pieces of scrap metal of any size and any condition are recyclable at the Recycling Center. Rust occurs when iron reacts with oxygen from water or moisture and produces iron oxide. It is only on steel cans or steel objects. Aluminum cans don't contain iron and will never rust, regardless of how long they are left in water and Stainless steel is extremely resistant to rust. Since steel is the primary metal in engineering, rusty metal is likely to be found on many different objects around the house or barn. Nails, screws, auto parts, and furniture are only a few of the places where rust can be found. The Recycling Center accepts both auto and furniture parts but not nails and screws. Those can be taken to Boggs Scrap Metal Yard in Caldwell. While rust can be removed from metal using household products like lemon juice, baking soda, vinegar, and steel wool, or you can purchase chemicals to remove rust, it is not necessary. To prevent rust, metals can be coated ahead of time with several effective coatings. Epoxy Coatings provide a strong barrier against moisture as does a coating of oil, or commercially available rust converters. A coating of zinc protects metal from corrosion in a process called galvanization. There is also a dry powder that will create a hard finish resistant to rust after being cured under heat.

Dear Recycle Lady, What is the difference between a clear plastic jug and a white plastic jug? What's the Difference?

Dear What's the Difference, The primary difference between clear plastics jugs and white plastic jugs is their light-blocking properties. Clear plastic jugs are translucent or transparent, and their content is highly visible; while white jugs are opaque plastic containers that don't allow any light to pass through. Made of high-density polyethylene (HDPE) #2 plastic, some customers prefer white plastic jugs for milk because of their light-blocking property. Blocking UV light helps maintain the milk's freshness and prevents spoilage. Clear plastic jugs are made with Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) or #1 plastics and often preferred for their visibility. Both #1 plastics and #2 plastics are recyclable.

Good News: A Cougar raising kittens was seen for the first time in 100 years in Minnesota. Cougars were believed to be extinct, but this sighting suggests that Cougars are breeding there again.

Bad News: A wildfire in Australia destroyed 70% of the Pink Cockatoos core habitat. Since most of the cypress pines were lost artificial hollows are being built for their use.

Have questions about recycling, or interesting information about recycling? Send questions or requests to: recyclelady-wv@gmail.com. Dear Recycle Lady is sponsored jointly by the Greenbrier Recycling Center and Greenworks Recycling.

New River CTC Opens Hawk's Nest Food Pantry at Raleigh County Campus

BEAVER, W.Va. The project was made possible through the New River CTC Foundation and the Bonny Ball Copenhagen Emergenc

The project was made possible through the New River CTC Foundation and the Bonny Ball Copenhagen Emergency Fund Endowment, which was established to help students facing unexpected financial hardships and other circumstances that could interfere with their ability to continue their education.

President Dr. Bonny Ball Copenhagen joined Interim Director of Student Services Ms. Tammy Mills and representatives of the New River Community and Technical College Foundation for a ribbon cutting ceremony marking the opening of the pantry.

Located in Room 180 of the Raleigh County Campus, the Hawk's Nest Food Pantry is available to all New River CTC students and will be managed by the College's Student Services team.

Campus pantry is the College's second food pantry. New River CTC also operates a pantry at the Advanced Technology Center in Ghent, and the College plans to continue expanding the initiative to its other locations. The Greenbrier Valley Campus is expected to be the next location to receive a similar pantry.

"The Foundation's purpose is ultimately to create opportunities and provide support that directly benefits New River CTC students," said Michael Green, Vice President and Executive Director of the New River CTC Foundation. "The Hawk's Nest is a great example of that mission in action. Sometimes the difference between a student continuing their education and stepping away can be something that seems relatively small. If we can help re-

move one of those obstacles, then this is an investment well worth making."

The College and Foundation intend for the Hawk's Nest to grow beyond its current locations, with a long-term goal of providing similar food assistance resources throughout New River CTC's service area.

"We want students to know that this resource is here for them and that there should never be a stigma associated with asking for help," Mills said. "Our goal in Student Services is to connect students with the resources they need to be successful, and the Hawk's Nest gives us another important tool to do that."

For more information about New River Community and Technical College, visit the College's website at www.newriver.edu.

Hold Your Horses For The Coffee Barn



Alexia Neil
The Greenbrier Independent

DANESE- In Danese, WV, a new shop has opened to help you make it to the home-stretch of your day. A family-owned, commu-nity-driven front, The Coffee Barn introduces a unique approach to the energy business.

Kelley Dameron, lover of all things Jesus, hors-es, and coffee, is the own-er of Diamond C. Ranch and The Coffee Barn. She was inspired to start this business venture due to the benefits she received from Herbalife—a com-pany offering dietary supplements for personal Healthcare.

“It has not only helped me lose weight but im-proved my health tre-mendously,” Kelley says.

The Coffee Barn offers shakes, coffees, and load-ed teas, but there’s much more than that. A collec-tion of supplements are available to help power through the day without all those extra shots of espresso, including but not limited to electro-lytes, vitamins, probiot-ics, collagen, and meal replacements. The shop also sells protein balls, parfaits, and donuts. However, the menu is al-ways expanding.

“Our town and our neighboring towns have limited things to do or places to go, and we want to fill that missing spot!” Kelley says.

You can find The Coffee Barn at 769 White Oak Road, Danese WV 25831. Hours are Monday through Saturday from 6:30 AM to 6:00 PM, and Sunday from 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

For questions or deliv-ery call (304) 575-1894.

Pet of the Week: Meet Mercedes



Meet Mercedes

This beautiful girl is 1 year old and 45 pounds of pure sweetness!

Mercedes is a total cud-dle bug who absolutely LOVES curling up on the couch with her people. She loves both women and men and is happiest when she’s getting atten-tion and affection!

What about cats? Mer-cedes is very interested in them, but it seems to be mostly curiosity. If they run, though, her chase instinct kicks in—so a home with dog-savvy cats and proper introductions would be best.

Crate trained and goes right in like a good girl! Would LOVE a fenced-in yard Sweet, affectionate, and loves her people Does fine tethered with no barking or stress

Mercedes is such a beautiful girl with so much love to give. She’s ready to find a family who will let her snuggle on the couch and be part of the family!

Selling Summers and Monroe and the region for 39 years!

Randy S. Burdette,

Associate Broker/REALTOR/Auctioneer WV927

Call or Text 304.667.2897
randysburdette927@gmail.com

FOXFIRE REALTY

Foxfire Realty, Richard Grist, Broker
1029 Washington St. East, Lewisburg, WV 24901

“Mom continued to decline, and I didn’t know what to do.”

At Greystone they have nurses on duty 24-hours a day, 7-days a week and they’ll monitor her health and provide appropriate levels of care for each stage she goes through.

Let us help you.

Call Chauntelle at (304) 860-0233.

The Villages at Greystone

Senior Living Community

Beaver (Beckley), WV 25813

www.greystonebeaver.com

FALL EVENINGS WORD SEARCH

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

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

WORDS

ACORN	CIDER	FOLIAGE	NUTMEG
AMBER	CINNAMON	FROSTY	PUMPKIN
AUTUMN	COZY	GOLDEN	SCARLET
BONFIRE	CRISP	HARVEST	SWEATER
BREEZE	EQUINOX	HAYRIDE	TWILIGHT
CHILLY	FLANNEL	LEAVES	VIBRANT