THE
HINTON NEWS

FOR THE INFORMED SUMMERS COUNTIAN SINCE 1877

VOLUME 125 NO. 45 | HINTONNEWS.COM | $1.00 | WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 11, 2026

Summers County Youth Football Cheer Squad Takes First Place



Congratulations to The Summers County Youth Football JV cheer squad! They competed on Saturday, October 24, in the SEYFL competition held at Greenbrier West High School. Competing in the JV-2 division and won first place! Pictured with their trophy: Isabella Jobe, Olivia Hommey, Kendra Pence, and Hailee Richmond, and coaches Kasey Cumby and Cheyenne Boone

Young Payton Bennett Wins Lifetime Hunting and Fishing License



Payton Bennett being presented with her paperwork and check from Tom Conway and Johnny Ratliff of Ultimate Experience Outdoors, who also provided the photo

Brandon Baker
The Hinton News

SUMMERS COUNTY- Payton Bennett of Summers County will be able to hunt and fish in West Virginia for years to come after winning a lifetime license through Ultimate Experience Outdoors.

Bennett was selected in a drawing among young people who attended a West Virginia hunter safety course at Pipestem State Park. Ultimate Experience Outdoors provided the prize, and team members Tom Conway and Johnny Ratliff presented Bennett with the paperwork and check to cover the license.

Bennett said she had hoped to earn her hunting license when she got older. Her stepfather encouraged her to attend the safety class and offered to go with her.

She also said she hopes to fish and hunt even more now as time goes by.

"Yes!" she exclaimed.

"Every chance I get."

The license also means more than outdoor access to Bennett.

"It's very important to me because now I get to have a lifetime of memories," she said.

"One of my favorite things to do is hunt with both of my dad's."

Asked if she wanted to shoutout Ultimate Experience Outdoors, Bennett added, "Thank you so much for the opportunity to make memories with my family for the rest of my life."

Otter & Oak Celebrates the Holiday Season with Five Weeks of Savings

HINTON, W.Va. — Holiday shoppers looking for thoughtful gifts, quality merchandise and great savings will find plenty to explore at Otter & Oak in historic downtown Hinton. The locally owned specialty shop is preparing for its Annual Holiday Sales, featuring five weeks of changing promotions from November 23 through Christmas Eve.

Located at 302 Second Avenue in the Hinton National Historic District, Otter & Oak offers a distinctive shopping experience with men's and women's clothing, footwear, accessories, outdoor gear, bath and body products, home goods and gifts. The store combines well-known brands with unique finds, offering merchandise at a variety of price points.

Shoppers will find popular brands such as KÜHL, Birkenstock, Teva, Chaco and Charlie B, along with outdoor and lifestyle favorites including Hydro Flask, ENO and Garmin. The store also carries specialty gifts, locally inspired merchandise and Skinny Syrups, making it a convenient stop for everything from Christmas presents and stocking stuffers to a little something special for yourself.

Upstairs, Otter Café adds another reason to visit. The welcoming café serves handcrafted coffee, specialty beverages, loaded teas, smoothies and seasonal favorites. Visitors can enjoy their drinks while overlooking downtown Hinton or browsing artwork by West Virginia and regional artists displayed in Rivertown Gallery. Together, the store, café and gallery offer a shopping experience that encourages visitors to slow down, explore and enjoy their time downtown.

Five Weeks of Holiday Savings

Beginning November 23, Otter & Oak will feature a different sale each week leading up to Christmas, giving shoppers new opportunities to save throughout the holiday season.

The promotions begin November 23–29 with 25% off clothing and shoes, followed by 30% off bath and body products November 30–December 6.

From December 7–13, shoppers can enjoy 35% off accessories and socks, making it an ideal time to pick up stocking stuffers and smaller gifts.

December 14–20 brings 40% off shoes, followed by the final holiday promotion, December 21–24, featuring up to 50% off select merchandise throughout the store.

With a new deal each week, customers have plenty of reasons to return as they work through their Christmas shopping lists. The sales also provide an opportunity to discover the store's selection of quality merchandise while supporting a local downtown business.

A Continued Investment in Downtown Hinton

Otter & Oak's story reflects a broader commitment to the revitalization of historic downtown Hinton.

The store was originally opened by Sherry Augustine, a longtime friend and former classmate of Hinton native Ken Allman. When Augustine decided to close the business, Allman, founder of PracticeLink and MountainPlex Properties, stepped in to purchase the store and building rather than see another downtown storefront sit vacant.



MountainPlex purchased Otter & Oak in March 2014, reopening the business over Memorial Day weekend that year as Otter & Oak Outfitters and More. The name was later shortened to Otter & Oak.

What began primarily as an outdoor-oriented retailer has evolved into a specialty boutique offering a broader selection of apparel, footwear, accessories and gifts. The addition of Otter Café in 2021 further expanded the experience for residents and visitors.

For Allman, the investment represented another opportunity to support local jobs, bring unique businesses to his hometown and contribute to the continued vitality of the Hinton National Historic District.

Today, Otter & Oak remains part of that vision, welcoming residents and visitors to explore a locally owned business in the heart of downtown.

Whether shopping for a special gift, updating a wardrobe or enjoying a coffee with friends, Otter & Oak and Otter Café offer several reasons to visit this holiday season.

Otter & Oak is located at 302 Second Avenue in historic downtown Hinton. Store hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For additional information, visit www.otterandoak.com or call 304-466-4870.

7 23314 78334 5

A Tribute to The Arts, The Chuck Mathena Center



Alexia Neil
Hinton News

PRINCETON- In Princeton, WV, stands an immense, 42,000 square foot performing arts center built as Mercer County's first dedicated performance space. Since 2008, the Chuck Mathena Center has hosted countless shows, from community school concerts to off-Broadway productions, providing the region a family-friendly venue to revel in the creativity and livelihood of theater.

The center was fashioned in honor of Charles T. "Chuck" Mathena II, who was the sole son to Charlie and Marquetta Mathena, and passed in a tragic automobile accident in 1992. Through this tragedy, the Charles T. "Chuck" Mathena II Foundation was formed, inspired by Mathena's love for the performing arts. The Foundation has raised nearly $300,000 in scholarship funds. Then, in 1994, planning and fund-raising efforts from community and state buoyed the construction that started in 2005 and ended two years later. The doors opened on July 11, 2008, for the inaugural performance.

The Chuck Mathena center features several multi-use areas. The art gallery displays rotating exhibitions from local artists and national exhibitions alike, which are located just beneath the octagonal skylight of the center's lobby rotunda. The gallery accepts submissions at their Rotunda Art Gallery page online, found at the Chuck Mathena web address.

The auditorium was designed to host full-scale touring acts, symphony orchestras, and community events. It was designed in alignment with international standards to accommodate complex, theatrical sets. The auditorium features an 86-foot fly space, a 50-person orchestra pit, an arena sound system, and back-of-house lighting booth. Backstage, there is a two-story area with dressing rooms, showers, and a kitchenette, where artists can fully prepare and unwind from performing in a nearly 1,000 seat venue.

The Chuck Mathena Center draws over 60,000 visitors annually and is a significant boost to the local commerce in Princeton and surrounding areas. The center gives space for communities in rural Appalachia to experience—and perhaps even be inspired by—live theater and the arts.

Upcoming showings include Dolly Parton's Smoky Mountain Christmas Carol on Saturday, November 14th at 7:00 PM, The Nutcracker (with Live Orchestra) on Thursday, November 19th, at 7:00 PM, and a local favorite A Motown Christmas, which will be playing on Friday, December 18th, at 7:00 PM. Tickets can be purchased at the official Chuck Mathena Center website, or at the box office, open Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. It is strongly encouraged to purchase tickets ahead of time, as seats fill fast.

Chuck Mathena Center is located at 2 Stafford Commons, Princeton, WV 24740. For more information visit www.chuckmathenacenter.org or call 304-425-5128.

Treasurer Pack Releases 2025-2026 Hope Scholarship Annual Report

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (The Hinton News) – State Treasurer Larry Pack, who serves as Chairman of the Hope Scholarship Board, today released the 2025-2026 Hope Scholarship Annual Report, highlighting significant success for students making satisfactory academic progress, overwhelmingly positive feedback from parents and continued growth in expanding educational opportunities for West Virginia students.

This makes the fourth consecutive year the Hope Scholarship Program has released an annual report since its inaugural 2022-2023 school year. The latest report also includes results from the 2025-2026 Hope Scholarship Parent Satisfaction Survey, which was previously released on September 14, 2026.

"The Hope Scholarship has come a long way since its launch in 2022, growing from just over 2,300 students to more than 14,400 during the past school year," Treasurer Pack said. "What started as new opportunities for students has evolved into the gold standard for education choice programs around the country. We are proud of our ability to serve students throughout all 55 counties while providing more education resources and greater flexibility than ever before. We encourage parents to explore how the Hope Scholarship can meet their child's unique educational needs."

The report shows that 14,486 students were awarded the Hope Scholarship during the 2025-2026 school year, a nearly 38 percent increase from the previous year and more than six times the number awarded during the program's inaugural year in 2022-2023.

One of the report's most notable findings came from the annual Hope Scholarship Parent Satisfaction Survey, which found that 96% of responding families were satisfied with the program. The report also highlights the historic eligibility expansion for the 2026-2027 school year. All West Virginia children in grades K-12, including existing private school and traditional homeschool students who were previously ineligible, can now apply to the program. So far, there have been more than 26,000 approved applications for the 2026-2027 school year.

Highlights from the 2025-2026 Hope Scholarship Annual Report include:

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Applications Being Taken For:
SUMMERS HOUSING APARTMENTS
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Greenbrier Terrace: Monday, Wednesday 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Hedrick House: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Summers Landing: Monday, Wednesday 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Rents based on income. Rental Assistance is applied, when available, to those who qualify. Income limits apply. Summers Landing Apartments for households "62 years of age or older or handicapped/disabled, regardless of age".

HUD Renters May Apply.

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THANKSGIVING TABLE WORD SEARCH

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

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

WORDS

CASSEROLE
CENTERPIECE
CORNBREAD
CORNUCOPIA
CRANBERRY
DESSERT
DINNER
FEAST
GATHERING
GOURD
GRATITUDE
GRAVY
HARVEST
LEFTOVERS
MAYFLOWER
PARADE
PILGRIMS
PUMPKIN PIE
STUFFING
SWEET POTATOES
TABLE
TURKEY
WAMPANOAG
WISHBONE

THE HINTON NEWS

WEB: hintonnews.com
Postal Permit #USPS-246-180

SINCE 1877

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

Publisher:
Scot Refsland, Ph.D.
publisher@wvdn.com

Editor /
Director of Operations:
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Please contact the Hinton News Office for subscription information.
#304-466-0005

POSTMASTER:
Please send change of address to publication.

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Out-of-State Delivered Subscription (Annual) $75.00

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Governor Morrisey Launches One Stop Shop Permitting Portal Three Months Ahead of Deadline

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (The Hinton News) - Governor Patrick Morrisey announced the launch of West Virginia's new One Stop Shop Permitting Portal, a cutting-edge online system that allows businesses to apply for permits, pay fees, and track applications through a single account as part of his Speed to Build initiative.

Watch the Governor's Press Conference here

"One of the fundamentals of attracting investment and creating jobs is making sure government moves at the speed of business," said Governor Morrisey. "We've been working to get sites ready for development, improve water and sewer infrastructure, expand broadband, and ensure affordable energy. But we also have to make it easier for businesses to get projects moving. This new One Stop Shop is an important part of that effort."

Available at SpeedToBuild.wv.gov, the portal had a soft opening on October 1, three months ahead of the January 1, 2027, deadline established under House Bill 2002. The legislation directed the Department of Administration to establish a public permitting dashboard that brings services from multiple state agencies into one secure online account. Applicants can submit applications, upload documents, pay fees, track their status, receive updates, and renew permits and licenses. A searchable database and guided portal assistant help users identify the permits they need.

Participating agencies include the Division of Highways, Bureau for Public Health, Department of Environmental Protection, and divisions within the Department of Commerce, including Forestry, Labor, Natural Resources, Miners' Health, Safety and Training, and Alcohol Beverage Control Administration.

Beginning January 1, 2027, businesses will also be able to take advantage of fast-track processing options for eligible permits. Examples include reducing the processing deadline for oversized hauling permits from five to two days and timber license renewals from 14 calendar days to seven business days. Although the portal was completed ahead of schedule, the fast-track options cannot be activated before January 1 under the implementation schedule established by law.

"Businesses shouldn't have to spend unnecessary time navigating government bureaucracy when they could be creating jobs and growing their operations," said Governor Morrisey. "We've delivered the technology three months ahead of schedule, and beginning in January, businesses will have new options to get their permits processed faster. We're making the process simpler and holding state agencies accountable for getting the work done. That's what our Speed to Build initiative is all about."

Since October 2025, West Virginia has announced approximately $96 billion in private-sector investment, with more than 19,000 projected jobs. The administration's broader economic development efforts include improving site readiness, investing in infrastructure, expanding energy production, and reducing regulatory burdens.

Use of the portal remains optional until July 1, 2027, allowing businesses to continue using paper applications or existing agency systems without penalty. After that date, the portal becomes the required application method for covered permits, with exceptions provided under applicable disability and human rights laws.

Businesses and individuals can access the portal at SpeedToBuild.wv.gov. New users should select "Sign Up" to create an account and add Speedtobuilddonotreply@wv.gov to their contacts to receive application updates. Questions about individual permits should be directed to the issuing agency through the portal's resource guide.

"The public launch of this one-stop permitting portal is good news for both existing and future manufacturers in West Virginia. The Mountain State has distinguished itself by improving our state permitting process, especially when compared to neighboring states. This portal furthers our ability to make the permitting process more transparent and communicative, which benefits employers as well as state agencies. It demonstrates a commitment to better government that companies considering West Virginia for investment will also recognize. We thank Governor Morrisey and the West Virginia Legislature for their support of the one-stop permitting portal."

- Bill Bissett, Ed.D., President, West Virginia Manufacturers Association

"Governor Morrisey and his administration recognize that an effective and efficient permitting process is essential to West Virginia's future. At a time of unprecedented demand for energy and growing interest in investment across our state, we need a system that provides clarity and timely decisions while maintaining important protections. GO-WV appreciates the administration's commitment to permitting efficiency, and we look forward to continuing to work together to further improve the process."

- Rebecca McPhail, President, Gas and Oil Association of West Virginia

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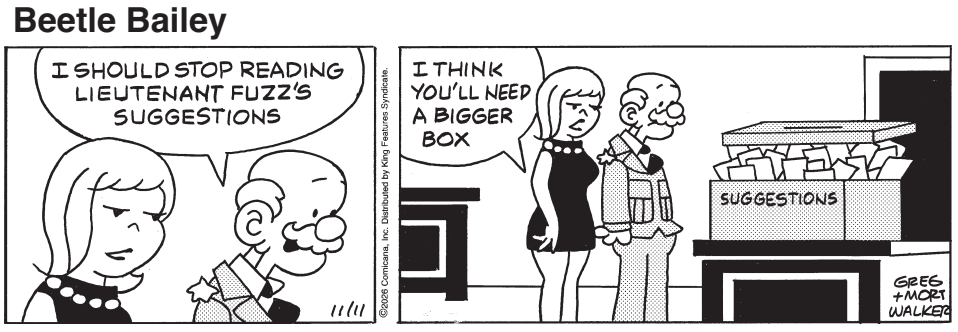
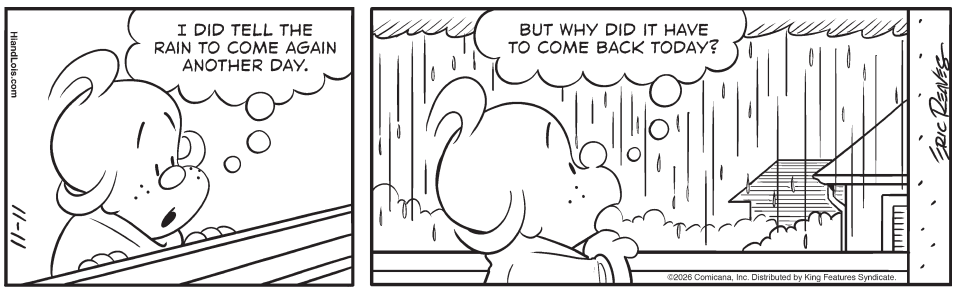
ENTERTAINMENT & COMICS PAGE

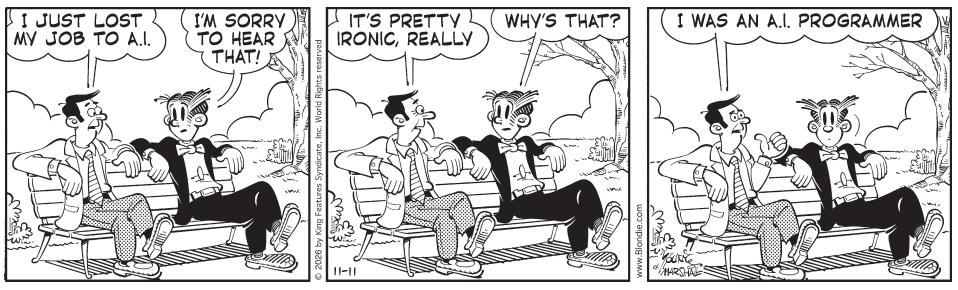
Beetle Bailey



Hi and Lois



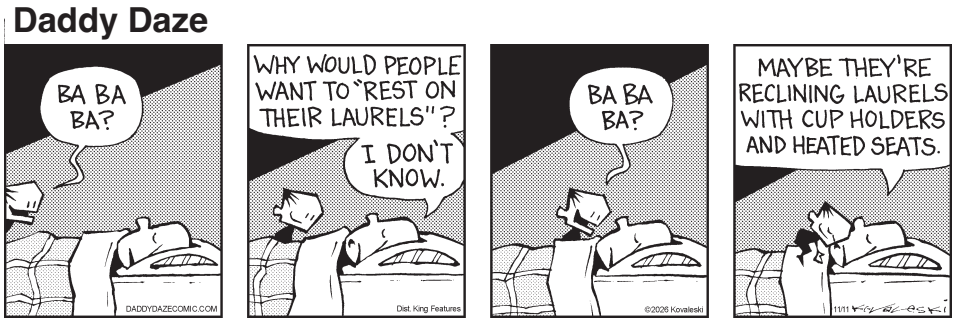
Blondie



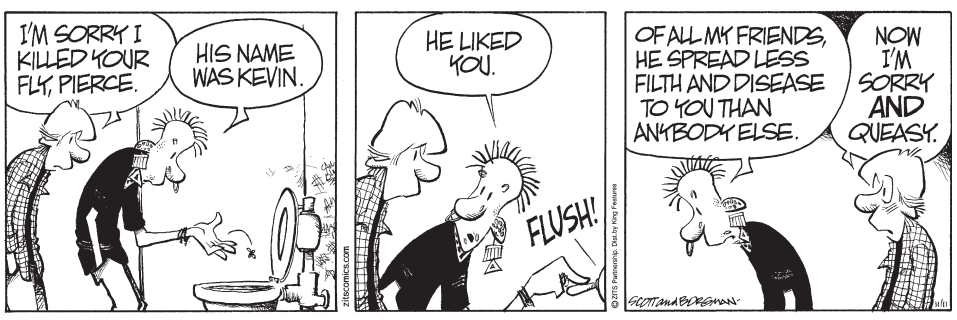
Mutts



Daddy Daze



Zits





SUDOKU PUZZLE

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

Level: Intermediate

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)

Answer To October 28th's Puzzle →

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

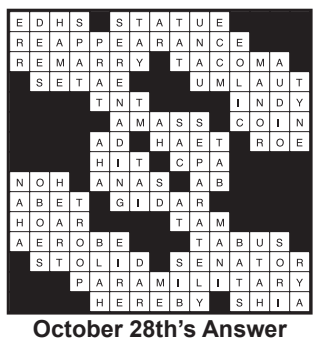
CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

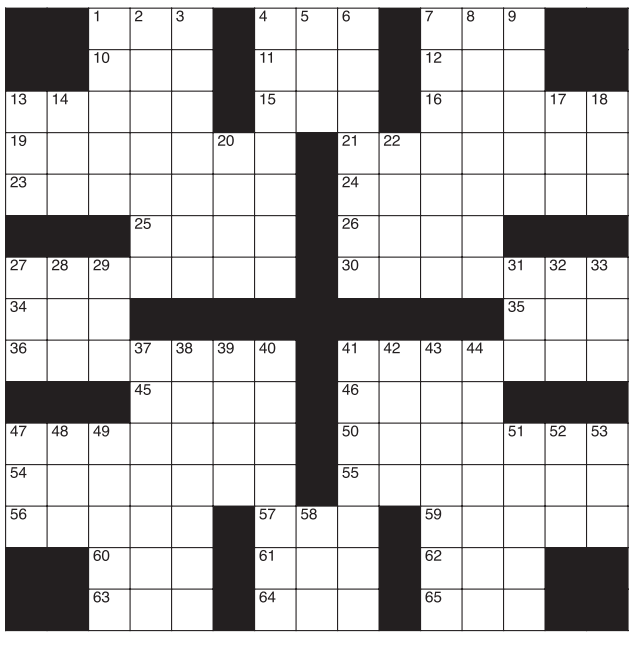
1. Tire pressure metric
4. Request
7. Clairvoyance
10. 007's creator Fleming
11. Male adult
12. Norse mythological figure
13. Coffin cloths
15. Breeze through
16. Ladyfish genus
19. We all take them
21. Nobleman's jurisdiction
23. Members of U.S. Navy
24. Rummy-like card game
25. Unable to move
26. Type of horse
27. Parted
30. Woman's cloak
34. South American plant
35. Prohibit
36. Something one takes
41. Dish detergent manufacturer
45. Romanian river
46. Personification of pity
47. Makes upset
50. Discuss again
54. Medical instrument
55. Support
56. Informal term for money
57. Catch doing something wrong
59. Prehistoric people
60. Large African antelope
61. Automobile
62. "Losing My Religion" rockers
63. High-resolution scientific instrument
64. A major division of geological time
65. Attempt

CLUES DOWN

1. Indoor plant
2. Fit to be sold
3. Rather
4. Collected
5. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
6. Irish rap group
7. Ageless
8. Lists indicating curriculum
9. Pokes at
13. Public television station
14. They __
17. Cooking tool
18. Separately managed account
20. Iron-containing compound
22. Swiss river
27. Former French coin
28. Electronic countermeasures
29. Taxi
31. Helps little firms
32. Unhappy
33. Midway between northeast and east
37. Glowing
38. Lists of items to be discussed
39. An informal body of friends
40. Indispensable quality
41. Neural structures
42. Brews
43. A place to dock
44. Festive singer
47. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
48. Northernmost point of mainland Wales
49. Most worthless parts
51. Type of "bear"
52. Take or consume
53. Defunct European organization
58. Swiss river



October 28th's Answer
(Answers Next Wednesday)



JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

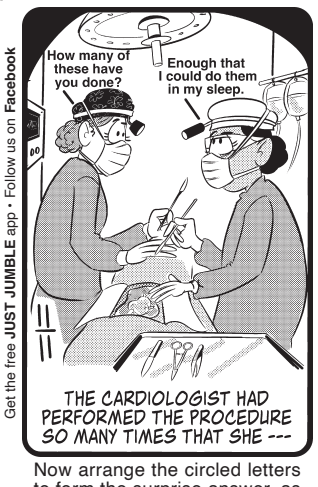
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

IDBEA

AWTKE

TNIYTE

WOTHNR



Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Facebook

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

(Today's Answers Next Wednesday)

October 28th's Answers

Jumbles: PANIC EVENT TAUGHT EXCEED
Answer: The Buffalo Nickel was replaced after the mint approved the — EXACT CHANGE

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Dear Recycle Lady

Dear Recycle Lady,

Is insulation covered wires such as AC cords, cable TV wires, or solid copper romax cords recyclable? If so, what bin do they go in?

Have Lots of cords

Dear Have Lots of cords,

The covered wires you mentioned come under the category of electronic wastes, better known as e-wastes and all are accepted at the Recycling Center. Other e-wastes such as extension cords, phone chargers, power adaptors, other wires, cords, or USB cables are also recyclable. Most household wires are made with copper or aluminum, which are highly recyclable. Be sure to remove any clips, or tags before taking the cords to recycling. The outer insulation of e-wastes is usually plastic, rubber, or PVC, all materials that take decades to break down and can leach harmful substances into the environment when they are put in the landfill. Many big-box stores, like Best Buy, have designated drop-off locations for e-wastes. Place all e-wastes taken to the Recycle Center in the yellow bin on the porch that has the Aluminum Cans sign.

Dear Recycle Lady,

What is the Great Pacific Garbage Patch? I read a little about it, and it doesn't sound good. Need Information Dear Need Information, According to Wikipedia, The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is a garbage patch of marine debris in the central North Pacific Ocean between California and Hawaii. Created by ocean currents and human activities, it spans about 620,000 square miles of swirling plastic, which is about twice the size of Texas! More than half of this plastic is less dense than the water, meaning that it will not sink once it encounters the sea. It is estimated that the mass of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch is more than 100,000 tons of plastic – the equivalent of over 740 Boeing 777's! Marine life such as sea turtles mistake the debris for food and ingest the plastic and Albatross parents unknowingly feed it to their chicks. All of which is harmful for the marine life. Seals, dolphins and other marine life get tangled up in it. Currently there is a collective effort to clean up the Garbage Patch. Lead by groups such as The Ocean Cleanup, government agencies, international collaborations and countless individuals are dedicated to removing plastic, combating marine plastic pollution, and preventing further accumulation in our oceans.

Dear Recycle Lady,

Can waxed cardboard be recycled? Wax is Good Dear Wax is Good, Waxed cardboard is corrugated (multi-layered) cardboard that is lined with polyethylene to prevent it from getting soggy. Frozen foods and ice-packed food products need to be packed in waxed cardboard as wax prevents the cardboard from getting soggy. Waxed cardboard can't be recycled due to the difficulty in removing this waxed coating. Additionally, the wax can clog machinery and contaminate other recyclable materials.

Good News: New Zealand has added five new marine reserves, which is the largest expansion of marine protection in more than a decade. The no-take zones cover a total of 76,000 acres, protecting vital marine habitats for endangered species. No-take zones, also known as marine reserves or no-take marine protected areas (MPAs), are designated areas in the ocean where human activities that extract or damage marine resources, such as fishing and mining, are prohibited. These zones aim to protect marine ecosystems and promote biodiversity by allowing marine life to thrive without human interference.

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

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF WEST VIRGINIA
CHARLESTON

CASE NO. 26-0726-E-PC

APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY and
WHEELING POWER COMPANY,
public utilities.

Petition for Commission Approval of Cost Recovery for Purchase and Sale Agreements and Power Purchase Agreements for Renewable Energy and the Purchase of Renewable Energy Credits.

NOTICE OF FILING AND EVIDENTIARY HEARING

On August 7, 2026, Appalachian Power Company ("APCo") and Wheeling Power Company ("WPCo") (together, the "Companies") filed a Petition with the Public Service Commission of West Virginia ("Commission") seeking the recovery of future costs associated with (1) two solar facility Purchase and Sale Agreements ("PSAs") (Riverstart Solar V, a 100 MW facility located in Indiana, and Skycrest Solar, a 155 MW facility located in Indiana); (2) eight solar and wind Power Purchase Agreements ("PPAs") (Beech Ridge Wind (100.5 MW, West Virginia), Camp Grove Wind (150 MW, Illinois), Bedington Solar (100 MW, West Virginia), Hera Solar (13.3 MW, Virginia), Willow Solar (12 MW, Virginia), Constitution Solar (5 MW, Virginia), Dove Valley Solar (5 MW, Virginia), and Sun Chief Solar (100 MW, Indiana)); and (3) the purchase of Renewable Energy Credits ("RECs") from a 143.7 MW solar facility located in Kentucky. The Companies' Petition is on file with and available for public inspection at the Commission's offices, 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, WV 25301, and at the Commission's website, www.psc.state.wv.us.

The purchase of the aforementioned renewable energy products can be expected to have an impact on the Companies' West Virginia retail rates. The Companies have a Renewable Power Plus ("RPP") Tariff to be offered on a voluntary basis to all customers in addition to the Companies' standard tariff offerings. It is anticipated that, over time, the costs of the proposed renewable facilities will be offset by the customers subscribing to the RPP Tariff, special contract revenues, and the cost of service benefits produced by the facilities. The costs of the two PSAs (Riverstart Solar V and Skycrest Solar) are proposed to be recovered through the Companies' Renewable Energy Tariff ("RET"). The costs of the eight PPAs and the Martin County Solar REC purchase are proposed to be recovered through the Companies' Expanded Net Energy Cost ("ENEC") rates.

The renewable facilities have varying in-service dates, but the estimated aggregate Year 1 gross cost-of-service increase resulting from the proposed transactions is approximately $63,274,684, or approximately 3.2% of total revenue. After cost-of-service offsets, the Companies project a net Year 1 aggregate increase of approximately $14,753,668, or approximately 0.74% of total revenue under the Reference Fundamental Forecast. Under the Delayed Environmental Fundamental Forecast the overall increase is projected to be approximately $15,829,069, or 0.80% of total revenue.

For the residential class specifically, the Year 1 net rate impact is estimated at approximately 0.62% under the Reference Fundamental Forecast, or approximately 0.67% under the Delayed Environmental Fundamental Forecast. By way of example, the Companies estimate that a residential customer using 1,000 kWh per month would experience a net monthly increase of $1.06 under the Reference Fundamental Forecast, or $1.13 under the Delayed Environmental Fundamental Forecast, in the first year that all the renewable facilities are operating.

The estimated Year 1 gross and net rate impacts by class of customer are shown on Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1
Reference Fundamental Forecast

"Year 1" of Proposed Renewable Portfolio Estimated Rate Impacts by Tariff Class (Reference)						
Tariff Class	Current Rev	COS Increase	Gross Increase %	COS Offsets	Net Increase	Net Increase %
Residential	$ 880,640,615	$ 23,455,320	2.7%	$ (17,986,277)	$ 5,469,044	0.62%
SWS	$ 12,557,041	$ 356,544	2.8%	$ (273,409)	$ 83,135	0.66%
SGS	$ 42,123,487	$ 1,070,897	2.5%	$ (821,198)	$ 249,700	0.59%
GS	$ 341,869,918	$ 10,411,935	3.0%	$ (7,984,199)	$ 2,427,736	0.71%
LCP	$ 606,708,111	$ 24,479,005	4.0%	$ (18,771,270)	$ 5,707,735	0.94%
IP	$ 16,760,187	$ 637,107	3.8%	$ (488,553)	$ 148,553	0.89%
Special Contracts	$ 37,655,496	$ 1,623,304	4.3%	$ (1,244,801)	$ 378,504	1.01%
SS	$ 35,055,580	$ 1,049,735	3.0%	$ (804,970)	$ 244,765	0.70%
OL & SL	$ 15,829,426	$ 190,837	1.2%	$ (146,340)	$ 44,497	0.28%
Total	$ 1,989,199,861	$ 63,274,684	3.2%	$ (48,521,016)	$ 14,753,668	0.74%

Table 2
Delayed Environmental Fundamental Forecast

"Year 1" of Proposed Renewable Portfolio Estimated Rate Impacts by Tariff Class (Delayed Environmental)						
Tariff Class	Current Rev	COS Increase	Gross Increase %	COS Offsets	Net Increase	Net Increase %
Residential	$ 880,640,615	$ 23,455,320	2.7%	$ (17,587,636)	$ 5,867,684	0.67%
SWS	$ 12,557,041	$ 356,544	2.8%	$ (267,349)	$ 89,194	0.71%
SGS	$ 42,123,487	$ 1,070,897	2.5%	$ (802,997)	$ 267,900	0.64%
GS	$ 341,869,918	$ 10,411,935	3.0%	$ (7,807,240)	$ 2,604,695	0.76%
LCP	$ 606,708,111	$ 24,479,005	4.0%	$ (18,355,231)	$ 6,123,774	1.01%
IP	$ 16,760,187	$ 637,107	3.8%	$ (477,725)	$ 159,381	0.95%
Special Contracts	$ 37,655,496	$ 1,623,304	4.3%	$ (1,217,211)	$ 406,093	1.08%
SS	$ 35,055,580	$ 1,049,735	3.0%	$ (787,129)	$ 262,606	0.75%
OL & SL	$ 15,829,426	$ 190,837	1.2%	$ (143,096)	$ 47,741	0.30%
Total	$ 1,989,199,861	$ 63,274,684	3.2%	$ (47,445,615)	$ 15,829,069	0.80%

The increases shown herein are based on averages of all customers in the indicated class. Individual customers may receive increases that are greater or less than average. Furthermore, the requested rates and charges among the various classes of customers are only a proposal and are subject to change (increases or decreases) by the Commission in its review of the Companies' filing.

The Commission has set an evidentiary hearing in the matter for January 29, 2027, starting at 9:30 am, to be held in the Howard M. Cunningham Hearing Room at the Commission's offices, 201 Brooks Street, Charleston, WV 25301. Interested persons should monitor the Commission's WebDocket and website because the evidentiary may be canceled for good cause.

Anyone desiring to intervene in the matter should file a written petition to intervene by 4:00 p.m., November 20, 2026. All requests to intervene should briefly state the reason for the request and comply with the rules on intervention set forth in the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. The Commission will receive public comments until the beginning of the hearing. All written comments and requests to intervene should state the case name and number and be addressed to Karen Buckley, Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, WV 25323. Public comments may also be filed online at **http://www.psc.state.wv.us/scripts/onlinecomments/default.cfm** by clicking the "Formal Case" link.

APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY and
WHEELING POWER COMPANY



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 59-year-old married virgin male. My wife has an IUD for medical reasons. She thinks it's the man's job to initiate sex. She has never shown any interest in sex in nearly 20 years of marriage. I love her, but I am ready to divorce her.

I do not want to go through life without a sex life, let alone die a virgin. We have no money for therapy. She's going to be 51 soon. I have been told by different women that it's just not in her, and she'll never be interested. What should I do? -- **WANTING MORE**

DEAR WANTING MORE: This may seem like a silly question, but have you tried to initiate sex? Your letter is a bit vague on that point. It's not the "job" of one partner or the other, but someone has to get the ball rolling. A more important question is this: Did your wife tell you she was not interested in sex before you got married? Did the two of you never discuss it?

Ask your wife directly if she thinks she'll ever be willing to take this step with you. If the answer is no, please understand that it's OK to end a relationship with someone -- even if you love them -- if they are not willing to give you what you need.

DEAR ABBY: My son-in-law takes my granddaughter for a walk every day. They live in a nice area, but he insists on carrying a loaded gun in the stroller. My daughter doesn't seem to question this, and if I press either one, I get the impression that they will cut off my access to my granddaughter. What recourse, if any, do I have to protect the child from a senseless gun-related accident? -- **FEARFUL IN PHOENIX**

DEAR FEARFUL: It's sad that, despite living in a nice neighborhood, your son-in-law feels so vulnerable. All you can do is try to ensure that he has a license to carry his gun and hope he has taken (and passed) a course in gun safety.

Readers who do not live in Arizona should check their own state and local laws. What this dad is doing may be legal in Phoenix, but it could land you in a heap of trouble in many other jurisdictions!

DEAR ABBY: Twenty years ago, I moved into a modest home owned by my sister to help her with expenses. Shortly after, she got a job promotion and transfer. I stayed, took care of repairs and paid her rent. A couple of years later, she signed it over to me as a Christmas present. I did put thousands of dollars and many hours of labor into repairs. If I sell it now, do I owe her a share of the profits? -- **HANDYMAN IN ILLINOIS**

DEAR HANDYMAN: You do not owe your sister a share of the profits for the house. She gave it to you, so it is yours to do with as you wish. If you would like to give her a portion of the proceeds to thank her for the opportunity, it's your choice.

DEAR VETERANS: For your service to our nation, I salute you. My thanks to each of you on this Veterans Day. You personify patriotism, self-sacrifice and dedication to our country. I would also like to recognize your families for the sacrifices they, too, have made while you were serving your country. -- **LOVE, ABBY**

Annual Report (Continued from Page 2)

• Parent Satisfaction: Of the 893 families who completed the survey, 96% reported overall satisfaction with the program.

• Reasons for Participation: The leading reasons parents selected the Hope Scholarship were access to religious-based education (34%), concerns about public school curriculum (14%) and greater educational flexibility (10%).

• Statewide Participation: Hope Scholarship recipients represented all 55 West Virginia counties. Kanawha County had the most recipients with 1,668, followed by Berkeley County with 1,424.

• Educational Pathways: Approximately 62% of recipients attended nonpublic schools, while nearly 38% pursued an Individualized Instructional Plan (IIP), allowing families to customize their child's education through home-based learning or other approved educational options.

• Student Demographics: The program served students across all grade levels, with kindergarten representing the largest group at 2,130 recipients. Additionally, 1,217 recipients, or 8.4%, were identified as students with special needs.

• Recipient Ethnicity: Of the 14,486 Hope Scholarship recipients, 89.59% were White, 4.8% were Black or African American, 3.53% were Hispanic, 1.65% were Asian, 0.24% were American Indian or Alaska Native and 0.18% were Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.

• Academic Progress: Academic progress submissions were recorded for 14,116 students, representing approximately 97% of recipients. Of the total 14,486 recipients, 14,107, or 97%, had satisfactory academic progress documented.

• Financial Impact: More than $68.5 million in scholarship funds were spent on qualifying educational expenses, including approximately $45.5 million for nonpublic schools, $5 million for microschools and $4.7 million for education service providers.

The report also demonstrates the growing range of educational opportunities available to families, with more than 300 participating nonpublic schools and microschools and more than 1,300 non-school education service providers offering services such as tutoring, educational therapies, specialized instruction and supplemental learning resources.

Treasurer Pack said the findings reinforce the importance of continuing to strengthen the program as more students become eligible.

"The Hope Scholarship is about more than funding education. It's about empowering parents to make decisions that can shape their children's futures," Treasurer Pack said. "As a father of six children, I know first-hand every child learns differently and has unique needs. Next to your individual faith journey, education is the biggest determinate to a successful life. We look forward to working with policy makers to improve educational outcomes regardless if it's private, public, or an individualized learning plan."

The Hope Scholarship is an education savings account program that allows eligible West Virginia families to use the state portion of their child's education funding for qualifying expenses, including private school tuition, curriculum, tutoring and other educational services.

To view the full 2025-2026 Hope Scholarship Annual Report, visit https://hopescholarshipwv.gov/Portals/HopeScholarship/content/Documents/Reports/Hope%20Scholarship%2025-26%20Annual%20Report.pdf.

For more information about the Hope Scholarship Program, visit www.HopeScholarshipWV.gov.

Weekly Recipes

Offer Something New At Thanksgiving Dinner This Year

Thanksgiving dinner offers a lot to look forward to. The unofficial kickoff to the holiday season, Thanksgiving is a chance for families and friends to get together, watch some football and, of course, share a delicious meal.

Food is a focal point on Thanksgiving. Turkey is the traditional centerpiece, but side dishes garner their share of the glory, too. Stuffing, mashed potatoes, vegetable casseroles, and more have a way of finding their ways onto the Thanksgiving menu. But hosts looking to offer something a little less traditional and more unique can look to this delicious recipe for "Stuffed Zucchini" from Lines+Angles.

Stuffed Zucchini

Makes 6 Servings

Ingredients:

- 6 medium zucchini, washed and ends trimmed
- 3 cups butter cracker crumbs, crumbled
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese, plus extra to sprinkle
- 1 small onion, peeled and minced
- 3 tablespoons minced fresh parsley, plus extra for garnish
- Freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 15 ounces canned diced tomatoes, drained well



1. Preheat oven to 350 F.

2. Cut zucchini in half lengthwise; scoop pulp out with a spoon. Place zucchini shells in a large baking pan.

3. In a large bowl, combine zucchini pulp, cracker crumbs, cheese, onion, parsley, salt, pepper, and the beaten eggs. Fill zucchini shells with mixture; dot with butter and spoon tomatoes over the filling. Sprinkle with additional Parmesan cheese and bake for 30 to 35 minutes. Garnish with chopped parsley and serve.

The Gospel of Grace

(Part 1)

by Mark A. Copeland

https://executableoutlines.com/tracts/

Have You Heard The Most Wonderful News In The World?

The Gospel Of Grace!

"…the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God." ~ Acts 20:24

The apostle Paul was commissioned by Jesus to proclaim good news about God's grace!

The word "gospel" means "good news", and "grace" means "good will, loving kindness, unmerited favor." So Paul was given the ministry to proclaim the good news . . .

- That **GOD** has provided a way of salvation for sinners
- That **HE** has done this out of love, without requiring merit on the part of sinners!

In this lesson we shall summarize **"The Gospel Of Grace"** under three headings, beginning with:

1. THE "NEED" FOR GRACE

The Bible describes our spiritual condition. Everyone is a sinner (**Romans 3:23**), even if you have broken just one commandment (**James 2:10**)! The consequences of sin are serious, both in this life (**Isaiah 59:2**) and in the one to come (**Romans 6:23; Revelation 21:8**).

Even morally good people need to be saved! Consider the example of Cornelius: *"a devout man and one who feared God with all his household, who gave alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always."* (**Acts 10:2**) And yet he was told to send for Peter, *"who will tell you words by which you and all your household will be saved."* (**Acts 11:14**)

Being a good, religious person cannot save you! In fact, most examples of conversion (salvation) described in the book of Acts were people who were already very religious, yet were told what they needed to do to be saved (cf. **Acts 2:36-41; 8:26-38; 16:13-16**).

The fact is, as sinners we cannot accomplish the removal of our guilt on our own. We cannot run away from this guilt, we cannot work our way out of this guilt. So don't be self-deceived by notions of your own goodness. We are all sinners in need of salvation!

But **the gospel of Jesus Christ** is good news about unmerited favor, because it tells about…

2. THE "PROVISION" OF GRACE

Out of "love," God has provided His Son! He sent Jesus to die that we might have eternal life (**John 3:16; 1 John 4:9**). Because God loved us, He made His Son a "propitiation" for our sins (**1 John 4:10**). A "propitiation" is a sacrifice designed to appease wrath. Therefore God has offered His Son as a sacrifice designed to appease Himself, which leads to a related point...

Out of "justice," God has provided His Son! God is holy, and to satisfy His justice (sin must be punished) God provided redemption through the blood of His Son (**Romans 3:24-26; Ephesians 1:7**). God's grace therefore functions in this way:

- God's justice requires an appropriate sacrifice for sin. This no man can offer.
- Because God loves us, He provided His Son as the perfect sacrifice for sin.
- God recognizes the death of Jesus on the cross as a suitable ransom for our sins, paid in full!

So to satisfy both His **justice** and His **love**, God has graciously provided salvation through His Son, Jesus Christ. What we cannot earn on our own, God has provided for us! As John the Baptist said, *"Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"* (**John 1:29**)

Next week, we will look at the reception of grace.

Paid for by Shockley Hill church of Christ.

We meet at 3293 Tug Creek Mountain Road
Sunday Morning Worship 9:30
Bible Study 10:30
Worship 11:15
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30
We would love to have you come and study with us.
304-466-5907, 304-445-5115, 304-860-7179

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

2025-C-000140
Summers County

To: ESTATE OF DANNY GILL, FRIEDERIKE GILL, FRIEDERIKE GILL, FRIEDERIKE GILL, RICHARD GILL, 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 TALCOTT MAP 25 PARCEL 0016 0000 0000

You will take notice that PAMELA WYNES, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert No.** 2025-C-000140, located in TALCOTT District, 0.93 ACRES TALCOTT 1 LOT which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of GILL DANNY L & FRIEDERIKE 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 June 11, 2026. PAMELA WYNES requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after April 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before March 31, 2027 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 2024 - 12924 .... $132.80

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 2025-12936..... $59.07

Additional taxes with interest $0.00

Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest $151.30

Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.....$928.02

Additional Statutory Fees with Interest $0.00

Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check **$1,271.19**

You may redeem at any time before March 31, 2027 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 October 22, 2026.

Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Nonentered Lands of SUMMERS County, State of West Virginia
(4,11,18no)

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

2025-C-000139
Summers County

To: ESTATE OF DANNY GILL, FRIEDERIKE GILL, FRIEDERIKE GILL, FRIEDERIKE GILL, RICHARD GILL, 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 TALCOTT MAP 18 PARCEL 0099 0000 0000

You will take notice that PAMELA WYNES, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert No.** 2025-C-000139, located in TALCOTT District, LOT 2 TUNNEL HILL which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of GILL DANNY L & FRIEDERIKE 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 June 11, 2026. PAMELA WYNES requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after April 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before March 31, 2027 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 2024 - 12923 ....$182.10

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 2025-12935.....$91.20

Additional taxes with interest $0.00

Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest $196.30

Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest.....$928.02

Additional Statutory Fees with Interest $0.00

Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check **$1,397.62**

You may redeem at any time before March 31, 2027 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 October 22, 2026.

Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Nonentered Lands of SUMMERS County, State of West Virginia
(4,11,18no)

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

2025-C-000145
Summers County

To: ESTATE OF ADA JACKSON, ESTATE OF ADA JACKSON, ESTATE OF ADA JACKSON C/O MARK A FOWLKES, ESTATE OF ADA JACKSON C/O STEPHANIE FOWLKES, ESTATE OF ADA JACKSON C/O WILLIAM JACKSON, ESTATE OF ADA JACKSON C/O JOHN JACKSON, ESTATE OF ADA JACKSON C/O TEDDY JACKSON, ESTATE OF ADA JACKSON C/O MICHAEL JACKSON, 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 TALCOTT MAP 25 PARCEL 0067 0001 0000

You will take notice that PAMELA WYNES, the purchaser of the following real estate, **Cert No.** 2025-C-000145, located in TALCOTT District, 1 LOT 53 X 170 TALCOTT which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of JACKSON ADA, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of SUMMERS County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on June 11, 2026. PAMELA WYNES requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after April 1, 2027, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before March 31, 2027 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 2024-13321 ....$583.57

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 2025-13331 .....$480.38

Additional taxes with interest $0.00

Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest $211.30

Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, Secretary of State with interest..... $985.32

Additional Statutory Fees with Interest $0.00

Total Amount Due and Payable to **WV State Auditor** - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check **$2,260.57**

You may redeem at any time before March 31, 2027 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 October 22, 2026.

Christal G. Perry
Christal G. Perry
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and
Nonentered Lands of SUMMERS County, State of West Virginia
(4,11,18no)

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, November 4, 2026

Claim Deadline: Sunday, January 3, 2027

ESTATE OF: RAMONA HOPKINS DOBBINS
EXECUTOR: CASSIDY TODD DOBBINS

ESTATE OF: WILLIAM EARL FLINT II
EXECUTOR: NATHAN WILLIAM FLINT

ESTATE OF: PATRICIA LORENE HOYLE HOUCHINS
ADMINISTRATOR: CHRISTOPHER DALE HOUCHINS

ESTATE OF: RAYMOND KENNETH WILLEY
EXECUTOR: DAVID KENNETH WILLEY

Subscribed and sworn to before me on October 28, 2026.

Donald R. Basham Jr.
Fiduciary Supervisor of Summers County
(4,11no)

APPENDIX A

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF WEST VIRGINIA
CHARLESTON

TARIFF FORM NO. 10
(Tariff Rule No. 19A)

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO CHANGE RATES

BIG BEND PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT
CASE NO. 26-0589-PWD-19A

The Big Bend Public Service District has filed a request with the West Virginia Public Service Commission for an increase in its rates. The Staff of the Public Service Commission has reviewed the application and recommended the following increase:

	CURRENT RATES	STAFF RECOMMENDED RATES
Rate (Customers with metered water supply, per 1,000 gallons per month)		
First 2,000 gallons	$18.16	$20.28
Next 4,000 gallons	$16.86	$18.83
Next 4,000 gallons	$13.84	$15.46
Next 15,000 gallons	$12.53	$14.00
Next 75,000 gallons	$11.89	$13.28
All over 100,000 gallons	$9.55	$10.67
Minimum Charge		
5/8 inch Meter	$36.32	$40.56
3/4 inch Meter	$54.48	$60.84
1 inch Meter	$90.80	$101.40
1 1/2 inch Meter	$181.60	$202.80
2 inch Meter	$290.56	$324.48
3 inch Meter	$544.80	$608.40
4 inch Meter	$908.00	$1,014.00
6 inch Meter	$1,816.00	$2,028.00
BULK RATE (per 1,000 gallons)		
Up to 200 gallons	$6.80	$7.60
Above 200 gallons	$27.21	$30.39
PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION (per year)		
For fire hydrant	$98.70	$110.25
For sprinkler systems	$394.78	$440.97

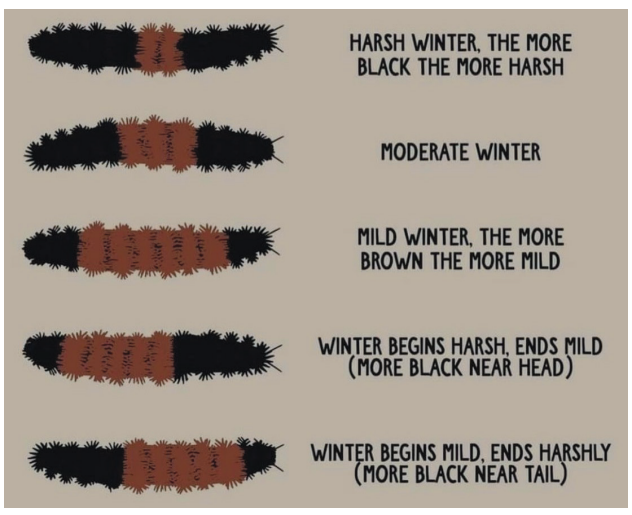
The Commission may adopt rates and charges for the District which are the same as, greater than or less than the Staff-recommended rates and charges.

Anyone desiring to protest the proposed changes must do so in writing within ten days of the date of publication of this notice. All protests should be addressed to the Executive Secretary, Public Service Commission of West Virginia, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, WV 25323. To help the Commission determine the justification for additional review and investigation, protests should be specific as to reasons that the changed rates and charges should be modified. In addition, anyone desiring a hearing in this matter must demand a hearing in the letter of protest. If no substantial protest is filed, the Staff-recommended rates may be approved without hearing.

BIG BEND PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT

The Woolly Worm's Winter Forecast: Folklore, Science, or both?





Susan Smith-Linton
The Hinton News

As nature prepares for the magical transition to fall with autumn colors, one of the many tales that mark the seasonal shift is the legend of the woolly worm, scientifically known as the Pyrrharctia Isabella or the Isabella tiger moth caterpillar.

As temperatures cool, the woolly worms emerge and begin their journey--seemingly searching for a place to hibernate--signaling the change of the season. These fuzzy creatures have distinctive markings; their black and brown bands have captivated imaginations for generations.

According to folklore, the caterpillar holds the secret to predicting the upcoming winter ahead. The blacker bands that it has, the harsher the winter will be, and the browner bands indicate a milder winter.

This folk belief has been passed down from generation to generation. There's even a Woolly Worm Festival in Banner Elk, North Carolina, this year marking the 49th held annually on the third Saturday in October. There's a woolly worm race during the festival, and the winning woolly worm gets the esteemed honor of predicting the weather for the High Country's winter!

Although the belief of the woolly worm prediction varies among individuals, it's a lighthearted tradition rather than a scientifically reliable forecast.

Have you spotted a woolly worm yet? I shared my photo taken at Organ Cave. According to the woolly worm in my backyard, it will be a mild winter. Time will tell!

Keep an eye out for the woolly worms' appearance, because in their delicate crawl lies a tale waiting to be discovered by those who seek the mystery of nature's secrets.

Pet of the Week: Meet Taku

MEET TAKU!

Looking for a little dog with a BIG personality? Well, let us introduce you to Taku!

This handsome, 25-pound Chihuahua mix is a whole lot of love wrapped up in one adorable little package! He's a neutered male, young adult, and an absolute cuddle bug.

Taku loves having his favorite humans nearby. He wants to keep you in sight, but he's also perfectly happy doing his own thing without being underfoot. He's a pretty well-rounded little guy, too!

Here's what we're learning about this sweet boy:

Gets along great with other dogs!

Thinks the cats might enjoy playing with him, too!

Appears to be housebroken and crate trained.

Walks fairly well on a leash.

LOVES his toys! His favorite dragon has been his sidekick, and he's proudly been dragging it around everywhere!

Now, you might notice Taku is still a little patchy in spots. This little trooper had a rough few months before finding his way to safety, but his beautiful coat is slowly growing back. He's already tolerated a bath (even if he wasn't exactly thrilled about spa day)!

Taku gets a BIG 10/10 recommendation! He's sweet as pie, has just a tiny bit of spice, and has a heart full of love.

Who wants to give this little dragon-loving cuddle bug the happily-ever-after he deserves?

ADOPT TAKU!







The Ritz
MOVIE SHOWTIMES - FRIDAY - MONDAY
• Fri. 7PM • Sat. 4PM & 7PM
• Sun. 2PM • Mon. 7PM
Starting Thanksgiving Day -
FREE ADMISSION To Holiday Movies Thursdays At 7PM

November 26	Elf
December 03	A Christmas Story
December 10	Polar Express (Golden Ticket event)
December 17	National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation
December 24	Gremlins

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