

Local

More winter weather headed this way

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Boys basketball

Morgantown High's home win streak ends

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Thursday



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OBITUARIES

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Hall, Judith Dulin Jr., Norwood Coombs Sr., William Smith Jr., Franklin Settles-Brown, LeAnna Dalton, Gerald Taylor, Llewellyn Kesler, Ray

STATE

Democratic Party sues to block GOP replacement for de Soto

BY STEVEN ALLEN ADAMS

For The Dominion Post

CHARLESTON - A legal fight is brewing over whether to appoint a Republican or a Democrat to the West Virginia House of Delegates seat previously held by Joseph de Soto after the former delegate-elect switched parties prior to facing felony charges for threatening fellow lawmakers.

The West Virginia Democratic Party announced Wednesday that it has filed a writ of mandamus with the state Supreme Court of Appeals seeking the high court to require Gov. Patrick Morrisey to select a replacement for de Soto from three names submitted by the Berkeley County Democratic **Executive Committee following** a vote on Jan. 8 by the House to consider de Soto's 91st District seat forfeited.

"This is not just about one seat," said Del. Mike Pushkin, D-Kanawha, chairman of the West Virginia Democratic Party. "This is about defending the rule of law and ensuring that the people of District 91 have their rightful representation in the House of Delegates. The actions taken by the House of Delegates undermine the integrity of our democratic process.'

The mandamus lawsuit which names House Speaker Roger Hanshaw, R-Clay, and Morrisey - is requesting that the Supreme Court require the House of Delegates to either seat de Soto as lawfully elected delegate for the 91st District and administer the oath of office as soon as de Soto is able

SEE **BLOCK**, A-2

MON COUNTY

Commission reacts to new transportation chief

BY BEN CONLEY

BConley@DominionPost.com

Hope springs eternal in the hearts of Monongalia County Commissioners - at least when it comes to the county's onagain, off-again relationship with the West Virginia Division of Highways brass.

Members of the commission on Wednesday reacted to news

as the state's transportation explained in an email to MPO as 2025 shapes up to be a big secretary.

Todd Rumbaugh has been tapped by Governor Patrick Morrisey to fill that role.

"Mr. Rumbaugh is a long time WVDOH employee who has been serving as deputy

Policy Board members. "I have had the privilege of working with him in the past and he seems amenable to working with local communities."

Commissioner Tom Bloom said he believes a change in commissioner of highways leadership in Charleston as for construction," Morgan- well as in Clarksburg, where town Monongalia Metropolitan new DOH District 4 Director Planning Organization Ex- Earl Gaskins is now in charge, that Jimmy Wriston is out ecutive Director Bill Austin will be positive for the county

year for local road projects.

"I'm excited for a revitalization of communication and a working relationship to accomplish our mutual goals," Bloom said. "I believe next year will be called 'the year of road improvements in Monongalia County."

Bloom points to Green SEE CHIEF A-2

A CLOSER LOOK AT WVU GUARANTEE



A new last-dollar-in program, WVU Guarantee is open to resident undergraduate students across the WVU System — including at WVU Morgantown, WVU Institute of Technology and WVU Potomac State College — with a family adjusted gross income of \$65,000 or less who annually complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

BY DAVID BEARD

DBeard@DominionPost.com

Following Monday's announcement of its new financial aid effort, WVU Guarantee, the elaborated university on some aspects of the program in response to questions from The Dominion Post.

WVU Guarantee is open to resident undergraduate students at Morgantown, WVU Tech and Potomac State College whose family adjusted gross income is \$65,000 or less. Students must complete the annual FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

The program is "last dollar in," meaning it supplements other financial aid: Scholarships and federal aid. It will cover all remaining tuition and fees. For the fall 2025 program kickoff, students must complete their FAFSA forms by Aug. 1.

Upon admission, students are automatically

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Submitted photo

Steve Hahn

evaluated for eligibility in WVU Guarantee and no further action is necessary – including waiting for the federal response to the FAFSA giving the family estimated contribution.

Interim Vice President for Enrollment Steve Hahn supplied the answers to our ques-

Annual program cost

"The investments in WVU Guarantee will vary from year to year based on the number of students who quali-

fy for the program and what other financial aid — federal and state grants, scholarships, etc. — those students are eligible to receive," Hahn said.

Because it's last dollar in, WVU Guarantee will look different for each qualifying individual resident student because each student has different financial needs.

"Hypothetically, when we apply our model to the current class already here, we find that more than 400 students would have benefited in some way from this new program and the cost of doing it would have been less than \$900,000 this year, for a ballpark median value to the student of about \$2,000 – but this is simply an average. Some will be less; some will be more."

Hahn said WVU is telling incoming and current resident students "that we will guarantee

all other financial aid explored, to ensure uncovered tuition and fee costs don't keep anyone from coming to WVU or returning to WVU."

Could annual costs escalate?

We asked this question having in mind the PROMISE scholarship program, which began as a full-ride scholarship but over time had to be modified to include an award cap.

Hahn said that because WVU Guarantee is last dollar in, "the additional expenditure to make this guarantee is affordable and we don't see our cost structures changing sufficiently to necessitate a cap. Of course, if there would be significant structural changes made to the federal financial aid program or to our in-state aid programs, both outside of our control, we would need to assess in to close any gap, once the light of these new

changes. But as of this opportunities have been time we don't foresee the need for a cap."

Funding source

"With WVU Guarantee, the university is making a new kind of investment in our students and, in turn, the Mountain State's future by realigning the resources we have. In doing so, we will ensure we are focused on the areas that will most immediately benefit and resonate with our students and their families. We view the financial investment as fairly minimal relative to the return to the students

and our state.' In the short term, he said, WVU will implement WVU Guarantee using internal resources. and also explore the possibility of donor support.

WVU supports current students in a number of ways through the use of internal scholarships and other SEE LOOK, A-2



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Fire destroys businesses on Frolic Lane









Ron Rittenhouse/The Dominion Post photos

DPNews@DominionPost.com

A fire broke out at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, destroying Kash King Towing and Charlie's Auto Repair, two businesses working out of the same building at 56 Frolic Lane, off of Aaron's Creek Road.

Keith Seymour, who owns the building that housed the businesses, was out delivering firewood – and by the time he got back around 5 p.m., both businesses were fully engulfed, he said.

He praised Clinton District, Granville and Cheat Lake volunteer fire crews for their quick response and for keeping the flames away from a neighboring

The fire isn't suspicious in origin, he said, though the State Fire Marshal is still trying to determine the exact cause and assess the damage.

A total of eight cars and a motorcycle, as well as the building, were destroyed in the blaze. Seymour said he vows to rebuild.

CONTACT

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CLARIFY

The Dominion Post strives to publish accurate information. If a factual error does occur, notify Managing Editor Katie McDowell by emailing editor@dominionpost.com

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BLOCK

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to appear in the House Chamber as required by the state Constitution, or require Morrisey to accept the three placement recommendations for de Soto as submitted by the Berkeley County Democratic Executive Committee.

The lawsuit can be found at:

https://embed.documentcloud.org/documents/25491965-wvsca-wvdp-petition-for-mandamus-14jan2025/?em-

"We urge the Governor to do the right thing, uphold the law, and appoint one of the nominees submitted by the Berkeley County Democratic Executive Committee," Pushkin said.

A request for comment from Hanshaw and Morrisey was not returned.

The Berkeley County Democratic Executive Committee submitted the following names to Morrisey to succeed de Soto: Hedgesville residents David Michaels and Stephen Willingham, and Timothy Lee of Inwood.

During last week's oneday organization session of the Legislature, the House adopted House Resolution 4, declaring that de Soto's 91st District seat vacant after de Soto was unable to travel to Charleston to take his oath due to being placed on home confinement following felony charges of making terroristic threats to lawmakers in December.

De Soto was arrested on Dec. 12 after a West Vir-



Photo Courtesy/WV Supreme Court of Appeals

The West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals could determine whether a Republican or a Democrat is appointed to the House of Delegates seat of former delegate-elect Joseph de Soto.

ginia State Police investi- until 10 days following the Berkeley County Republigation into threats made by de Soto to another person regarding several lawmakers stemming from April 12. a closed-door meeting of the House Republican caucus on Dec. 8, where members agreed to move forward with expulsion of de Soto over allegedly false claims about his military service. De Soto was placed on home confinement after posting a \$150,000 bond. A Berkeley County magistrate also submitted de Soto's case to a grand jury.

The state Constitution requires legislators to take their oath of office within the House Chamber: something de Soto is unable to do due to being on home confinement orders from House members barring de Soto from the State Capitol Building

conclusion of the 2025 regular legislative session, which ends on Saturday,

De Soto was elected in November as a Republican, but records from the Secretary of State's Office show that de Soto switched to a registered Democrat on Dec. 11 one day before his arrest. State Code 3-10-5 requires legislative vacancies to be filled by the governor from a list of three qualified individuals submitted by a political party executive committee of the same party of the office holder.

However, HR 4 makes the case that since de Soto was never seated as a member, never sworn and with two protective in, and with his seat being considered forfeited, that means the seat remains a Republican seat, with the

can Executive Committee being able to submit three names to Morrisey to succeed de Soto.

Matt Herridge, chairman of the West Virginia Republican Party, confirmed Wednesday that the Berkeley County Republican Executive Committee was concluding its legislative vacancy nomination process for the 91st District this week and will submit its three nominees to the Governor's Office soon. Herridge said the state party supports HR 4.

"On this matter, we agree with the logic, precedent, and remedy detailed in HR 4, introduced by Speaker Hanshaw and adopted by the house last week," Herridge said.

Steven Allen Adams can be reached at sadams@ newsandsentinel.com

LOOK

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mechanisms that can and do shift around from year to year, he said. "In many ways, WVU Guarantee is an extension of the financial aid support we've already been providing on a large scale to ensure WVU remains affordable and accessible to West Virginia's students.

'This program simply formalizes that support for an important segment of our current and future student population. We believe that this represents a good use of our resources as we seek to expand access to higher education and, in doing so, change the trajectory of our students' futures and serve the needs of the state."

What happens in tight budget years?

"We are enacting this program to remove bar-

riers to higher education for all the citizens of our state, and we hope that students who previously may not have seen WVU as an option for their education will now think of us. Whatever success we have in attracting those students will be additive to our budget position."

Family income cap

WVU noted in Monday's program announcement that should a student's family AGI rise above the \$65,000 threshold after their initial enrollment as an undergraduate, WVU will continue to honor the program's benefits.

We asked for some elaboration on that, working from a hypothetical where a family's income suddenly rose from \$65,000 to \$265,000; and raised issues of fairness and subsidizing a student who no longer needs it.

Hahn said, "One of the hallmarks of our new

program is that it is a guarantee, and we are making a commitment to our students. We want our students to graduate and become fantastic, contributing West Virginia citizens. This requires multi-year commitment, because that's how our students and parents plan. So, given the definition of a guarantee, the above situation [our hypothetical] could happen and that is the price of offering a guarantee."

Hahn noted that a more fall below the AGI threshold later, due to a change in family or personal circumstances. "We would evaluate these students and use professional judgment to consider their candidacy for the program going forward.

Loans

It initially appeared in the program materials that the last-dollar-in aspect also included any federal loans that might result from the FAFSA application. We learned that this is not the case.

Hahn said, "WVU never requires students to take a loan and loans would not be required for tuition and university fees relative to the WVU Guarantee. So, we would apply the Guarantee without the need for loans.

"Some students may likely scenario is often have additional scholthe reverse: Students will arships or aid covering expenses like housing and meals, or it's possible that a loan would be used for these purposes. Even without the WVU Guarantee program, our student loan debt is lower than for similar schools, due to the affordability of our tuition and the aid already available to students."

CHIEF

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Bag Road, the University Avenue/Collins Ferry roundabout, the temporary lights on Chaplin Hill at Exit 155, the new Morgantown Industrial Park access bridge, the Exit 155 interchange upgrades, the new Harmony Grove interchange and modifications to Willey Street as major projects that will either be under construction or make significant progress to that end in 2025.

"It's exciting to hear about our new DOT secretary. We're hoping to real-

ly hit the ground running WVU Medicine facility, increased turning radius with a lot of projects we have going on," Commissioner Sean Sikora said.

meeting, Wednesday's Granville Mayor Patty Lewis provided an update on the forthcoming University Town Centre traffic lights that have been a topic of discussion since September 2021.

The lights will cost just over \$1 million split three ways between Granville, the county and developer WestRidge. They'll address two problem areas - one where University Town Centre Drive passes between Walmart and the

and another at the bottom of the hill between Granville Square and Sesame In other news from Drive, which provides access to Chick-fil-A, Wendy's, Panda Express, etc.

"All four pole foundations at the Walmart intersection have achieved the required depth. The rebar and anchor bolts were installed, concrete was poured and an independent concrete inspection is being conducted to make sure it meets all the cold weather requirements for curing," Lewis said. "Blue and Gold Development, as a subcontractor, has started grading activities for the

at the Walmart intersection for the pedestrian crossing at that site."

Foundation work at the Sesame Drive pole sites was expected to be complete this week, but has been slowed by the weather.

Lastly, the commission approved a request from Monongalia County Abandoned & Dilapidated Property Enforcement Agency to move properties at 16 Pond Road, 1 Red Bud Lane and 38 Dews Ave. to the complaint stage of the county's enforcement process.





OBITUARIES

LeAnna Monique Settles-Brown

LeAnna Monique Settles-Brown held onto to life with serenity and a passion for family until GOD blessed her and awarded her with life in HEAVEN Thursday, January 9, 2025. After longterm sickness her pain has ended. GOD declared it was a time for healing, and He sent angels to escort LeAnna to the Kingdom of Heaven. They rejoiced and ascended to the 'highest ground'.

LeAnna born was March 25, 1979, in Uniontown, to proud parents, Tamarra Harris and Marvin Settles, Sr.

She attended Uniontown Senior High School. She later earned her GED and briefly attended West Virginia University.

Her love for all people and art was exemplified in her working career. Years of assisting customers and providing service as a cashier at Save A Lot, before enjoying a decade long position with Davis Lynch Glass Factory in Star City, Wyo., where she handled all processes including shipping and manufacturing ornamen-

LeAnna adored her husband of 12 years, James P. "JP" Brown.

She leaves to cherish her husband of 12 years, mother, Tamarra Har- com



ris and stepfather, Craig, whom she admired and loved; her father, Marvin Settles, Sr.; children, Jenae Poole, Taryk Poole, Shailyn Poole, Avonna Brown, SuCora Brown, and Jamyz Brown; stepson, Jadon Frezzell; grandchildren, Chantz, Kinston, Sareniti, and Bella; brothers, Marvin Settles, Jr. and Justin (April) Settles; stepsiblings; grandmother, Leola Bryant; special aunt, Rose Thompson; other aunts, uncles, cousins, other relatives, and friends.

Friends will be received from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., the time of the funeral service, Saturday, January 18, in the LANTZ FUNER-AL HOME, INC., 297 E. Main Street, Uniontown. Interment is private.

Condolences and floral tributes may be submit-James P. "JP" Brown; ted through www.lantzfh.

Llewellyn Alton Taylor

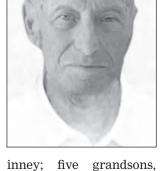
Llewellyn "Lee" Alton Taylor passed away Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at the age of 77. He was born to the late Parely and Dorothy Gamble Taylor, in Morgantown, January 9,

In his youth, Lee moved to Youngstown, Ohio, where he spent many years employed at the steel mill. His strong work ethic never wavered, even after the mill's closure.

He continued to contribute to his community as a proud member of the Laborers Union Local #125 until his retirement.

Lee was the epitome of a handy man; he could always be found tinkering in his garage, and was never one to sit still. His hands, now at rest, have left a lasting imprint on the world that will never be forgotten.

Lee leaves behind a loving family: his brother, Gaylord Taylor; sister, Alberta McIe; daughters, Crystal, and Robin McK-



three and five great-grandchil-

He now joins his parents; his brother, Duane Taylor; his sisters, Al. ing lifetime memories, vada and Eldora Taylor; driving and working on and his daughter, MeShell Watkins in eternal rest.

Friends and family are invited to gather at Fred L. Jenkins Funeral Home from 10 a.m. until the time of service at 12 noon Friday, January 17.

Condolences at fredjenkinsfuneralhome.com

Franklin C. Smith,

Jr.

Franklin C. Smith, Jr.,

A gathering will be held

75, of Waynesburg, passed

away Monday, January 13,

from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m.

Saturday, January 18, in

the Fred L. Jenkins Fu-

neral Home, Morgantown.

A funeral service will fol-

low at 10 a.m. Sunday, Jan-

uary 19, with visitation

beginning at 10 until the

about Frank's life and leg-

acy, please visit www.fred-

jenkinsfuneralhome.com

For the full obituary

service at 11 a.m.

2025, in Morgantown.

Ray M. Kesler

Ray M. Kesler, 98, of Morgantown, passed away Sunday, January 12, 2025, in his home in Suncrest, where he resided for more than 60 years.

Friends and family will be received Saturday, January 25, in St. Thomas a Becket Episcopal Church, 75 Old Cheat Road, Morgantown from 11 a.m. until the time of the funeral service at 1 p.m., with the Rev. Michael Delk officiating. The service will be live streamed from the church website at https:// www.stthomasabecket. org Following the funeral services, cremation services will be provided by Hastings Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Red Cross, P.O. Box 37839, Boone, IA 50037-0839.

A full obituary will appear in the Sunday edition of The Dominion Post.

Send condolences at www.hastingsfuneral

home.com





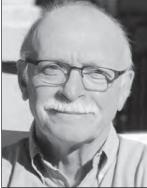
Norwood Franklin Dulin, Jr.

Norwood Franklin "Frank" Dulin, Jr. passed away in his home Thursday, December 26, 2024.

Frank was very well known for his brilliance, humor, generosity, kindness and drive to always be a better person. Frank graduated from West Virginia University with a degree in mining engineering, magna cum laude. He also was an accomplished mechanical engineer and was a certified professional engineer. He retired as vice president, Engineering at Swanson Industries, where he made key achievements to grow the business and became one of the majority owners of Swanson Industries and Morgantown Machine and Hydraulics.

Frank was a loving father, husband, brother, and son.

He was preceded in death by his father, Norwood Franklin Dulin; his mother, Mary Woodall Dulin Summers.



He leaves behind his Kimmie Beard wife, Dulin; two children, Matthew Christopher Dulin and Amy Richelle Dulin; kins; and sister, Judy Verbosky. He is also survived wife, Agnes in 1952. by his previous wife, Ricki Dulin Gardner.

ple he considered family rist Association. and friends.

Judith Rhoda Chatfield Hall

Judith Rhoda Chatfield Hall, 93, of Morgantown, passed away peacefully, in her home, Monday, November 25, 2024. She was born in New York, N.Y., a daughter of the late Henry Chatfield and the late Sonia Sigberman Chat-

Friends and family will be received at Hastings Funeral Home, 153 Spruce Street, Morgantown, Saturday, January 18 from 3 p.m. until the Celebration of Life at 4 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made, in Judith's memory, to the Nature Conservancy of West Virginia, 435 Wilson Street, Elkins, WV 26241 (please write TNC West Virginia on the memo line) or at www.nature.



org/donatewv; or the WVU Foundation- The Judith and John Hall Arts and Sciences Library Endowment (Fund # 3L157), 1 Waterfront Place 7th Floor, Morgantown, WV

Condolences may be made to the family at www.hastingsfuneral home.com

(H) astings

Gerald Ray Dalton

Gerald Ray Dalton, 84, er, Merle Dalton and wife of Morgantown, passed away Monday, January granddaughters, 13, 2025, in his home. Gerald was born April 5, 1940, a son of the late Wilbur and Lucille Dalton.

> Gerald enjoyed telltrucks/equipment, logging, and dirt track races.

Gerald was first employed by Sterling Faucet as an over-the-road truck driver and then drove for Coastal Tank Lines.

In 1969, he purchased his first truck and became self-employed. In addition, he was a longtime business owner of a sawmill located on the Kingwood Pike.

Gerald is survived by and wife Cheryl; daughter, Elizabeth "Liz" Dalton; sister, Carol Lantz and husband Gail; broth-

Mary; niece and nephews, Mike Lantz, Willis Dalton and Carrie Dalton.

In addition to his parents, Gerald was preceded in death by his brother, Derald Gav Dalton.

Friends and family will be received from 3 to 8 p.m. Thursday, January 16, in Mt. Pleasant Church, 1700 Kingwood Pike, Morgantown, WV 26508, where visitation will continue from 11 a.m. until the time of the funeral service at 1 p.m. Friday, January 17, with Pastor Donna Dalton officiating and Kathy Dalton assisting. Interment will follow at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.

Send condolences at his son, Nolan Dalton hastingsfuneralhome.

(H) astings

NEWS IN BRIEF

Associated Press

Mediators herald Gaza ceasefire, hostage deal

DOHA, Qatar — Mediators say Israel and Hamas agreed to a ceasefire deal to pause the devastating 15-month war in the Gaza Strip, raising the possibility of winding down the deadliest and most destructive fighting between the bitter enemies. The threephase deal, announced Wednesday in the Qatari capital, promises the release of dozens of hostages held by militants in Gaza and hundreds of Palestinian prisoners in Israel, and it would allow hundreds of thousands of displaced people in Gaza to return to what remains of their homes. It also would flood badly needed humanitarian aid into the devastated territory. Qatar's prime minister said the deal would go into effect on Sunday. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu says final details still need ironing

Winds, arsonists complicate fight against LA-area wildfires as crews report progress

LOS ANGELES — Firefighters have reported significant gains against the two massive wildfires burning around Los Angeles while also extinguishing smaller blazes set by arsonists. The progress was reported Wednesday as a final round of windy, flame-fanning weather moved through Southern California. With winds picking up again, much of the nation's second-most populous metropolitan region was still on alert for new outbreaks and flareups from the fires that have killed at least 25 people and destroyed thousands of homes. Better conditions expected in the coming days should help fire crews make even more headway and allow residents to return to their neighborhoods to begin rebuilding.

William Howard Coombs, Sr.

William "Bill" Howard Coombs, Sr., 99, of Morgantown, passed away Sunday, January 12, 2025, in Mon Health Medical Center. He was born March 20, 1925, in Morgantown, a son of the late Wilbur and Margaret Reiner Coombs.

Bill attended St. Paul Lutheran Church. He was a graduate of Morgantown High School and West Virginia University.

Bill served in the United States Army during World War II and received the Purple Heart.

He was formerly employed by the U.S. Forestry grandson, William Per Department and opened Coombs Flowers with his

He was the past president of the West Virginia One of the quotes Frank Region of FTD. He was the said on a daily basis was: FTD Florist of The Year in "If you do good things 1978 and was the president and live life the right way, of the Mid-Atlantic Florist good things will happen to Association in 1981. He you". Frank will be deeply also held membership in missed by the many peo- the Southern Retail Flo-

In his free time, he enjoyed reading, watching movies and gardening.

He was a member of the Suncrest Garden Club, Beaumont Dance Club and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

He is survived by his children, Anne Vineyard (Stott), Bill Coombs, Jr. (Karen), and Jim Coombs (JB); grandchildren, Lauren Byrer (Mark), John Coombs, Kathryn Heiskell (Skip), Christian Vineyard (Julie), Mike Coombs (Janet), Kaleb Blankenship; and nine great- grandchildren. Bill is also survived by his stepdaughter, Rebecca Glenn (Stan); his stepdaughter-in-law, Donna Prince; six stepgrandchildren; and 19 stepgreat-grandchildren. He is also survived by several extended family members and friends, including Emil and Tobi, who were two exchange students that were like family

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife of 52 years, Agnes Marie Miller Coombs; second wife, June B. Coombs; brother, Carl Coombs; his grandchild, Sean Coombs; and stepson, Larry Prince.







Memorial donations may be made, in honor of Bill's service to his country, to The Wounded Warrior Project at www. woundedwarriorproject. Friends and family will be received at Hastings Funeral Home, 153 Spruce Street, Morgantown, from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday, January 17, and again from 10 until the time of the service at 11 a.m. Saturday, January 18, with the Rev. J.B. Blankenship-Coombs officiating. A committal service will take place at East Oak Grove Cemetery, with full military rites being conducted by VFW Post #9916, #548, and the United States

Condolences may be made to the family at www. hastingsfuneralhome.com

Hastings





Justin Dalton

Tabitha Whetzel

Matt Dabson

www.fredjenkinsfuneralhome.com

Morgantown, WV

(304) 296-6446

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EDITORIAL



Benjamin Powell/The Dominion Post

Patrick Morrisey is all smiles as he is sworn in as West Virginia's 37th governor Monday at the Capitol in Charleston.

Residents to count on W.Va.'s elected team

Gov. Patrick Morrisey gave us a peek at his inspiration when he touched on points from the presidential administrations of Ronald Reagan and George W. Bush during his inauguration ceremony Monday. Rather than Reagan's "shining city on a hill," Morrisey repeatedly referred to West Virginia as "that shining state in the mountains." Later, he appeared to give a nod to Bush's No Child Left Behind education initiative by saying we will aim to assure every child has a chance to thrive and that "We will leave no one behind."

It is encouraging to hear our new governor say he is focusing on hope — becoming economically competitive, doing right by our students AND those working in the public school system, continuing to attack the substance abuse epidemic and being a beacon of opportunity and prosperity for

Certainly, he has showed his willingness to get to work quickly on that which he believes is important for achieving those goals.

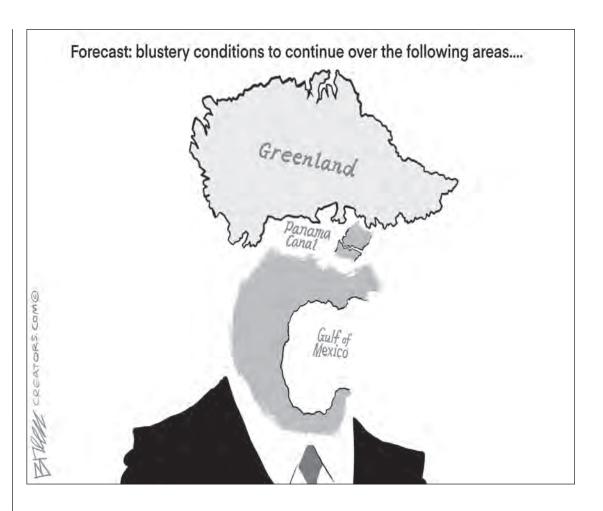
On Tuesday, in Washington, D.C., U.S. Sen. Jim Justice, R-W.Va., took the oath of office to join U.S. Sen. Shelley Moore Capito, R-W.Va., in getting to work for the Mountain State there.

Justice understands it is "time to set America on the right path," and that he has a job to do.

'Together, we can work in tandem to implement the changes that West Virginians demanded for our country at the ballot box in November," Capito said. "I'm excited for all he will accomplish as a Senator and look forward to the results we

can deliver for the Mountain State as a unified team."

West Virginia's team — from our senior senator in the nation's capital to the greenest member of the House of Delegates in Charleston — knows what Mountain State residents expect of them. If they keep their focus on providing the hope, opportunity and prosperity about which Morrisey spoke, we will be a shining state in the mountains, indeed.



The reality Hollywood can't change

We recall the catastrophic fires in Maui almost two years ago, then the horde of unusually violent hurricanes trashing Florida's west coast. To the surprise of many, those storms unleashed cataclysmic flooding in western North Carolina, up there in the mountains. All these extreme weather events were tied in part to warming temperatures. As for wiping out large parts of an entire civilization, though, nothing can match the wildfires torching community after community in and

But in the case of Los Angeles, the problem isn't just climate change. It's the climate itself.

around Los Angeles.

Hollywood could build outdoor sets resembling New Guinea's tropical rainforests. But that didn't change the reality that California, as much of the West, is arid and has always been. Warming temperatures make it more arid.

Los Angeles is drier than Beirut. Sacramento is as dry as the Sahel, an African region bordering the Sahara Desert. Even San Francisco gets only a bit more rain than Chihuahua. Across the border in Reno, annual precipitation is seven inches. Florida and Louisiana can see that much rainfall in a day. Climate change threatens them, too, but with flooding.

These grim statistics were laid out almost 40 years ago by Marc Reisner in his masterpiece, "Cadillac Desert: The American West and Its Disappearing Water." He describes the parched reality of

our West and the extreme measures all those dams and irrigation projects -- taken to hide that fact.

the explorer John Wesley Powell drew a line down the

North American midsection, from Manitoba down through the Dakotas, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and into Mexico. It was the "Hundredth Meridian" -- the 100th line of longitude west, dividing the humid East from the drier West.

FROMA

HARROP

Americans moving west tried to recreate the world of green lawns and golf courses left behind in Kentucky and Wisconsin. Deserts have their own beauty, but many didn't see it. For a long time, Reno banned water metering.

ing in what's now San Francisco when Spanish explorer Juan Manuel de Ayala sailed into the bay in 1775. "Today," Reisner wrote, "Golden Gate Park looks as if Virginia had mated with Borneo, thanks to water brought nearly two hundred miles by tunnel." The same kind of water system supplies the ravaged neighborhoods of Los Angeles.

And so the new inhabitants started off with an uphill climb to stave off and hide the West's natural dryness. But climate change is most certainly defeating many of these efforts as it makes dry

areas dryer.

And climate scientists now fear that many places are getting hotter than their earlier models predicted. That seems to be especially the case in locations where large numbers of people live.

President-elect Trump vows to undo President Joe Biden's ambitious agenda to address climate change and move the country -- and world -- away from planet-warming fossil fuels. Trump has shown himself useless in addressing this existential threat, denying it even exists.

California is obviously no stranger to calamitous fires. The 2018 Camp Fire in the Sierra Nevada foothills leveled the town of Paradise, destroying more than 18,000 structures and killing 85 people.

The Pacific Palisades, Altadena and other currently ravaged areas are densely populated. Their firefighting infrastructure was created to There was not a tree grow- put out house fires, not massive conflagrations whipped by the Santa Ana winds.

> Many burned-out residents valiantly vow to rebuild. Can they adjust to living in increasingly arid conditions? They will have to.

America, meanwhile, faces a new leadership in Washington pathologically hostile to confronting climate change. But even after the Trump era passes into bizarre memory, the American West will be arid. God made it that way.

Follow Froma Harrop on Twitter @FromaHarrop. She can be reached at fharrop@gmail.com.

Carter's kindest media eulogists were rough on Reagan

In all the somber coverage of canned piece Jimmy Carter's death, the audience could and should expect the tone of kindness that wafts that hammered over wakes and funerals. Each Reagan president served as leader of our nation, shouldering a great burden over a large country with an ever-enlarging govern-

But sometimes the tributes after his presigrow a little too treacly. CBS reporter Lesley Stahl mourned during the state funeral in cheap shot. It looks even cheap-Washington that Carter was already unpopular when she became a White House correspondent in 1979. But she complishing so much more than we realized when he was president. He turns out not to all."

America in 1980 was mired in inflation and a hostage crisis and the Soviet Union expanded should pretend Carter didn't project weakness?

reporter Jerry getting a cozy home loan and "cashing in' with personal appearances dency was over. It was a very



er with the post-presidential cash-ins by the Clintons and the Obamas.

A few days later, CBS "60 claimed Carter "ended up ac- Minutes" veteran Morley Safer gruffly dismissed Reagan on Larry King's show on CNN: "I don't think history has any have been a weak president at reason to be kind to him." Safer wanted History to be cemented in the leftist media's hostile first draft.

Ronald Reagan drew mostinto Afghanistan. But now we ly positive or at least sensitive coverage when his time came. But we still found the Democrat This is quite different from itch coming through. Early on, CBS when Ronald Reagan died there was this CNN on-screen in 2004. Within minutes of the text: "BY-PRODUCT OF 'REAnews of Reagan's death hit- GANOMICS': HUGE BUDGET ting the television, CBS ran a DEFICITS." ABC's Sam DonWITHIN MINUTES OF THE NEWS OF REAGAN'S DEATH HITTING THE TELEVISION, CBS RAN A CANNED PIECE BY REPORTER JERRY BOWEN THAT HAMMERED REAGAN FOR GETTING A COZY HOME LOAN AND "CASHING IN" WITH PERSONAL APPEARANCES AFTER HIS PRESIDENCY WAS OVER. IT WAS A VERY CHEAP SHOT.

aldson blamed the big deficit on Reagan for "stubbornly" refusing to raise taxes.

Later, Donaldson claimed if you said, "'Mr. President, I'm down on my luck,' he would literally give you the shirt off his back. And then he'd sit down in his undershirt and he'd sign legislation throwing your kids off school lunch programs, maybe your parents off Social Security, and of course the Welfare Queen off of welfare.'

Associated Press reporter Beth Fouhy provided this less-than-objective analysis: "By persuading Congress to approve sweeping tax cuts for the that still challenges political

wealthy while slashing welfare benefits and other social services like the federal housing assistance program, Reagan was blamed for a huge surge in the nation's poor and homeless population."

Somehow both were true: Reagan exploded the deficit, and mercilessly cut off spending for the vulnerable. The allegations of "slashing" social spending were perpetually overwrought.

But the first AP dispatch upon Carter's death hinted Carter was a very special leader. Bill Barrow and Alex Sanz insisted, "Carter forged a path

assumptions and stands out among the 45 men who reached the nation's highest office. The 39th president leveraged his ambition with a keen intellect, deep religious faith and prodigious work ethic."

To these journalists who tout Carter as keen and deep and prodigious, whenever Carter is maligned in retrospect, he is misunderstood.

For political purposes, these historical images are mostly useful in terms of the political parties shaping their own image. Carter has long been a drag on the Democrat image, so trying to "correct" it is unsurprising.

Journalists have noted how Biden and Carter were each defeated on similar "misfortunes" like inflation and foreign crises. Uh-oh. Biden has reopened his party's wound of domestic ineptitude and global weakness. Lesley Stahl and Sam Donaldson can only accomplish so much.

Tim Graham is director of media analysis at the Media Research Center and executive editor of the blog NewsBusters.org.



Something for all in Mountaineer **Country**

HAPPY NEW YEAR! HERE IN MOUNTAINEER COUNTRY, WE ARE THRILLED TO WELCOME 2025 AND ALL OF THE EXCIT-ING OPPORTUNITIES THAT COME ALONG WITH IT. Whether you want to avoid the cold and stay cozy inside, or get out and make the most of the winter months, there's something for everyone in Monongalia County. We've gathered a list of some of our favorite upcoming events to ensure you start the New Year off strong. From live music, unique tea classes and local farmers markets, there's truly something for everyone (and resolution) in Mountaineer Country.

If you'd like more information on events in and around Morgantown, there are a variety of resources to be found at VisitMountaineerCountry.com. Plus, follow us @VisitMountaineerCountry on all major social media platforms, or search "Visit Mountaineer Country" on the Apple App Store or Google Play Store to download our free trip planner app. There, you can plan your ideal day trip/staycation in Monongalia, Preston, and Taylor counties, all while saving money on lodging, dining, and shopping with our Mountaineer Deals.

Mountain Stage Concert, 7 p.m. Sunday

Experience an unforgettable evening of live music at this year's Mountain Stage. Hosted by Grammy Award winner Kathy Mattea, the event will feature a diverse lineup of folk, blues, country, indie rock and more. Don't miss performances by talented artists such as Jim Lauderdale, Sister Sadie, Crys Matthews, Jedd Hughes and Critton Hollow. The show takes place at 7 p.m. Sunday at the WVU Canady Creative Arts Center on Sunday. Tickets are available starting at just \$10. Don't miss the chance to watch an exceptional performance.

Tea Class: Chai Something New, 1 p.m. Jan. 25

Are you hoping to chai

something new in 2025? Antiquitea House has you covered. Learn about the different flavor profiles of chai tea and how it's different from other blends. Through this experimental class of "tea sipformation" guests can sample a range of chai teas, learn where they form, and see how they're blended and prepared. This is the perfect opportunity to find your next favorite warm drink to keep you cozy this winter. Whether you're passionate about tea or looking for a unique experience, don't forget to

February Farmer's Market, 10 a.m. Feb. 1

preregister for this event.

Tickets are \$15 and guests can claim their spot in

person or call ahead at

304-241-5237.

Keep your winter diet fresh and support local farmers at the first February Farmer's Market. The market is held at the Monongalia County Center, and features produce all sourced within 50 miles. Shop through locally-raised meats, eggs, mushrooms, baked goods, honey, maple syrup, grains, plants, bodycare items and more local goods.

Details for this event and others can be found at VisitMountaineerCountry.com/Events

Stay Connected to Mountaineer Country

For the latest updates and tourism information in Mountaineer Country, sign up for our e-newsletter at VisitMountaineer-Country.com, and follow @ VisitMountaineerCountry on social media. Use the hashtag, #VisitMountaineerCountry in your posts for a chance to be featured on our social media.

Mountaineer Visit Country CVB strives to increase the tourism economy by marketing and selling the destination to our guests by "wowing" them and encouraging them to stay one more night and spend one more dollar.

No more snow days



The icicles on this Richwood Avenue home offer a telling snapshot of the area's recent weather conditions. With temperatures in the single digits on Wednesday, Mononogalia County school officials made the decision to use another snow day - the last it had available for the season.

Mon Schools will have to make up any additional used

BY JIM BISSETT

JBissett@DominionPost.com

Bob Dylan didn't have Monongalia County Schools in mind when he sang about not needing a weatherman to know which way the wind blows.

However, the winds of late across Morgantown and the region have been howling on the icy, arctic side - which is why the district is now fresh out of snow days for the winter season.

In fact, things are now in the negative on the weather ledger.

That's because the mercury only made it up to the single digits Wednesday morning, prompting the county to call another snow day.

The forced the cancellation of an event at the district bus garage at Mylan Park to celebrate the earlier arrival of three new electric buses in the fleet.

Mon Schools Superintendent Eddie Campbell Jr. talked meteorology with Board of Education members during their first meeting of the new



Warming temperatures over the next few days may help melt some of these icicles, but with more frigid weather predicted for next week, Mon Schools could likely be calling an Arctic Academy day or two.

vear Tuesday night.

He knows that any around it.' school calendar to make the hit the state-mandated 180-day instruction mark for the academic year.

This prompted a timely weather query from Mike Kelly, BOE president.

"I'm going to ask the 'elephant in the room' question: Spring break? I'm asking because I know there are families who plan vacations

mean dipping into the on spring break," came forecaster said. superintendent's up for the deficiency and reply. "And we do have three Arctic Academy days left."

> Arctic Academy days are discretionary days the district has in its pocket for conditions that might be rough in terms of windchill factors and the like.

Conditions, Campbell said, that could be dangerous for students waiting at bus stops on dark, frigid mornings.

'We don't want to put kids in precarious situations," he said.

Deputy Superintendent Donna Talerico praised the district's maintenance staff for making school campuses safer over the past two weeks by ensuring sidewalks and parking lots were free of snow and ice.

"And that includes Saturdays and Sundays," she said. "We have great employees."

Temperatures, meanwhile, will make significant, warming leaps for the rest of this week, according to AccuWeather.

Look for a high of 32 snow days to come will "Right now, we're fine and a low of 29 today, the

Friday's high is projected at 38, AccuWeather said, with temperatures of 44 expected on Saturday to go with bouts of rain or drizzle.

Don't get too comfortable, though - daytime highs only in the single-digits and teens are predicted for next week, along with lows as frigid as -12 on Tuesday.

COMMUNITY

AmeriCorps celebrates MLK Day through service

DPNews@DominionPost.com

Hundreds of Morgantown residents will serve as volunteers on the annual Martin Luther King Jr., holiday to honor the life and legacy of Dr. King, improve their communities, and celebrate the 30th anniversary of the National Day of Service. Volunteers will join in a book drive event with book readings, coloring activities, crafts and cookies, joining hundreds of thousands of Americans unteer service.

Observed each year on the third Monday in January, Martin Luther King Jr., Day is the only federal holiday designated as a National Day of Service cans to volunteer to honor King's life and legacy and improve their commu-MLK Day of Service has grown and its impact has increased as more Amer-

across the country in vol- that citizenship involves nership between WVU come to bring as many improving the communities where we live, work and play. AmeriCorps remains committed to showing that joining together in service can unify to encourage all Ameri- Americans to transform communities through a fierce urgency of now.

Join participants from nities. For 30 years, the 1-3 p.m. Monday at the Vandalia Lounge in the Mountainlair to participate in this day of sericans embrace the idea vice. The event is a part-

taking an active role in AmeriCorps VISTAs and books as you'd like to American Connection Corps, both AmeriCorps organizations.

Details about the book drive

WVU students can earn volunteer hours by donating new or used children's books. Each book donated will count as 30 minutes of volunteer hours, with a maximum of three hours (six books). You are wel-

support the cause. Drop off donations with your name and student email at one of the drop-off locations to receive hours.

Drop-off locations and

- Through Friday: Allen Hall 805L (8th Floor), 355 Oakland St., Morgantown, WV 26506
- Noon-1 p.m. Monday: Mountainlair (Vandalia Lounge), 1550 University Ave., Morgantown

"Today we answer Dr. King's call to serve and are making a difference in Morgantown, WV," said Lucas Lemonds, an AmeriCorps ACC Member serving with Generation WV. "Let's honor Dr. King's legacy and celebrate 30 years of helping build the Beloved Community by working toward a better tomorrow. Together, let's unite, serve with our neighbors, and transform our communities as we

SEE SERVICE, A-6

CONNECT

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WVU Arts & Entertainment season has everything from 'Mean Girls' to Melissa Ethridge

DPNews@DominionPost.com

WVU Arts & Entertainment will host a varied line-up leading into spring, but you don't have to wait until then for some quality entertainment.

At 7 p.m. Saturday, Mountain Stage comes to the WVU Canady Creative Arts Center with performers Jim Lauderdale, Sister Sadie, Crys Matthews, Jedd Hughes and Critton Hollow.

Coming in the spring: •"Menopause the Musical 2," 7:30 p.m. March 24 ·"Dear Evan Hansen,"

7:30 p.m. March 25 •Melissa Ethridge, 7:30 p.m. April 16

•"Stomp," 7:30 p.m. May

Ticket prices may fluctuate, based on demand, at any time. WVU Student discount is limited to 1 discounted ticket per valid WVU Student ID.

Buy tickets online Ticketmaster.com. All shows are in the WVU Canady Creative Arts Center, unless otherwise noted.

This Week at the Elks Lodge #411

DPNews@DominionPost.com

Morgantown Lodge #411 will host a dinner special and live music this weekend.

On Friday, the venue will offer creamed chicken and biscuits for a special dinner feature. The Antler Pub is open from 3-10 p .m.

On Saturday, Hollow Point will perform from 8-11

p.m. Cost is \$8 at the door. The pub opens at 6 p.m.

A Valentine's Dinner and Dance is set for Feb. 14, offering dinner and dancing for two. Details and tickets are available at https://www.bpoelks411. org/valdinner.html.

For more information

LOCAL BRIEFS

DPNews@DominionPost.com

DUI checkpoint set for Friday on W.Va. 7

The West Virginia State Police will conduct a sobriety checkpoint/ BLITZ from 6 p.m.-midnight Friday on W.Va. 7.

The checkpoint will be held in the effort to detect and deter impaired drivers. It is not the intention of State Police to inconvenience motorists, but to make the highways safer for everyone driving through the state.

For more information, contact 1st Sgt. Whetzel at the Morgantown Detachment, at 304-285-3200.

Cornhole tourney set for Saturday at Legion

American Legion Riders Chapter 174 will host a cornhole tournament on Saturday. Registration begins at noon and play begins at 1p.m. Cost is \$10 per person. There will be a blind draw for partners. Pot will payout 50/50.

Beverages and food will be available for purchase. American Legion Mountaineer Post 174 is located at 3470 Earl Core Road, Morgantown. For more information, call 304-291-

Newcomers Club hosts coffee, luncheon in **January**

Are vou new to Morgantown and the greater Mor-

and full calendar of events, go to BPOElks411.org

gantown community? Perhaps you have lived here for a while already or have experienced a recent life change and wish to expand your circle of acquaintances and familiarity with the area's people and places. Either way, the Morgantown Community Newcomers' Club https://morgantownnewcomers.org/ welcomes you! The club also welcomes members from surrounding areas.

Club activities help newcomers and native community members connect and include monthly coffees and luncheons featuring area speakers, an annual fall picnic, and special interest groups such as: walking, books, movies, cooking, wine tasting, among others, and special activities.

Upcoming monthly members' luncheons will be held on Wednesdays: Jan. 22 at Black Bear Burritos and Feb. 19 at Oliverio's Ristorante.

Upcoming members' coffees will be on Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-noon Feb. 5, and March 5. These gatherings are great opportunities for new members to meet current club members and learn how club membership can further connect them with their community.

For more information about these events, the club, and how to join, call or text Denise Berrebi, president, at 304-685-1291.

MONEY

IRS announces Jan. 27 start to 2025 tax filing season

DPNews@DominionPost.com

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service on Monday announced that the nation's 2025 tax season will start Jan. 27 and will feature expanded and enhanced tools to help taxpayers as a result of the agency's modern-

ization efforts. The IRS expects more than 140 million individual tax returns for tax year 2024 to be filed ahead of the April 15 federal deadline. More than half of all tax returns are expected to be filed this year with the help of a tax professional, and the IRS urges people to use a trusted tax pro to avoid potential scams and schemes.

The 2025 tax filing season will reflect continued IRS progress to modernize and add new tools and features to help taxpayers. Since last tax season, the improvements include more access to tax account information from text and voice virtual assistants, expanded features on the IRS Individual Online Account, more access to dozens of tax forms through cell phones and tablets and expanded alerts for scams and schemes that

threaten taxpayers. The IRS has also expanded features and availability of last year's Direct File program. This year, Direct File will be available starting Jan. 27 to taxpayers in 25 states. In addition, the IRS Free File program opens today. Available only on IRS. gov, IRS Free File Guided Tax Software provides millions of taxpayers nationwide access to free software tools offered by trusted IRS Free File partners.

The IRS is also working to continue the success of the 2023 and 2024 tax filing seasons made possible with additional resources. The past two filing seasons saw levels of service at roughly 85% and wait times averaging less than 5 minutes on the main phone lines, as well as significant increases in the number of taxpayers served at Taxpayer Assistance Centers across the country. Based on the IRS' current plan and funding levels, the agency will work to provide similar levels of performance on these key service metrics in the up-

coming filing season. 'This has been a historic period of improvement for the IRS, and people will see additional tools and features to help them with filing their taxes this tax season," said IRS Commissioner Danny Werfel. "These taxpayer-focused improvements we've done so far are important, but they are just the beginning of what the IRS needs to do. More can be done with continued investment in the nation's tax system.'

The Get Ready page on IRS.gov highlights steps taxpayers can take now to streamline the filing process and the many resources available to interact with the IRS before, during and after filing their federal tax return.

Direct File opens Jan. 27 for taxpayers in 25 states

On the first day of the filing season, Direct File will open to eligible taxpayers in 25 states to file their taxes directly with the IRS for free: 12 states that were part of the pilot last year, plus 13 new states where Direct File will be available in 2025. During last year's pilot, Direct File was available in Arizona, California, Florida, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, New York, South Dako-Tennessee, Texas, Washington State and Wyoming. For the 2025 tax filing season, Direct File will also be available in Alaska, Connecticut, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania and Wis-

consin. Direct File will include new features this year to make filing taxes quicker and easier. Similar to commercial tax software, a data import tool will allow taxpayers to opt-in to automatically import data from their IRS account, including personal information, the taxpayer's IP PIN and some information from the taxpayer's W-2.

This year, Direct File users can try a new chat bot to help guide them through the eligibility checker. Live chat will again be available in English and Spanish, and users can opt into additional authentication and verification, which will allow customer service representatives to provide more information.

Also, this year, Direct File will cover more tax situations. During the pilot, Direct File supported taxpayers claiming the Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit and Credit for Other Dependents. This year, Direct File will also cover taxpayers claiming the:

Child and Dependent Care Credit

Premium Tax Credit Credit for the Elderly and Disabled

Retirement Savings Contribution Credits

In addition to covering taxpayers claiming the standard deduction and deductions for student loan interest and educator expenses, this year, Direct File will support taxpayers claiming deductions for Health Savings Accounts. The Treasury Department estimates that more than 30 million taxpayers will be eligible to use Direct File across the 25 states.

Direct File is a webbased service that works on mobile phones, laptops, tablets or desktop computers. It guides taxpayers through a series of questions to prepare their federal tax return step-by-step. Last year, thousands of Direct File users got help from IRS customer service representatives through a live chat feature in English and Spanish. Once taxpayers have completed their federal tax return, the Direct File system au-

tomatically guides them 85% level of service. to state tools to complete their state tax filings.

Free File program opens early; available in English and Spanish

Although the IRS will not begin accepting tax returns until Jan. 27, taxpayers have several options available now to get a head start on their taxes.

As of Monday, lmost everyone can file electronically for free by using IRS Free File, available only on IRS.gov. Now in its 23rd year, Free File offers free tax preparation software from eight companies in the public-private partnership between the IRS and Free File Inc. As part of this partnership, tax preparation and filing software partners offer their online products to eligible taxpayers for free. To access these free tools, taxpayers must start from the IRS Free File page on IRS.gov.

This year, eight private-sector partners will provide online guided tax software products for taxpayers with an Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) of \$84,000 or less in 2024. Additionally, one partner will offer a product in Spanish.

Although the IRS official tax filing season begins later this month, IRS Free File providers will allow taxpayers to prepare and file returns now and hold them until they can be electronically filed on that date. Many other software companies offer a similar option.

Other free options to file tax returns

In addition to Free File and Direct File, the IRS reminds taxpayers there are important programs available to help taxpay-

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance/Tax Counseling for the Elderly. Taxpayers can find organizations in their community with IRS certified volunteers that provide free tax help for eligible taxpayers including working families, the elderly, the disabled and people who speak limited English.

of Defense program, MilTax generally offers free return preparation and electronic filing software for federal income tax returns and up to three state income tax returns for all military members, and some veterans, with no income limit.

Highlights of other IRS changes to help taxpayers

As part of ongoing IRS improvement efforts. the agency is working to build on the success of the 2023 and 2024 filing seasons.

The IRS is once again working to provide taxpayers expanded help in-person through more hours at Taxpayer Assistance Centers nationwide. The IRS also will be focused on continuing high levels of service on its main taxpayer phone lines, with a goal of up to

The IRS also continues to urge taxpavers to visit a trusted tax professional for help with their taxes or visit IRS.gov first. As part of IRS improvement efforts since 2022, the agency continues to add and expand a variety of online tools and services to help people with their

Included among the improvements taxpayers will see during the 2025 filing season are:

IRS Individual Online Account: The IRS continues to add more functionality to this important tool. Individuals can create or access their IRS Online Account at Online Account for individuals. With an IRS Online Account, people can:

·View key details from their most recent tax return, such as adjusted gross income.

•Request an Identity Protection PIN.

Get account transcripts to include wage and income records.

Sign tax forms like powers of attorney or tax information authorizations.

·View and edit language preferences and alternative media.

 Receive and view over 200 IRS electronic notices. •View, make and cancel

payments. •Set up or change payment plans and check

their balance.

New scam alert available on Individual Online Account: To help protect taxpayers against emerging threats, there's a new banner on the Online Account homepage that alerts taxpayers of potential scams and schemes, along with a link to their Digital Notices and Letters page to view correspondence sent to them from the IRS. The feature helps to educate taxpayers on common scams and fraudulent efforts to steal taxpayer information and provide taxpayers with more ability to validate the legitimacy of IRS communications.

Redesigned Notices: The IRS successfully redesigned 284 notices in 2024, exceeding the agen-MilTax. A Department cy's 200 notice goal. It is important to note that 200 notices were redesigned and deployed in 2024 and that the 84 additional redesigned notices are in line to be deployed in 2025. All notices will be added to Individual Online Account so taxpayers receiving a specific letter can see them.

Mobile-Adaptive Tax Forms: Taxpayers can now access 67 forms on cell phones and tablets. The most recent forms feature "save and draft" capabilities, which allow the taxpayer to start a form, save it and return to it later. The addition of save and draft allows for future capabilities, including the ability for multiple spouses to sign a form.

Virtual assistants to help with refunds, others questions: Whether a taxpayer uses an online tool or calls the IRS, they will experience upgraded help features.

SERVICE

FROM PAGE A-5

strive toward a brighter future.

How to get involved

"Everybody can be great, because everybody can serve," King said. "You don't have to have a college degree to **About the organizations** serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love." Whether you plan on cleaning up a public space, mentoring a young person, training

who are food insecure or unhoused, what you do makes a world of difference. Find opportunities to volunteer for MLK Day of Service and engage with your community while honoring the legacy of Dr. King at Ameri-Corps.gov/MLKDay.

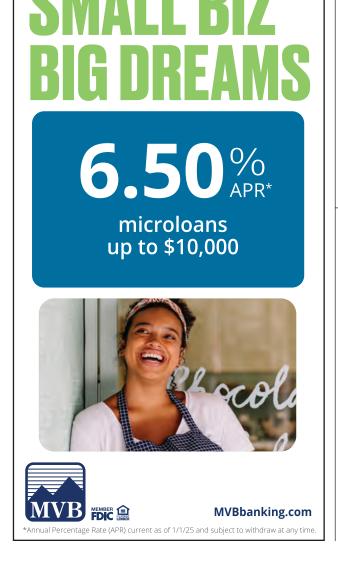
AmeriCorps, the federal agency for national service and volunteerism, provides opportunities for Americans to serve their country domestically, address the nation's most pressing challenges, improve lives and com-

civic engagement. Each ment, ACC Fellows work year, the agency places more than 200,000 AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers in intensive service roles; and empowers TA is a national service millions more to serve as long-term, short-term, or one-time volunteers. Learn more at Ameri-Corps.gov.

American Connection Corps is a national service program dedicated to expanding digital access and connectivity in rural and underserved communities. By supporting broadband development, digital literacy, tutors, or assisting those munities, and strengthen and community engage-

to close the digital divide and empower communities to thrive in the modern economy. WVU AmeriCorps VIS-

program hosted by West Virginia University that focuses on alleviating poverty by building the capacity of local organizations and empowering communities across West Virginia. AmeriCorps VISTA members work with local organizations to address critical issues such as food insecurity, education, and housing, while developing sustainable solutions for long-term impact.



Senate President Smith names remainder of leadership team, committee chairs

BY STEVEN ALLEN ADAMS

For The Domimion Post

CHARLESTON - State Senate President Randy Smith named the rest of his new leadership team headlining into the 2025 legislative session, as well as the remainder of his major committee chairs and vice chairs, only retaining one senator from his predecessor's tenure.

Smith, R-Tucker, had already announced a new majority leader and the leadership teams for the Senate's Finance and Judiciary committees earlier this month. In a statement Wednesday, Smith said he was excited to begin the 60-day regular session on Wednesday, Feb. 12, with a new team in place.

'I'm proud of the team we have put together for the upcoming session." Smith said. "I knew that I wanted fresh perspectives and a new approach to how we work as a team to address the challenges that are facing West Virginia. Each one of our committee chairmen and vice chairmen brings a unique perspective to the table, and I am very excited about the work that we will accomplish together."

Smith was formally voted in last Wednesday as senate president after being selected as the Senate Republican caucus' nominee last December. The retired coal miner and chairman of the Senate Energy, Industry and Mining Committee succeeds former senate president Craig Blair, a Republican state senator from Berkeley County who lost his GOP primary last May.

Smith announced that state Sen. Jay Taylor, R-Taylor, will be his new majority whip. He succeeds state Sen. Ryan Weld, R-Brooke, in that Taylor first took office in 2023 and is in the middle of his fouryear term. He previously served as vice chairman of the Senate Outdoor

Recreation Committee.

announced that former Senate Economic Development Committee Vice Chairman Patrick Martin, R-Lewis, would become the next Senate Majority Leader, succeeding state Sen. Tom Takubo, R-Kanawha, who held that role during Blair's tenure as senate president.

Smith also announced Wednesday the remaining chair and vice chair positions for major Senate committees. Only Senate Education Committee Chairwoman Amy Grady, R-Mason, will retain her gavel going into the new year. Grady, an elementary school teacher, first took office in 2021 and is beginning her second four-year term. Sen. Charles Clements, R-Wetzel, will remain her vice chairman.

State Sen. Laura Wakim Chapman, R-Ohio, will chair the Senate Health and Human Resources Chapman, Committee. who first took office in 2023, succeeds former Republican Marshall County state senator Mike Maroney, who lost his GOP primary last year and is facing a jury trial on charges of indecent exposure, disorderly conduct and driving under the influence. State Sen. Vince Deeds, R-Greenbrier, will be her vice chairman.

"I look forward to working to improve accessibility to healthcare, lowering health costs, and shortening wait times for our citizens," Chapman said in a post on social media Wednesday. "The committee will find creative solutions for mental health and addiction treatment, childcare, foster care, and other issues. We will also look for ways to support our health professionals and find ways to expand the workforce.'

Smith also made the following appointments to the Senate minor be reached at sadams@

·Energy, Industry and In December, Smith Mining: Chairman Chris Rose, R-Monongalia; Vice Chairman Ben Queen, R-Harrison.

Develop-Economic ment: Chairman Glenn Jeffries, R-Putnam; Vice Chairman Robbie Morris. R-Randolph.

·Banking and Insurance: Chairman Mike Azinger, R-Wood; Chairman Robbie Morris, R-Randolph.

Rvan Weld, R-Brooke; Vice Chairman Scott Fuller, R-Wayne.

Chairman

•Military:

•Pensions: Chairman Mike Oliverio, R-Monongalia.

Agriculture: Chairman Craig Hart, R-Mingo; Vice Chairman Darren Thorne, R-Hampshire. Natural Resources:

Chairman Bill Hamilton. R-Upshur; Vice-Chairman Vince Deeds, R-Greenbrier. •Workforce: Chairman

Rollan Roberts, R-Raleigh; Vice Chairman Jack Da-Woodrum, R-Sum-·Confirmations:

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Steven Allen Adams can newsandsentinel.com

Trial starts for West Virginia couple accused of subjecting their 5 children to forced labor

CHARLESTON — A witness broke down in tears as she described children carrying heavy objects on hilly terrain at the home of a West Virginia couple who were later arrested after two of their five adopted children were found locked in an outbuilding.

The trial of Jeanne Kay Whitefeather and Donald Ray Lantz began Tuesday on more than a dozen counts that include forced labor, civil rights violations, human trafficking and gross child neglect.

In her opening statement, assistant prosecutor Madison Tuck said evidence will show the couple forced the children to work and used them "physically, emotionally and mentally so that they would comply.' She said text messages between Lantz and Whitefeather mentioned the children making stand for long periods of time and locking the two older children, both teenagers, in the outbuilding.

Whitefeather's attorney, Mark Plants, said the case "is about adoptive parents struggling to deal with their children's past trauma and severe mental illness." He said friends and relatives of Whitefeather will testify that four of the children suffered "physical, sexual and emotional" abuse by their biological mother, including what he said was the mother's use of alcohol and drugs while she was pregnant.

"This is a normal family," Plants said. "They have Christmases. All of them. They have Christmas presents. They have family vacations. They sit around dinner tables and eat."

Lantz and Whitefeather are white. The children, all siblings ranging

in age from 5 to 16, are Black.

The couple adopted the five siblings while living in Minnesota and moved to a farm in Washington state in 2018 before moving again to West Virginia in 2023, when the children ranged in age from 5 to 16.

Neighbor Joyce Bailey testified Tuesday that when the family first arrived at the home in Sissonville, West Virginia, in 2023 in a vehicle pulling a trailer for animals, it was raining and the children were told to line up outside.

'You never see them talk to each other," she said. "They didn't talk at all among themselves. You didn't see them out unless they were work-

ing. They never played." Bailey became emotional several times in describing what she said was the difficulty some of the children had in carrying fencing for the animals, propane tanks, full buckets of water and other supplies between the home, a trailer and a barn as Lantz watched. Video of the physical labor taken by Bailey was shown in Kanawha County Circuit Court.

'He made them carry it all, that heavy fencing, Bailey said. "They would iust stand there and wait for him to tell them what to do."

Bailey said she also witnessed the oldest boy carrying a propane tank. The boy "could barely walk. He acted like his feet were so sore. He was dragging them," Bailey said. "Mr. Lantz was just standing there. He never said anything, not helping him."

Bailey said "it was tearing me up," so she started to take video. When Lantz looked over at her, Bailey said, her husband told her to stop filming, but she continued, replying, "I don't care."

In September 2023, the couple bought a bigger house in Beckley and started moving furniture out of the Sissonville home. A month later, Bailey said, she saw Lantz lock the two teenagers in the outbuilding and leave the property. Whitefeather left a short time later. Someone called police, and Bailey said she saw sheriff's deputies knock on the outbuilding door for several minutes. A girl answered but indicated she didn't have a key. Bailey said she could hear the deputy talking to the girl, then used a crowbar to get the children out.

A deputy said in a criminal complaint that the children were in dirty clothes and that the oldest boy was barefoot and had what appeared to be sores on his feet. Inside the main residence, a 9-year-old girl was found alone crying in a loft with no protection from falling. A fourth child was with Lantz when he eventually returned. Deputies were later led to the couple's 5-year-old adopted daughter.

Whitefeather Lantz were arrested and the children were placed under the care of Child Protective Services.

According to the complaint, the children had been deprived of adequate food and hygienic care, and the outbuilding had no running water or bathroom facility. Plants has referred to the outbuilding as a "teenage clubhouse" and said there was a key inside. But Tuck said the children never knew about a

Plants said the oldest boy had attempted to run away from home and that the lock on the outbuilding was aimed at keeping him from trying it again. The boy currently is receiving full-time care in a psychiatric facility.

Water company's paperless billing dispute continues: Awaits PSC decision

BY DAVID BEARD

DBeard@DominionPost.com

West Virginia American Water and state Public Service Commission staff continue to debate paperless billing and whether it should be "opt in" or "opt out."

WVAW wants to go "opt out" for most of its customers, saying it's convenient, has been successful in other parent company territories and could save lots of money.

PSC staff say the proposal is unreasonable under state code and could potentially harm customers who are less tech savvy or lack connectivity, by effectively forcing them into a billing method they may not understand or want.

An administrative law judge sided with PSC staff and denied WVAW's request, but WVAW is disputing the order. Both sides now await a PSC de-

WVAW submitted its request in June. The company said it has 171,000 customers and 44,000 are enrolled in paperless billing. Those customers have opted in – that is, chosen to enroll in the program.

It estimates another 65,000 would be eligible to switch over to paperless. Customers eligible to be automatically enrolled would be those who have tact on file and are registered on WVAW's "MyWater" portal. The company

link to opt out, followed with paperless billing. by a mail notice with another opt-out opportunity.

ers and those who have ciple remains the same a "do not solicit" flag on their accounts would not be included. WVAW said counters, "Unlike the pro-\$490,000 in annual print and postage costs, if all eligible customers enrolled.

PSC staff continues to maintain that the program is unreasonable. flawed and poorly supported. A customer who has a MyWater account doesn't necessarily use it or ever wants to use it. Many people have secondary email accounts they rarely access. And WVAW has customers without reliable internet.

Staff said it "believes that customers who did not 'opt in' should not be burdened with the task of having to jump through hoops to 'opt out' of a program that they have al- ing to implement a ready rejected."

WVAW counters that only those customers who already interact with the company through the MyWater portal will be enrolled. Those who have chosen not to interact electronically or lack the judge, in his recommenmeans to do so will not be enrolled. And customers who were enrolled but program that automatiwant to withdraw can do so by phone if they lack

other means. a valid email or text con- a case where Frontier practice, notwithstanding wanted to start a similar program and imposed a WVAWC offered. [The \$2.99 monthly paper bill- ALJ] does not believe that would send several notic- ing fee, the PSC deter- this conclusion would es to them announcing mined that was unjustly the automatic enrollment discriminatory to seniors offer of a 12-month trial and provide an online and those unfamiliar program."

Staff argues that while there is no fee involved in Low-income custom- the current case, the prinand PSC's Frontier order applies here. WVAW the move could save it gram in the Frontier case, the company's Paperless Program will not increase any customer's bill but instead has the potential to produce cost savings for all customers."

WVAW adds, "customers enrolled in paperless billing often experience increased satisfaction given that paperless billing is secure, convenient, clutter free, easily accessible, and will allow customers to receive their bills 2-3 days sooner. ... Other American Water affiliates have implemented similar programs in other jurisdictions without issue."

WVAW said it is will-12-month pilot program. Staff echoed its previous thought that those who want paperless have already opted in and no one should be forced through hoops to opt out.

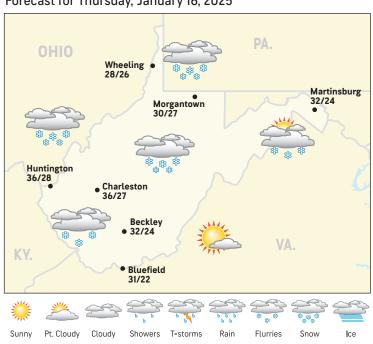
The administrative law dation, said he "agrees with staff that a utility cally enrolls West Virginia customers into online billing should be consid-Both sides discussed ered an unreasonable the multiple safeguards be altered by WVAWC's



Mountain State weather at a glance

Sponsored by **WVU**Medicine

Forecast for Thursday, January 16, 2025



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Forecast for Thursday, January 16, 2025 Bands separate high temperature zones for the day. Billing 34/28 San Francisco 63/45 56/31 Los Angeles 64/42 **Fronts** Cold -0s 0s 10s 20s 30s 40s 50s 60s 70s 80s 90s 100s 110+ NATIONAL SUMMARY: Some lake-enhanced periods of light snow can fall across

Ohio into western Pennsylvania, western New York and West Virginia tomorrow. Snow showers can occur in Michigan, eastern Pennsylvania and upstate New York. The Great Plains will not be as cold with high temperatures largely in the 40s and 50s: the Northeast will remain cold.

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FORECAST



Mostly Sunny Snow High: 32 High: 38 Low: 29 Low: 30

SATURDAY SUNDAY



Snow High: 26 Low: **7**

MONDAY TUESDAY



Rain

High: 44

Low: 24

Mostly Cloudy High: 12 Low: -8

Mostly Cloudy High: 8 Low: -8

ALMANAC

Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Jan. 16, the 16th day of 2025. There are 349 days left in the year.

Today in history:

On Jan. 16, 1991, in a televised address to the nation, U.S. President George H.W. Bush announced the start of Operation Desert Storm, an Allied combat operation to drive Iraqi forces out of Kuwait.

Also on this date:

In 1865, Union Maj. Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman decreed that 400,000 acres of land in the South would be divided into 40-acre lots and given to former slaves. (The order, later revoked by President Andrew Johnson, inspired the expression, "40 acres and a mule.")

In 1942, actor Carole Lombard, 33, her mother, Elizabeth Peters, and 20 other people were killed when their plane crashed near Las Vegas, Nevada, while returning to California from a war-bond promotion tour.

In 1970, St. Louis Cardinals center fielder Curt Flood filed a \$1 million antitrust lawsuit against Major League Baseball and MLB Commissioner Bowie Kuhn, arguing for the right to free agency.

In 2006, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf became the first elected female head of state in Africa when she was sworn in as president of Liberia.

Today's birthdays: Author William Kennedy is 97. Opera singer Marilyn Horne is 91. Hall of Fame auto racer A.J. Fovt is 90. Country musician Ronnie Milsap is 82. Filmmaker John Carpenter is 77. Actor-dancer-choreographer Debbie Allen is 75. Boxing

DEAR ANNIE

Testy about takeout

adult daughter and her figure to her children, husband are employed. as their father stopped Since they do not cook, all communication with when my husband and I them after the divorce. visit them, which is apfood and ask us to pay on occasion, she will use at times. my credit card to pay for the whole bill. When we dren's father came back go out to eat at a restau- into his son's life but rant, I always pick up said he wanted nothing the check, which I feel is to do with my wife's almost expected on their daughter as he wasn't part.

Am I asking for too much by wanting them to entertain us when strained. we visit them, as I have done for the past 20 years when they visit us? -- Lunch With a Bill

Bill: When it comes to is making amends to parents picking up the people I have hurt. tab, sometimes old habits die hard.

for their portion of a -- Torn Apart in Illinois meal. Next time she tries to charge you for lunch, Apart: The proof is in just say, "You take care of the pudding. Instead of this one, and I'll treat us all to dinner tonight."

been with my fiance for ogy shine through your 15 years. She has two actions. Plant your feet children from a previous and hang tough. Show relationship.

lives, her son was 6 and anywhere this time. her daughter had just Send your questions for Annie

Dear Annie: Both my diately became a father

I made many, many proximately four times mistakes and also devela year, they send out for oped a dependency on opiates that made me our share of the bill, or, not such a good person

Eventually, the chilher real father.

As she got older, our relationship

Eventually, I got sober, and she moved out and became a mother to an amazing little boy. Part Dear Lunch With a of my recovery process

Is there anything I can do, or do I need to just Excuses aside, it's bad make peace with having manners to charge guests to let her go? Please help.

Dear Torn telling her again how sorry you are for your Dear Annie: I have mistakes, let your apolher that you've changed When I came into their and you aren't going

TV LISTINGS

1/16/25	▶ 6 PM	▶ 6:30	▶7 PM	▶ 7:30	▶ 8 PM	▶ 8:30	▶ 9 PM	▶ 9:30	▶ 10 PM	▶ 10:30	▶ 11 PM	▶ 11:30
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2) KDKA		KDKA-TV News at 6:30pm (N)	CBS Evening News (N)	KDKA-TV News at 7:30PM (N)	Hollywood Tyra Banks Cummings; Haddish. ()	; Whitney Tiffany	Georgie & M. "Todd's Mom"	Ghosts "The Work Retreat"	Matlock A experiences symptoms f clinical trial	severe rom a	KDKA-TV News at Eleven (N)	Late Show- Colbert (N
4 WTAE	Pittsburg- h's Action News 4 (N)	ABC World News (N)	Inside Edition (N)	Enterta- inment Tonight (N)	Extreme N Home Edit Elrod Fami	ion "The	Only Murd	ers in the B	uilding (N)		Pittsburg- h's Action News 4 (N)	Jimmy Kimmel Livel (N)
5 WDTV	First News	CBS News	ET (N)	Inside Ed.	Hollywood	(N)	Georgie	Ghosts	Matlock		5 News	Colbert
7 WTRF	7News at	CBS News	ET (N)	Inside Ed.	Hollywood	(N)	Georgie	Ghosts	Matlock		7News at.	Colbert
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12) WB0Y	News (N)	NBC News	Jeopardy!	Wheel (N)	Law & Ord	ler (N)	Law & Ord	er: SVU (N)	Found (N)		News (N)	J. Fallon
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46 WVFX	News (N)	Investig.	Last Man	Last Man	Hell's Kitc		Animal (N)	Dutch (N)	WVFX 10	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Conners
53 WPGH	The Big Bang Theory	Channel 11 News on Fox 53	The Big Bang Theory	Young Sheldon	Hell's Kitc	hen (N)	Animal Control	Going Dutch (N)	Channel 11 FOX 53 at		Seinfeld "The Heart Attack"	Seinfeld "The Keys
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BOYS BASKETBALL

CLASH OF THE TITANS

No. 1 Spring Mills ends No. 2 Morgantown High's home win streak

BY MICHAEL GRIFFITH

Sports@DominionPost.com

The Rowdie Center hosted a rematch of last season's Class AAAA boys state title matchup as the No. 2 Morgantown Mohigans welcomed the top-ranked Spring Mills Cardinals on a snowy Tuesday night.

MHS (5-1) entered the contest with a 50-game winning streak on its home floor but couldn't find the 51st victory as Spring Mills (8-0) headed back to the eastern panhandle with a 57-40 win.

Spring Mills junior Akwasi Opoku-Achampong led all scorers with 18 points on six three-pointers. The Cardinals made ten shots in 18 attempts from beyond the arc. Lokkhae Uth-Smith added the other four triples for Spring Mills.

Senior Marty Johnson led the Mohigans with 11 points and sophomore Max Frey with 10.

"They kicked our butts tonight," MHS head coach Dave Tallman said. "They're a really good team and really athletic. They came in here and beat us on our home court, which hasn't been done in a long time. They played hard and made shots. That's going to be a hard team to beat this season.

The game started with the two teams trading three-pointers as Frey and Opoku-Achampong got their teams on the board early.

The Mohigans led 6-3 early on, but SEE TITANS, B-2



Morgantown's Marty Johnson (21) uses a screen from teammate Brady Savage (32) against Spring Mills on Tuesday night.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

UHS girls take down No. 2 Wheeling Park

BY NICK HENTHORN

For The Dominion Post

WHEELING - The University Hawks braved the trip through the snow up to the Palace on the Hill for an important OVAC 5A matchup with the Wheeling Park Patriots on Tuesday and emerged back out to the frosty evening with a 60-45 road

University (6-3) received double-digit scoring efforts from Brianna Fox (19), Julia Maisel (18), and Hannah Stemple (12). Still, the scoring was slow to start Tuesday, with the first basket coming nearly seven minutes into the first quarter, a banked-in two-point jumper from Stemple breaking and thawing the scoring.

University led 10-7 after the first quarter. The Hawks shot 5-11 in the frame, while Wheeling Park shot 2-16.

Fox provided a spark at the end of the quarter. buzzer. The score carried into a strong second quarter, with Fox scoring nine points and Maisel scoring 13.

Fox made it two buzzer-beaters in a row with a corner three-pointer to send the contest into the right now.' halftime break.

the basketball," Universi-



Nick Henthorn/The Intelligencer

University's Hannah Stemple skies for a basket against

said. "I thought defensively we did a nice job, and we rebounded. That's what we stressed at the beginning of the gamedefense, rebounding, and sharing the ball. We've been doing that for the last few games, and it's been pretty good for us."

Wheeling Park on Tuesday night.

"They're all playing well," Lusk said of his flipping in a layup at the squad. "Our five starters, this is the most experienced team I've had. These girls have been together, these five starters have played together, and they know what I expect and each other expects. We're just playing well

University "I liked how we shared percent in the first half, dictate how we play dewhile Wheeling Park shot ty head coach Nick Lusk 23 percent. In many other

categories – rebounds, turnovers, assists - the two teams were neck-andneck in that stretch, but Patriots head coach Ryan Young looked beyond the stat sheet to assess his team's performance.

"You could blame the game on poor shooting, but the difference was that the University flatout played harder than we did from the beginning of the game," Young said. "We had a really difficult time finding them in transition, and we had a tough time staying in front of them defensively. We'll see these defenses all year, and we can't let shot 54 a slow start offensively fensively.

SEE **UHS**, B-2

NFL

Tomlin undecided on Steelers starting QB for 2025

Associated Press

was noncommittal about who will be playing quarterback for the Steelers next season.

son. Tomlin did not en- and collectively. We are general manager Omar Khan later this week.

"We got some major discussions there," Tom-All three quarterbacks lin said. "It was a really on the 53-man roster, in- good experience with cluding starter Russell the three quarterbacks Wilson, are not under who were on our roster contract for the 2025 sea- this year, individually

PITTSBURGH - In his dorse Wilson nor backup certainly open to confinal news conference of Justin Fields for the job sidering those guys, but the season, Mike Tomlin discuss the position with ahead of us ahead of us.

"The major starts first and foremost in understanding what our options are, what the field looks like in terms of free agency, what the draft pool looks like and

SEE STEELERS, B-3

NHL

Struggling Penguins place 2-time All-Star goaltender Tristan Jarry on waivers

PITTSBURGH — The Pittsburgh Penguins ran out of patience waiting play in net. for two-time All-Star trip that could determine to lapses. the course of the rest of their season.

which is on the fringe of against average and a .904

EMAIL: Sports@DominionPost.com

Eastern Conference due stint in Pittsburgh earliin large part to subpar er in the season.

pivotal seven-game road behind a defense prone

The Penguins will call up promising rookie Joel The 29-year-old Jarry Blomqvist to join Nedelis 8-7-4 with a 3.32 goals jkovic on the road trip, against average and a which starts on Friday .886 save percentage this in Buffalo. Blomqvist season for Pittsburgh, went 3-5 with a 3.60 goals

the playoff race in the save percentage during a

It seems unlikely a The Penguins have alteam would be willing to goaltender Tristan Jarry lowed an NHL-high 173 claim Jarry and pick up to emerge from a slump, goals, with neither Jar- his salary, meaning Jarplacing him on waivers ry nor Alex Nedeljkovic ry will be reassigned to Wednesday ahead of a establishing themselves the Penguins' American Hockey League affiliate in Wilkes-Barre/Scranton once he clears waivers.

> "At this point, (I) just feel it's best in the long run for the team and for Tristan to allow Joel to come up here," Pittsburgh general manager

SEE JARRY, B-2

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For The Dominion Post's 2025 Deadline: Monday, Jan. 23rd • Publishes: Sunday, Feb. 16th For advertising inquiries please call 304-291-9420 for more information.

SCOREBOARD

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16 **GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL** University at John Marshall, 7:30 p.m.
BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Elkins at Preston, 7:30 p.m. Trinity at Weirton Madonna, 6:30 p.m.

HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING

University/Morgantown at OVAC tournament, at Wheeling,

ON TV

COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)

7 p.m.: CBSSN — Hofstra at Towson ESPN2 — Memphis at Temple ESPNU — High Point at Longwood FS1 — Michigan at Minnesota 9 p.m.: BTN — Maryland at Northwestern CBSSN — UTEP at Liberty FS1 — Rutgers at Nebraska 11 p.m.: CBSSN — Gonzaga at Oregon St.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL (WOMEN'S) 6 p.m.: ACCN — Georgia Tech at Notre Dame

7 p.m.: BTN — Nebraska at Iowa PEACOCK — Illinois at Indiana SECN — Mississippi St. at Tennessee 8 p.m.: ACCN — California at Duke 9 p.m.: PEACOCK — Ohio St. at Wisconsin SECN — Florida at Mississippi

GOLF

1 p.m.: ESPN2 — Latin America Amateur Championship: First Round, Pilar Golf Club, Buenos Aires, Argentina 4 p.m.: GOLF — PGA Tour: The American Express, First Round, PGA WEST Pete Dye Stadium Course, La Quinta, Calif. 7 p.m.: GOLF — PGA Tour Champions: The Mitsubishi Electric Championship, First Round, Hualalai Golf Club, Kaupulehu,

2:30 a.m. (Friday): GOLF — DP World Tour: The Dubai Desert Classic, Second Round, Emirates Golf Club, Dubai, United **Arab Emirates**

NBA

7:30 p.m.: TNT — Cleveland at Oklahoma City TRUTV — Cleveland at Oklahoma City (DataCast) 10 p.m.: TNT — Houston at Sacramento TRÚTV — Houston at Sacramento (DataCast)

7 p.m.: ESPN — Detroit at Florida 9:30 p.m.: ESPN — Edmonton at Colorado **TENNIS**

3 a.m.: ESPN2 — ATP/WTA: The Australian Open, Second Round, Melbourne, Australia 10 a.m.: ESPN2 — ATP/WTA: The Australian Open, Second

Round, Melbourne, Australia 9 p.m.: ESPN2 — ATP/WTA: The Australian Open, Third Round, Melbourne, Australia

3 a.m. (Friday): ESPN2 — ATP/WTA: The Australian Open, Third Round, Melbourne, Australia **USHL HOCKEY**

7 p.m.: NHLN — 2025 All-American Prospects Game: Team Blue vs. Team White, Plymouth, Mich.

PRO BASKETBALL

EASTERN CONFERENC EAtlantic Division Pct GB Boston 28 11 .718 3 New York 15 26 .634 Philadelphia 15 23 .395 121/2 Brooklyn 14 26 .350 141/2 Toronto 191/2 Southeast Division GB Orlando 18 .561 11/2 Miami 20 18 .526 **Atlanta** 20 19 .513 Charlotte 8 28 121/2 .222 151/2 Washington 6 Central Division Pct GB Cleveland .872 17 121/2 Milwaukee .553 Indiana 19 .537 13 19 .525 131/2 Detroit WESTERN CONFERENCE Southwest Division Pct GB Houston 26 12 .684 2 25 15 Memphis .625 Dallas 22 18 .550 5 7 19 San Antonio 19 .500 **New Orleans** 9 32 .220 181/2 Northwest Division Pct GB Oklahoma City 33 .846 Denver 15 .615 9 Minnesota 21 18 12 .538 Portland 26 .333 20 Utah .263 221/2 **Pacific Division** Pct GB L.A. Clippers 17 21 .553

PRO HOCKEY

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L.A. Lakers

Phoenix

Sacramento

Golden State

Vancouver

Anaheim

Seattle

San Jose

EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division								
Action the Divisio	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Toronto	45	27	16	2	56	136	128	
Florida	45	26	16	3	55	148	137	
Tampa Bay	42	23	16		49	153	119	
Boston	46	22	19	5	49	122	144	
Ottawa	43	22	18	3 5 3	47	124	120	
Montreal	43	21	18	4	46	131	143	
Detroit	43	20	19	4	44	124	139	
Buffalo	43	16	22	5	37	132	146	
Metropolitan I					0,			
et.oponta	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GΑ	
Washington	44	29	10	5	63	159	113	
New Jersey	46	26	15	5	57	143	116	
Carolina	44	26	15	3	55	147	123	
Columbus	44	21	17	6	48	152	153	
Philadelphia	45	19	20	6	44	138	157	
Pittsburgh	46	18	20	8	44	137	173	
N.Y. Rangers	43	20	20	3 7	43	124	134	
N.Y. Islanders	43	17	19	7	41	114	131	
WESTERN CON	VFERE	NCE						
Central Division	n							
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GΑ	
Winnipeg	45	30	12	3	63	162	109	
Minnesota	44	27	13	4	58	132	122	
Dallas	43	28	14	1	57	140	105	
Colorado	45	27	17	1	55	150	140	
St. Louis	45	21	20	4	46	127	134	
Utah	43	18	18	7	43	120	130	
Nashville	43	14	22	7	35	106	135	
Chicago	44	14	28	2	30	113	152	
Pacific Division								
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GΑ	
Vegas	44	29	12	3	61	151	119	
Edmonton	43	27	13	3	57	140	117	
Los Angeles	41	24	12	5 7	53	121	100	
Calgary	43	21	15		49	116	127	
1/000000000	42	10	1 /	10	40	125	126	

10

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COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Texas QB Quinn Ewers declares for NFL draft as program ushers in Arch Manning era

AUSTIN, Texas — Texas junior quarterback Quinn Ewers declared for the NFL draft on Wednesday, ending a Longhorns career in which he led the program to a Big 12 championship and twice to the College Football Playoff but was not always embraced by a fan base eagerly waiting for Arch Manning to take over.

Ewers passed for 9,128 yards and 68 touchdowns in a career that few Texas quarterbacks can match.

"These past three years have been some of the No. 1 ranking since 2008 quarterback in the counbest years I could have and played in the league try when he signed with imagined," Ewers said championship game. in social media post announcing his decision. "The relationships I've built between coaches and teammates will last forever."

His 27 career wins rank fourth as a starting quarterback at Texas, and he led the Longhorns to their first Big 12 title in 14 years in 2023 before the program moved to the Southeastern Conference. In their first season horns rose to their first the top-rated high school injuries and missed at left for the NFL.

He had hinted before Texas quarterback Quinn Ewers (3) passes against the season ended that it Ohio State during the first half of the Cotton Bowl Colwould be his last in college Football Playoff semifinal game, Friday, Jan. 10, in Arlington, Texas.

will be leading the prothat led to a game-clinching touchdown for Ohio sian's first season. State on Jan. 10 in the Cotton Bowl.

Ewers' career

in the SEC, the Long- the Dallas suburbs, was der, abdomen and ankle and Cam Williams also

Ohio State and left school eyes for the 2021 season. nals in consecutive years, spent deep on the Ohio it with a rebuilt offense. though it fell short of the State depth chart, Ew-

least two games each season. An abdomen strain this season allowed Manning to start twice and earn the program's first SEC win, which came against Mississippi State.

Make way for Manning

Ewers' departure sets the stage for Manning to take over in 2025.

The son of Cooper Manning, the grandson of former NFL quarterback Archie Manning and the nephew of Super Bowl-winning QBs Peyton and Eli Manning passed for 939 yards and nine touchdowns and ran for four TDs this season but has seen only limited playing time since September.

Texas fans have been Ewers' biggest legacy early to the join the Buck- eagerly awaiting his chance to be the full-time gram to the playoff semifi- But after one season starter. Manning will get

Top receivers Matthew championship game. He ers transferred to Texas, Golden and Isaiah Bond had a fumble on a sack which had just finished have declared for the draft 5-7 in coach Steve Sarki- and senior tight end Gunnar Helm completed his He was the starter by eligibility. Running back the season opener in 2022 Jaydon Blue, who scored and led the team through a team-high 14 touchseasons of 8-5, 12-2 and downs including four in 13-3 records. But he was the playoffs, and starting Ewers, who grew up in dogged by various shoultackles Kelvin Banks Jr.

JARRY

FROM PAGE B-1

Kyle Dubas said Wednesday. "We think over the have to do what's right ... past year-and-a-half, with for him and for us. his play in Wilkes-Barre and when he's been up here with us, he's earned the right to have a go at it."

months after Dubas signed ing camp, he stumbled out Jarry to a five-year deal of the gate and was sent with an average annual val- to Wilkes-Barre/Scranton ue of \$5.375 million. Jarry for a lengthy conditioning was an All-Star in 2020 and stint. 2022 but has struggled most of the last two seasons.

at all," Dubas said. "That games.

just hasn't materialized the way we would like it to on the ice. At this level, you get to the point where you

Jarry ceded the starting job to Nedeljkovic last spring. While he reclaimed his spot atop the depth The decision comes 18 chart coming out of train-

While there was a brief uptick in his play after he "He's continued to come returned, Jarry has lost in here, put the work in and five straight starts and conthat's not been a question tinues to struggle early in

from long range as the the lead to 10.

quarter, but Park cut made her uncomfortable,

The Patriots' Alexis er in the state. She's go-

goal during the first period of an NHL hockey game in Pittsburgh, Tuesday.

"I didn't think our de- with made baskets, as the

the Mohigans by 10 in the to eight points in the final

quarter. We knew coming halftime buzzer sounded, The Mohigans got with- here and winning at all swelling the lead to 27-20 in eight at 30-22 but could would be tough, and we not pair defensive stops are happy to get the win."

Morgantown will redinals ahead 15-8 after the fense was terrible; they Cardinals answered any turn home to host Univerjust made shots," Tall- success MHS found on of- sity for a 7:30 p.m. tip-off on Friday as the Mohawk Spring Mills outscored Bowl hits the hardwood.

"We know Spring Mills second half, holding them isn't the only team we have to beat this season; there are a lot of good "We know what we can teams," Tallman said. "We play University Fridone it this year," Spring day night, who is pretty Opoku-Achampong Mills coach Luke Samples good, too. I'm not frustratsteal and a slam in the opened the second half said. "I'm proud of the ed or upset. We will break open court. He was fol- the way he had closed selflessness of our team down the film and conlowed by Opoku-Acham- the first, nailing a deep and being able to control tinue to work. March is



past Pittsburgh Penguins goaltender Tristan Jarry for a

A shot by Seattle Kraken's Chandler Stephenson gets

TITANS

FROM PAGE B-1

a 10-0 run late in the opening quarter saw the Carfirst eight minutes.

a 7-2 run in the second quarter, cutting the lead our hands up, but they to two points. However, (Spring Mills) were a lit-Spring Mills pushed the lead back to multiple pos- tonight. I told our guys all sessions late in the first we can do is keep chiphalf.

Uth-Smith scored two of his 14 points with a

"Consistently this year

we have defended teams

and we have rebounded.

That wasn't the case to-

night. I thought Universi-

this is a good basketball

team and this was a big

UHS

us."

FROM PAGE B-1

at the break.

MHS fired back with man said. "A few times we got caught not putting tle hungrier than we were ping away and getting better."

fourth, getting as close

Bordas led all scorers

with 24 points. Kar-

ringtyn Miller joined her

in double figures with

"I'd say we did pretty

state Player of the Year.

as a dozen.

her stat line.

ty deserved a lot of credit 11. Bordas added four re-

for how they came out, bounds and four steals to

game for seeding purpos- well on her," Lusk said

es. They kind of took it to of Bordas, the two-time

quarter. do, and we haven't really

pong, who hit a triple three-pointer, extending the tempo in the fourth about nine weeks away."

rebounds for Park.

University finished the into the deficit in the and we did that. She's go- game going 12-19 from the ing to get hers, she's so foul line. Wheeling Park good, she's the best play- was 1-4.

After Tuesday, Wheeling to get her points, but ing Park falls to 7-3. The I thought we did a nice OVAC website had Wheeljob of containing her and ing Park atop the 5A girls' making her shots tough." basketball standings go-Maggie Hupp had nine ing into the game, with University in third.





CFP championship game prediction: Ohio State will take home the title

Ohio State plays Notre Dame in the College Football Playoff championship game at Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta on Monday night. BetMGM Sportsbook listed Ohio State as an 8.5-point favorite on Wednesday, down a point from the opening line.

The eighth-seeded Buckeyes (13-2) have beaten Tennessee, Oregon and Texas on their way to the title game, where recent title came in 2014.

The Penn State and will be start. playing for their 12th championship, and first the 28-14 semifinal win plenty of other weapons, since 1988.



they will play for their Ohio State defensive end Jack Sawyer, left, and quarsixth national champi- terback Will Howard celebrate after the Cotton Bowl onship since the poll era College Football Playoff semifinal game against Texas, began in 1936. Their most Friday, Jan. 10, in Arlington, Texas.

seventh-seeded talented and the health- have one of the best de-Irish (14-1) have beaten ier team right now, and fenses in the country and Indiana, Georgia and that's a good place to neutralized star receiver

over Texas probably though. caused some heartburn The Buckeyes are more it the Longhorns, who has won CFP games yards.

Jeremiah Smith. Ohio The offensive lull in State has shown it has

The Buckeyes'

against three offenses that, on paper, are superior to Notre Dame's.

Why Notre Dame will win

The Irish have a championship-caliber defense that forces turnovers at one of the highest rates in the nation. If the Irish are going to win, they almost certainly will need a couple takeaways.

Offensively, the Irish must excel on third down. They've converted 22 of 44 over three CFP games, including 11 of 17 in the 27-24 semifinal win over Penn State. They also must continue showing progress in the downfield pass game. Jaden Greathouse had his first 100-yard receiving game in the semifinal and Riley Leonard, who has been mediocre on throws longer than 10 yards, had Why Ohio State will win for Ohio State fans. Cred-ranked defense already pass plays of 32, 36 and 54

March Madness will pay women's teams under a new **NCAA** approved structure

Associated Press

Tenn. field. NASHVILLE, Women's basketball

at the NCAA convention.

NCAA membership was 2024 men's tournament. the final step toward a posal in August.

given to women's teams ment. A women's basket- ends this year. ball team that reaches the three years in financial performance unit. performance rewards.

performance units pro- vise the games. gram was established.

ville coach Jeff Walz said. ballparks and arenas.

The women's March

large bids to the 68-team

The longer a school's teams finally will be paid tournament run lasts, the for playing games in the more units the school's NCAA Tournament each conference receives. Con-March just like the men ferences decide the dishave for years under a tribution of unit revenue plan approved Wednesday to each of its members. Each unit was worth The unanimous vote by about \$2 million for the

Men's basketball pay structure for women teams now receive 24% playing in March Mad- of the media rights deal. ness after the Division I which is \$8.8 billion over Board of Governors voted eight years, starting this unanimously for the pro- year. Women's basketball is valued at \$65 mil-Now, so-called perfor- lion per tournament in mance units, which rep- the NCAA's new media resent revenue, will be rights deal with ESPN — roughly 10 times more playing in the tourna- than in the contract that

The women have a Final Four could bring its higher percentage of the conference roughly \$1.26 media revenue deal to million over the next bolster the value of each

The NCAA sharing In the first year, \$15 March Madness revenue million will be awarded with its member schools to teams out of the fund. has long been a feature which is 26% of the wom- of the men's tournament. en's basketball media rev- The 2018 tournament, enue deal. That will grow for example, brought in to \$25 million, or 41% of \$844.3 million in telethe revenue, by 2028. The vision and marketing 26% is on par with what rights, the vast majority men's basketball teams from a contract with CBS received the first year the and Turner Sports to tele-

Most of the money flows This will start in March through the NCAA to conin the 43rd year of the ferences and then back women's NCAA Tourna- to member schools, more ment. The lack of a units than 300 of which field Disystem for the women's vision I basketball teams tournament has been a eligible to play in the point of sharp criticism. tournament. The schools "It's great women's mostly reinvest in athletbasketball is getting the ics, from scholarships for long-deserved financial athletes in all sports to reward for NCAA post- coaching salaries, trainseason success," Louis- ing facilities, stadiums,

The women's tourna-Madness plan is similar ment is coming off its to the men's basketball most successful year ever, unit program. Each of 32 which included a record conferences that receive audience of 18.7 million an automatic bid to the for the title game won tournament will receive by South Carolina over a unit, and additional Iowa, the highest for a units will be rewarded basketball broadcast of for teams that receive at- any kind in five years.



A person spins a basketball on their finger during South Carolina's practice for the NCAA Women's Final Four championship basketball game Saturday, April 6, 2024, in Cleveland.

NFL

Bears interview Steelers offensive coordinator Arthur Smith for head coaching job

LAKE FOREST, Ill. — Arthur Smith for their head coaching job on play quarterback. Wednesday.

Smith was hired by the Steelers a year ago after 7-10 in each of his three win at Green Bay. seasons before firing

The Steelers went from liams will be the top pri- Pete Carroll and former Mike Kafka.

tying for 27th in scoring ority for the next coach Tennessee Titans coach in 2023 to finishing 16th in the wake of the Bears' Mike Vrabel, who got the The Chicago Bears interthis past season, after fourth straight losing New England job. Chicaviewed Pittsburgh Steel- signing Russell Wilson season. The No. 1 pick in go has also interviewed ers offensive coordinator and acquiring Justin last year's draft, he threw interim coach Thomas Fields from Chicago to for 3,541 yards, 20 touch- Brown, former Carolina

to replace Matt Eberflus, a franchise-record and sive coordinator Aaron who was fired on Nov. league-leading 68 times. 29. Chicago finished last coaching Atlanta to a in the NFC North at 5-12 date the Bears have con- na Cardinals offensive co-21-30 record from 2021 to and lost 10 in a row before firmed interviewing, a ordinator Drew Petzing, 2023. The Falcons were closing the season with a

The Bears are looking tions. But he was sacked Ron Rivera, Detroit defen-

list highlighted by Detroit Miami Dolphins defen-Lions offensive coordina- sive coordinator Anthony The development of tor Ben Johnson, former Weaver and New York Giquarterback Caleb Wil- Seattle Seahawks coach ants offensive coordinator

downs and six intercep- and Washington coach Glenn, former Stanford Smith is the 11th candi- coach David Shaw, Arizo-

ceptions being Matthew not a new discussion."

out of the past four years Jared Goff of the Lions. come to terms on a conwe've taken a quick exit The other six are elite tract with Wilson or if from the tournament," running quarterbacks Wilson decides to sign Tomlin said. "We're hav- and/or have an ability to elsewhere in free agency, ing all of those discus- escape the pocket to ex- Tomlin said he believes sions and acknowledging tend plays in the passing Fields proved this season he can be a full-time starter for the Steelers.

"I thought the way ence for Tomlin at the po- he managed his profescircumstance was really impressive," Tomlin said Tomlin said. "I thought thought he got continualthe position the way the sion. I've expressed that ly better in our system of ball throughout the process. I thought the way Of the eight teams re- The X-factor that quar- he conducted himself players is the reason maining in the playoffs, terback mobility is in our makes that a legitimate game, how it's trending thought or idea at this

FROM PAGE B-1

STEELERS

then beginning the process in terms of decision making based on known variables."

Since Ben Roethlisberger retired following the 2021 season, the Steelers have entered each season with a different starting quarterback. It was Mitch Trubisky in 2022, Kenny Pickett in they were named the starter.

did not win a playoff mobile quarterbacks. game with any of those

the offseason.

those similarities exist. game. Obviously, that will be a sion making."

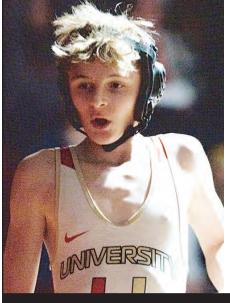
wanted to return, but the changed. Steelers are going to have 2023 and Wilson in 2024, to weigh how Wilson when asked how import- he brought an urgency Wilson's two predeces- and the offense finished ant mobility was for him to his day-to-day work sors did not return after the season and wheth- at quarterback. "But regardless of his role. I er a 36-year-old can play that's not a new discus-The fact the Steelers game is trending toward in this setting and set-

Tomlin is undecided six have mobile quarteron his starter entering backs, with the two ex- and has been trending is juncture."

"It's also been three Stafford of the Rams and If the Steelers cannot

Quarterback mobility component in our deci- has long been a prefer-Wilson said Monday he sition, and that has not sional

"Very," tings like this for years.



AUSTIN HUMMEL UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL

UHS freshman Austin Hummel sealed the deal for the Hawks over Bethel Park, Pa., last week in a highly competitive dual with a pin in the 106-pound bout. The Hawks entered the final match of the evening leading 32-30, needing a victory by Hummel, to remain undefeated at 8-0.



HANNAH STEMPLE UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL

Hannah Stemple scored 26 points on the road against Beckley in a 95-57 win for the Hawks. The senior shot 8/12 from the floor, including 6/7 from three-point range, with a broken finger on her right hand. Stemple surpassed the 1000-point mark for her career during the contest.



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JR Motorsports enters Justin Allgaier into Daytona 500 in partnership with Chris Stapleton

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, The NASCAR team owned by Hall of Famer Dale Earnhardt Jr. will attempt to make its Cup Series debut in the Daytona 500 with a champion driver and a partnership with a Grammy Award-win-

JR Motorsports has entered reigning Xfinity Series champion Justin Allgaier into next month's season-opening "Great American Race" in a Chevrolet sponsored by the whiskey label created by 10-time Grammy winner Chris Stapleton. Traveller Whiskey is a collaborative blend created by Buffalo Trace Distillery with Stapleton.

Allgaier will have to qualify for the Daytona and what (Earnhardt) 500 — a race his boss has won twice — on either speed in time trials or via one of the qualifying Earnhardt and his sister, races. It marks the first time in JRM history the team has entered a race in the Cup Series, and Earnhardt said the team will be focused on qualifying via speed powered by

The deal came together N.C. when Stapleton, who has a friendship with Rick Hendrick, approached Hendrick about a NA-SCAR collaboration with Traveller Whiskey. Hendrick put Stapleton in touch with Earnhardt as he also has an ownership stake with JRM.

> "We had this whiskey and I always have "pie in the sky" dreams of things to do and we knocked on the door a little bit,' Stapleton told The Asthought it would be cool to see whiskey on a car. And he brought up Dale owner," Earnhardt told SCAR's second-tier Xfini-Jr. and I was like 'Why wouldn't we do that if we can?' This is a lot of my audience, for both whisdoes in auto racing.'

The third-party introduction is helping Kelley Earnhardt-Miller,



sociated Press. "If I'm Driver Justin Allgaier gets in his car before a NASCAR being 100% honest, I just Xfinity Series auto race, Saturday, Nov. 9, 2024, in Avondale, Ariz.

> AP. "Rick presented the ty Series. opportunity to connect same thing."

The Earnhardts have

JRM has never attemptwith Chris and his team, ed to enter a Cup race. they were interested in The Earnhardts have exkey and country music, marketing in our sport, pressed interest in movand Rick knew that I was ing up to Cup competiwanting to fulfill this op- tion, but have balked at his whiskey, Stapleton is portunity. It was like two purchasing the eight-figpeople that wanted the ure charter needed to

Earnhardt said there reer. attempt to make a dream led JRM to 88 Xfinity Se- have been no discussions come true for their race ries victories with driv- on future Cup ventures ers Chase Elliott, William for JRM beyond trying to "I shared with Rick that Byron, Tyler Reddick and make the Daytona 500. It it run. And that, for me, going to have everything for a very long time that I Allgaier last November. will be a high-pressure sithad a dream, at one time JRM is starting its 24th uation for the Greg Ivesa Hendrick Motorsports in my life, of entering year of overall competi-led team as Earnhardt the moment of it. It's just is going to be special for the Daytona 500 as a car tion with four cars in NA- has warned them he and like going to the Super sure."

mile it turns on the track. pening.

Stapleton also plans to attend what will be his first Daytona 500. He and Earnhardt said the musician was intricately involved in the car design, which Stapleton saw in person for the first time Wednesday.

"I'm a bit of a retro guy, I like things that are kind of a throwback,' Stapleton said. "So I was looking for a little bit of that flavor in the car, but also something that really blended JR Motorsports and Traveller Whiskey. It had to look like both of those things and I think we achieved it."

Aside from promoting hoping the Daytona 500

his sister will be hover- Bowl and getting to stay ing from the moment the on the sidelines. That's car is unloaded at Dayto- what I want. I want the na Beach International moment, the moment of Speedway through every the synergy that is hap-

"Whatever comes of it, we still did it."

Allgaier is the defending Xfinity Series champion and former Cup Series driver who ran the Daytona 500 in 2014 and 2015. His most recent time in a Cup car was last May as the substitute driver for Kyle Larson as Larson attempted to compete in both the Coca-Cola 600 and Indianapolis 500 on the same day.

Allgaier started the Coke 600 for Larson and was credited with a 13thplace finish when the race was called for rain.

'This is an incredible honor to be driving JR Motorsports' inaugural turns into a core memory entry into the Cup Seof his accomplished carries," said Allgaier. "Entering into the Daytona "I wanted to build a 500 has been a goal of this thing — I wanted to see company for a long time the car and I want to see and I know that we are would be the victory," Sta- we need to go out and pleton said. "And I want contend for the win. This

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Urban Meyer joins Nick Saban in College Football HOF's Class of 2025; Vick, Strahan also elected

Associated Press

Urban Meyer will join Nick Saban in the 2025 College Football Hall of Fame class, and Michael Vick and Michael Strahan are among the former players who will be inducted.

The National Football Foundation announced Saban's selection last week and the rest of the 18-player, four-coach class on Wednesday.

Saban retired last year LSU and Alabama. His seven national champion-Alabama — are most by a Football Bowl Subdivision coach.

three national champi- ment in a dogfighting terback at Notre Dame onships over 17 seasons ring. He pleaded guilty from 1966-68, also was seat Bowling Green, Utah, and served 21 months in lected. He helped lead the Florida and Ohio State. He won 22 of 24 games at suming his career in 2009. national championship Utah before taking over Last month he was hired and joins teammates Jim at Florida, where he won as Norfolk State's head Lynch, Alan Page and Joe national titles in 2006 and coach. 2008. He moved to Ohio over seven seasons.



as the NCAA's active Ohio State head coach Urban Meyer watches from the of California, Terrence leader in wins with 292- sidelines during the second half of the Big Ten Confer-71-1 over 28 seasons at ence championship NCAA college football game against Toledo, Michigan State, Wisconsin Saturday, Dec. 6, 2014, in Indianapolis.

13-year NFL career was of Fame in 2014. interrupted by his 2007 Meyer was 187-32 with conviction for his involve- as Ara Parseghian's quarfederal prison before re- 1966 team to a share of the

Strahan, now co-host Fame. State in 2012, won his on ABC's Good Morning ship in 2014 and went 83-9 Sunday analyst, was a ter- who won the 2012 Doak ror as a defensive lineman Walker Award as the na-

led the Hokies to a 22-2 re-seasons for the New York ships — one at LSU, six at cord and the 1999 national Giants. He was inducted championship game. His into the Pro Football Hall

> Terry Hanratty, 24-4-2 Theismann in the Hall of

Among other picks was Virginia Tech, where he fore he went on to play 15 record of 39 total touch- in Atlanta.

downs in a season. He finished his career with 5,140 rushing yards, averaging 104.9 per game, and 77 rushing touchdowns.

Other players in the 2025 class are Gregg Carr of Auburn, Blake Elliott of Saint John's (Minnesota), Greg Eslinger of Minnesota, Graham Harrell of Texas Tech, John Henderson of Tennessee, Michael Huff of Texas, Jim Kleinsasser of North Dakota, Alex Mack Metcalf of Mississippi, Haloti Ngata of Oregon, Steve Slaton of West Virginia, Darrin Smith of Miami, Dennis Thurman Southern California and Ryan Yarborough of Wyoming.

Other coaches in the class are Larry Blakeney of Troy and Larry "Bub" Korver of Northwestern College (Iowa). Blakeney guided the Trojans from Division II to the FBS from 1991-2014 and remains the Sun Belt Conference's coaching wins leader with a 178-113-1 record. Korver was 212-77-6 with two NAIA championthird national champion- America and a FOX NFL Wisconsin's Montee Ball, ships in 28 years (1967-94) at Northwestern.

The 2025 class will be Vick was the consum- for Texas Southern from tion's best running back. inducted Dec. 9 during an mate dual-threat quarter- 1989-92. He recorded 41.5 The year before he tied awards dinner in Las Veback in his two seasons at sacks in four seasons be- Barry Sanders' NCAA gas. The Hall of Fame is COLLEGE BASKETBALL

TCU women went from forfeiting games to a top-10 team atop Big 12

Associated Press

cause they didn't have this season. enough healthy players.

open tryouts to this week get to coach here." being ranked in the top TCU coach Mark Camp-

senior point guard Jaden Owens sustained a seawith six available schol- 12 game. arship players, and two of them were on minutes restrictions coming off their own injuries.

sas State and Iowa State. No. 9. Four of them were added 66-60 win at home last 2010.

Jan. 23 over UCF, the FORT WORTH, Texas same team the 10th-– The TCU women had ranked Frogs beat 90-81 to forfeit two games and at home Tuesday night conduct open tryouts on for their second ninecampus last January be- game winning streak

"The game that laid the A year later, with Sedo- foundation for TCU was a na Prince and Madison year ago when we played Conner both healthy and UCF here," Campbell joined in the lineup by said after the latest win standout transfer Hailey over the Knights. "Today Van Lith, the Horned was a really special game Frogs (18-1) are a top-10 for our program, for the team and on a nine-game people that were a part winning streak that in- of that game a year ago. cludes their first 6-0 start There's a huge mural in in the Big 12 Conference. our offices of pictures "Gone from the 'Un- from that game that will derfrogs' and holding be up there as long as I

The 6-foot-7 Prince 10 ... it's been a very mag- had 27 points on 11-of-15 ical ride," second-year shooting and seven rebounds against UCF this week. Van Lith scored 20 TCU won its first 14 points while matching games in Campbell's her career high with six debut last season, but 3-pointers and had seven Prince (broken finger) assists without a turnand Conner (MCL) got over, while Conner made sidelined by injuries and four 3s while scoring 14 points and having six assists. The Frogs had son-ending knee injury assists on 29 of their 32 within a couple of weeks made field goals and finafter that school-record ished with 15 3-pointers, start. That left the Frogs their most ever in a Big

TCU's current ninegame winning streak followed an 85-52 loss to reigning national cham-About 40 students then pion South Carolina on went through tryouts on Dec. 8. That came at the campus the same week end of the first week that that TCU forfeited Big the Frogs had ever been 12 games against Kan- in the top 10 — then at

"The Frogs are seeking to the roster before the their first NCAA Tournaseason resumed with a ment appearance since



South Carolina forward Ashlyn Watkins (2) works to pass the ball as TCU 's Sedona Prince (13) and Hailey Van Lith (10) defend in the second half of an NCAA college basketball game in Fort Worth, Texas, Sunday, Dec. 8, 2024.

NFL

Browns sued by city over possible move from Cleveland to proposed domed stadium in suburbs

Associated Press

 $\label{eq:cleveland} \mbox{CLEVELAND } \mbox{$-$ Cleve-$ Court on Tuesday.}$ land's fight to keep the er legal turn.

from leaving Cleveland's franchise to Baltimore. lakefront when its stadium lease expires after the led to the enactment of 2028 season. Team owners the "Modell Law, " which Dee and Jimmy Haslam in part says that any prointend to build a \$2.4 bil- fessional sports team that being partially funded by ty ownership stake in the lion stadium and adjacent uses state funding for its public money. Cleveland NBA's Milwaukee Bucks. entertainment complex facility for home games has been in its current in Brook Park, Ohio, 15 can't leave without per- home, Huntington Bank offered the Browns \$461 miles south of the city.

Cleveland filed the vance notice. lawsuit in the Cuyahoga

Browns from moving struggle that has history lawsuit, the city claims on the "Modell Law." That from downtown and into a and familiarity to Browns the Browns violated the federal case is pending. proposed dome in the sub- fans, who felt betrayed in law by not doing either. urbs has taken yet anoth- 1995 when late owner Art The city has filed a law- deal with the city to get a lawsuit. suit to stop the NFL team new stadium, moved the

mission or providing ad- Field, since 1999 when million to help with ren-

County Common Pleas also gives residents a Modell's exit. chance to buy the team or It's the latest twist in a find a new buyer. In the own lawsuit seeking clarity

Modell, unable to strike a commented on the city's Law. When it was enact-

formed Cleveland Mayor Soccer from leaving Ohio's That messy situation Justin Bibb of its inten- state capital in 2019, the tions to build the state- Haslams bought the franof-the-art stadium, which chise. Haslam the Browns have proposed Group also has a minorithe city was awarded an ovations to their current The law, passed in 1996, expansion team following 65,000-seat stadium.

The team has filed its

The Haslams previously The Browns have not benefited from the Modell ed to keep the Columbus In October, the team in- Crew of Major League

The city had previously

Money&Markets

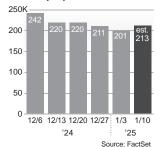
Today

Eye on unemployment

The Labor Department delivers its weekly tally of new unemployment benefit claims today.

The number of Americans applying for unemployment benefits fell two weeks ago to their lowest level in nearly a year. The data is considered a proxy for layoffs. Economists project jobless claims rose to a seasonally adjusted 213,000 last week

Initial jobless benefit claims seasonally adjusted



Tracking retail sales

The Commerce Department releases its monthly snapshot of U.S. retail sales today.

Analysts forecast that retail sales rose 0.6% in December from the previous month. That would follow a 0.7% increase in November. Consumers have generally kept spending, despite the cumulative impact of three years of excess inflation and high interest rates.

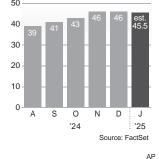


Builder sentiment

A key measure of U.S. homebuilders' confidence in the housing market is due out today.

Economists project that the National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo Housing Market Index slipped to 45.5 this month. Readings below 50 indicate negative sentiment about the housing market. Builders are worried that elevated mortgage rates will discourage prospective homebuyers.

NAHB/Wells Fargo Housing Market Index, seasonally adjusted



Quotable

"This action, if finalized, could save many lives and dramatically reduce the burden of severe illness and disability."

- FDA Commissioner Robert Califf, on a far-reaching proposal to make cigarettes far less addictive by capping their nicotine content

FundFocus

This fund boasts "a pair of adept comanagers," Morningstar says. Its strategy "has struggled to keep pace with the Russell 1000 Growth Index in recent years," however.



Morningstar Ownership Zone™ Fund target represents weighted average of stock holdings

Represents 75% of fund's stock holdings **CATEGORY: LARGE GROWTH**

MORNINGSTAR	
RATING™	★★★ ☆
ASSETS	\$10,338 million
EXP RATIO	.82%
MIN. INIT. INVEST.	\$1,000
PERCENT LOAD	5.75

Return/Rank YEAR-TO-DATE +2.2

1-YEAR +32.3/B **3-YEAR** +10.4/C 5-YEAR +14.3/C

HISTORICAL RETURNS

3 and 5-year returns are annualized. Rank: Fund's letter grade compared with others in the same group; an A indicates fund performed in the top 20 percent; an E, in the bottom 20 percent.

Smartphone sales bounce back

Smartphone sales snapped out of a post-pandemic slump last year, even though industry leaders Apple and Samsung remained on a downward slope.

Last year's 6% increase in worldwide smartphone shipments - logged by the research firm International Data Corp. —reversed two consecutive

annual declines as a growing number of consumers saw little reason to upgrade their existing devices amid high inflation that squeezed household budgets.

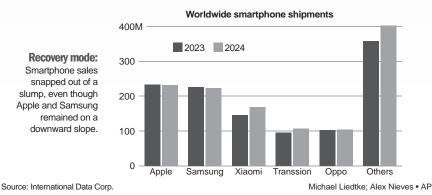
That dynamic changed last year as inflation eased and new artificial intelligence features helped juice smartphone sales



But the AI suite that Apple rolled out last fall with its new iPhone 16 lineup is only available in the U.S. and a few other markets. Apple's AI package still isn't ready in China, a major market where the iPhone has already been facing tougher competition from less expensive options rolling out from Chinese companies such as Xiaomi and Transsion, which

both enjoyed double-digit increases

Now there are worries about whether President-elect Donald Trump's threat to impose widespread tariffs on foreign-made products will affect key smartphone components and drive up prices a specter that could depress sales





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19,299.32

5,905.21

3.161.30

58.709.24

2.252.74

986.73

43,221.55

16,439.86

19,422.71

19,511.23

5,949.91

3.202.18

59.784.25

2.263.29

988.31

+703.27

+162.12

+246.06

+466.84

+1075.01

+107.00

+40.88

+9.16

+1.65%

+1.00%

+0.94%

+1.28%

+2.45%

+1.83%

+129%

+1.83%

+1.99%

+1.59%

+3.42%

+0.57%

+1.71%

+1.04%

+1.16%

+2.60%

+1.38%

+1.49%

DOW

NYSE

4,389

4.000

1915

388

65

Vol. (in mil.)

Pvs. Volume

Advanced

New Highs

Declined

NASD

6,565

6.439

2736

854

68

DOW Trans.

NYSE Comp.

DOW Util.

NASDAQ

S&P 500

S&P 400

Wilshire 5000

Russell 2000

Stocks of Local Interest

NAME	TKR	52-WK F LOW	RANGE <	CLOSE HIGH	CLOSE	СНС	%CHG	wĸ	МО	QTR	YTD %CHG	1YR %RTN	PE	DIV	Interestrates
	APD						,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,				,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,				\sim
Air Products Alistate Corp	ALL	212.24 150.17	→	337.00 209.88	306.90 188.03	-1.06 +1.22	-0.3 +0.7		*	*	+6.5 -2.5	+12.4	30	7.08 3.68	
Altria Group	MO	39.25	_ `	58.04	51.04	32	-0.6	_	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	-2.4	+33.6	10	4.08f	4
Am Eagle Outfit	AEO	15.36	<u> </u>	26.44	16.11	+.19	+1.2	-	<u>,</u>	<u> </u>	-3.4	-22.1	20	0.50	
Amer Elec Power	AEP	75.22	→	105.18	95.12	+.62	+0.7	<u> </u>	_	<u> </u>	+3.1	+17.6	22	3.72f	The yield on the
AstraZeneca PLC	AZN	60.47	*	87.68	65.68	+.31	+0.5	-	_	_	+0.2	-1.6	35	1.97e	10-year Trea-
Bk of NY Mellon	BK	52.64	<u>·</u>	82.72	82.04	+6.10	+8.0	<u> </u>	_	_	+6.8	+46.4	21	1.88f	sury note fell to 4.66% Wednes-
Boeing Co	BA	137.03	→	217.59	166.20	82	-0.5	—	-	-	-6.1	-24.5			day. Yields af-
Brist Myr Sqb	BMY	39.35		61.08	55.91	+.17	+0.3		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	-1.1	+15.0	14	2.48f	fect rates on
CSX Corp	CSX	31.43	→	40.12	32.46	+.32	+1.0	_	_		+0.6	-7.0	10	0.48	mortgages and
CVS Health Corp	CVS	43.56	→	80.75	52.14	+.57	+1.1	_	_	_	+16.2	-36.1	8	2.66	other consumer loans.
Cintas Corp	CTAS	146.29	→	228.12	195.70	+3.42	+1.8	_	_	_	+7.1	+30.0	13	1.56	PRIME FE
Citigroup	С	50.51	→	74.29	78.27	+4.77	+6.5	_	<u> </u>	_	+11.2	+38.8	20	2.24	RATE FUN
City Holding	CHCO	97.50	-	137.28	119.47	+1.87	+1.6	_	<u> </u>	_	+0.8	+10.4	16	3.16	LAST 7.50 4.3
Comcast Corp A	CMCS		↓	47.11	36.50	+.12	+0.3	_	_	_	-2.7	-13.5	10	1.24	6 MO AGO 8.50 5.3 1 YR AGO 8.50 5.3
Corning Inc	GLW	29.71	>	51.03	48.81	+1.38	+2.9		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	+2.7	+57.2	72	1.12f	1111AGO 0.50 5.0
Deere Co	DE	340.20	→	469.39	428.88	-3.43	-0.8	_	_	_	+1.2	+5.3	13	6.48f	
Dicks Sporting Gds	DKS	139.48		239.30	226.51	+5.84	+2.6	•	A	•	-1.0	+66.9	17	4.40	
Dominion Energy	D	43.53	→	61.97	53.65	04	-0.1	_	_	▼	-0.4	+17.0	28	2.67	Money Fund data provided iMoneyNet.Inc
Duke Energy	DUK	90.09	─	121.25	106.45	40	-0.4	A	A	•	-1.2	+10.8	68	4.17	imonoyivoamo
eBay Inc	EBAY	40.16	─	71.52	65.11	+.70	+1.1	•	A	A	+5.1	+57.4	13	1.08	
Enbridge Inc	ENB	32.86	→	44.14	44.33	+.26	+0.6	A	A	A	+4.5	+25.1	40	2.67	MONEY MARKET FUND
Enzo Biochem	ENZ	0.65	~	1.44	.70	+.05	+7.7	A	•	•	-2.0	-44.3			
Exxon Mobil Corp	XOM	95.77		126.34	111.51	+1.79	+1.6	A	A	A	+3.7	+11.9	11	3.96f	MSILF MMP/Wealth
FirstEnergy Corp	FE	35.41	-\$	44.97	39.22	+.05	+0.1	A	A	•	-1.4	+4.3	22	1.70	Goldman Sachs Investor
HP Inc	HPQ	27.43	-	39.79	32.79	+.12	+0.4	•	A	A	+0.5	+13.1	10	1.02	
Harley Davidson	HOG	27.37	~	44.16	29.50	+.63	+2.2	A	▼	•	-2.1	-17.6	6	0.69	
Huntgtn Bancshs	HBAN	12.02		18.45	17.04	+.45	+2.7	A	A	A	+4.7	+28.7	14	0.62	Commodities
JPMorgan Chase	JPM	164.30		254.31	252.35	+4.88	+2.0	A	A	•	+5.3	+43.1	16	5.00f	Energy prices
Kroger Co	KR	44.48	→	63.59	58.69	-1.23	-2.1	•	•	•	-4.0	+30.8	39	1.28	shot higher, with U.S. crude and
Lowes Cos	LOW	209.56		287.01	256.72	+5.53	+2.2	A	A	•	+4.0	+14.6	25	4.60f	heating oil rising
McDonalds Corp	MCD	243.53		317.90	282.30	+.72	+0.3	-	▼	•	-2.6	-1.7	25	7.08f	more than 3%.
Oracle Corp	ORCL	105.42		198.31	158.31	+2.00	+1.3	A	▼	•	-5.0	+50.2	21	1.60	Wholesale gas-
PNC Financial	PNC	139.69	─	216.26	200.44	+6.33	+3.3	A	A	A	+3.9	+25.9	16	6.40	oline and natu- ral gas gained
Papa Johns	PZZA	36.25	~ —	78.67	36.85	87	-2.3	A	▼	•	-10.3	-46.1	18	1.84	over 2% each.
Polaris Inds	PII	52.77	~ —	100.91	56.26	+.63	+1.1	A	▼	•	-2.4	-37.2	5	2.64	Gold and silver
Procter & Gamble	PG	146.28	-	180.43	159.65	09	-0.1	A	•	•	-4.8	+8.4	27	4.03	also rose.
PulteGroup Inc	PHM	100.24	→	149.47	115.97	+3.47	+3.1	A	A	A	+6.5	+3.1	9	0.88f	
Revvity Inc	RVTY	97.32		129.50	118.95	-1.78	-1.5	A	A	A	+6.6	+2.2	20	0.28	
Rockwell Automation	ROK	242.81		307.71	276.11	87	-0.3	A	▼	•	-3.4	-7.8	26	5.24f	
Schlumberger Ltd	SLB	36.52	-\$	55.69	40.64	+.77	+1.9	A	A	A	+6.0	-18.0	13	1.10	
Skyworks Solution	SWKS	82.13	-	120.86	92.28	+.71	+0.8	A	A	A	+4.1	-10.9	15	2.80	50
Truist Financial Cp	TFC	34.23		49.06	45.39	+1.48	+3.4	A	A	A	+4.6	+18.9		2.08	-22
Utd Bankshares WV	UBSI	30.68	-	44.43	38.17	+.49	+1.3	A	A	A	+1.7	-0.1	14	1.48	
Verizon Comm	VZ	37.59	\$	45.36	38.18	10	-0.3	A	•	▼	-4.5	+3.6	14	2.71	
WalMart Strs	WMT	53.44	─	96.18	91.34	+.55	+0.6	•	▼	A	+1.1	+74.5	45	0.83	
Wendys Co	WEN	14.73	\$	20.65	15.13			A	•	▼	-7.2	-18.3	17	1.00	
Wesbanco	WSBC	25.56	-	37.36	32.15	+.72	+2.3	A	▼	▼	-1.2	+6.0	13	1.48f	Foreign
I .															

Company Spotlight The sound of change

Sonos ended flat Wednesday after the maker of audio products announced it was eliminating its chief products officer position following last year's troubled rollout of its updated app. In a filing with regulators on Tuesday,

California-based Sonos said CPO Maxime Bouvat-Merlin would remain as an adviser to the company's interim CEO for a mutually agreed-upon transition period.



The announcement came just a day after the Sonos board said Patrick Spence was stepping down as CEO and member of the board. Tom Conrad. an independent member of the board since 2017, was named interim CEO.

Sonos released an update to its app in May of last year, with the company later acknowledging that users faced issues with volume control related to connectivity problems between certain players and the app.

*annualized

Sonos (SONO) Wednesday's close: \$14.23, flat Total return 1-yr 3-yr* -13.0% -20.0 **52-WEEK RANGE** Price-earnings ratio: Lost money Market value: \$1.733 billion

StoryStocks

U.S. stocks ripped higher after an encouraging update on U.S. inflation. The S&P 500 jumped 1.8% for its best day in two months Wednesday. The Dow Jones Industrial Average climbed 1.7%, and the Nasdaq composite gained 2.5%. Strong profit reports from the biggest U.S. banks also helped lift indexes. Wells Fargo, Citigroup and Goldman Sachs helped lead the way. Treasury yields eased in the bond market on hopes that Wednesday's inflation update could help convince the Federal Reserve to cut interest rates further later this year. European stocks rallied, while Asian markets were more subdued.

Wells Fargo & Co. WFC Close: \$75.95 **A**4.76 or 6.7% The bank's fourth-quarter earnings beat analysts' forecasts. \$80

0 52-week range

Vol.: **33.2m (2.0x avg.)** PE: **15.7** Mkt. Cap: **\$252.9 b** Yield: **2.1%** NeoGenomics NEO

Close: \$14.71 **\(\Delta 0.93 or 6.8%**

The operator of cancer-focused testing laboratories gave investors an encouraging revenue forecast for \$20 10 0 N D 52-week range \$19.11 Vol.: 2.1m (2.6x avg.) PE: ... Mkt. Cap: \$1.9 b Yield: ...

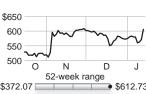
Vericel VCEL Close: \$57.55 ▼-1.12 or -1.9% The biopharmaceutical company's fourth-quarter revenue forecast fell short of Wall Street expectations.



Close: \$117.18 **A**8.33 or 7.7% QXO offered to buy the roofing ma terials distributor for about \$11 bil-



Goldman Sachs Group Close: \$605.92 **A**34.39 or 6.0% The investment bank beat Wall Street's fourth-quarter earnings and revenue forecasts.



Vol.: **5.1m (2.5x avg.)** Mkt. Cap: **\$190.2 b** PF: 17.8 Yield: 2.0%



Close: \$78.27 A 4.77 or 6.5% The bank's fourth-quarter earnings beat Wall Street forecasts





Mkt. Cap: \$400.9 m Yield: 3.6%



	PRIME	FED
	RATE	FUNDS
LAST	7.50	4.38
6 MO AGO	8.50	5.38
1 YR AGO	8.50	5.38

Money Fund data provided by

WK MO QTR AGO TREASURIES LAST PVS CHG 3-month T-bill 4.31 4.32 -0.01 ▼ 5.20 6-month T-bill 4.30 4.33 -0.03 52-wk T-bill 4.19 4.22 -0.03 \blacksquare 2-year T-note 4.37 -0.10 ▼ -0.14 ▲ 3.95 4.45 4.59 5-year T-note 7-year T-note 455 470 -015 ▼ ▲ **▲** 4.01 10-year T-note 4.66 4.79 -0.13 \blacksquare 30-year T-bond 4.88 4.98 -0.10 \blacktriangle

CONSUMER RATES	NAT'L AVG	WK AGO	6MO AGO	1YR AGO
48 month new car loan	6.97 ▲	6.86	6.88	7.50
Money market account	0.72 ▲	0.65	1.06	0.73
1 year CD	2.09 🛦	1.96	2.16	1.76
\$30K Home equity loan	2.34 ▲	2.32	2.09	8.74
30 year fixed mortgage	6.66 ▼	6.87	6.47	6.84
15 year fixed mortgage	5.94 ▼	6.01	5.74	6.01

+116

+12.4

1YR

AGO

1.2727

1.3435

1.0951

145.80

16.8910

+7.9

MONEY MARKET FUNDS - NATIONAL AVERAGE

6-MO 1-YR YLD PVS WK MO QTR AGO AGO 3.93 3.94 ▼ ▼ Tax-Free Retail 1.65 1.81 ▼ ▼ 2.41 2.05

MONEY MARKET FUNDS - NATIONAL HIGHS

YLD DEPOSIT PHONE #

Taxable Retail 4.44 \$1 mil. (888) 378-1630

Tax-Free Retail 2.40 \$1 mil. (800) 621-2550

3.97

2.10

+2.90

+2.58

Goldman Sachs Investor T-E MMF/Inst **FUELS** CLOSE PVS %CHG %YTD **Commodities** Crude Oil (bbl) 80.04 7750 +3.28 Energy prices Heating Oil (gal) 2.61 2.53 +3.49 +12.6

Natural Gas (mm btu)

Unleaded Gas (gal)

METALS	CLOSE	PVS	%CHG	%YID	
Gold (oz)	2,712.50	2,677.50	+1.31	+3.2	
Silver (oz)	31.32	30.13	+3.94	+8.2	
Platinum (oz)	931.30	936.20	-0.52	+4.2	
Copper (lb)	4.36	4.31	+1.14	+9.4	
Aluminum (ton)	2,608.25	2,571.75	+1.42	+3.4	
Palladium (oz)	965.50	940.70	+2.64	+6.9	
AGRICULTURE	CLOSE	PVS	%CHG	%YTD	
Cattle (lb)	1.99	1.97	+0.57	+2.4	
Coffee (lb)	3.30	3.22	+2.64	+3.4	
Corn (bu)	4.79	4.75	+0.90	+4.4	
Cotton (lb)	0.68	0.68	+0.40	-0.9	

4.08



MAJORS

Canadian Dollar

USD per Euro

Mexican Peso

USD per British Pound 1.2230

EUROPE/AFRICA/MIDDLE EAST

AGRICULTURE	CLOSE	PVS	%CHG	%YTD			
Cattle (lb)	1.99	1.97	+0.57	+2.4			
Coffee (lb)	3.30	3.22	+2.64	+3.4			
Corn (bu)	4.79	4.75	+0.90	+4.4			
Cotton (lb)	0.68	0.68	+0.40	-0.9			
Lumber (1,000 bd ft)	566.00	538.00	+2.88	+2.8			
Orange Juice (lb)	4.81	4.80	+0.19	-3.3			
Soybeans (bu)	10.43	10.43	-0.46	+4.5			
Wheat (bu)	5.47	5.46	+0.14	-0.8			
(Previous and change figures reflect current contract.)							

CLOSE

1.4330

1.0292

20.4830

CHG %CHG

+.24%

-.24%

-.07%

-.95%

-.24%

+.0029

-.0035

-.0007

-.0484

Foreign **Exchange**

The U.S. dollar

strengthened versus the euro and Swiss franc, but fell against the British pound. The greenback also weakened versus the Mexican peso and Japanese yen.

Israeli Shekel	3.6072	0177	49%	3.7530
Norwegian Krone	11.3179	0721	64%	10.3636
South African Rand	18.7679	1736	92%	18.6706
Swedish Krona	11.1553	0237	21%	10.3325
Swiss Franc	.9130	+.0003	+.03%	.8561
ASIA/PACIFIC				
Australian Dollar	1.6058	0105	65%	1.5020
Chinaga Visan	70014	0000	04.0/	71055



SIA/PACIFIC				
ustralian Dollar	1.6058	0105	65%	1.5020
hinese Yuan	7.3314	0006	01%	7.1055
ong Kong Dollar	7.7878	+.0001	+.00%	7.8227
idian Rupee	86.430	083	10%	82.823
ingapore Dollar	1.3674	+.0003	+.02%	1.3336
outh Korean Won	1456.66	-4.26	29%	1321.88
aiwan Dollar	32.94	05	15%	31.28

2:30 P.M. - Day before for Tuesday-Saturday publication 3:00 P.M. - Friday for Sunday & Monday publication 3:00 P.M. - 3 Days before for all Legals

A ADJUSTMENTS

The best selection service providers TMC is an additional in Morgantown .50 per day per line. 1x2 - 19 lines \$2.85 per day 1x3 - 29 lines §3.35 per day - 9 lines 2.35 per day \$100⁵⁰ per month **50** per 8550 per

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Morgantown



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Small Tree, Bush and Shrub Removal

Other Jobs Upon Request Call or Text 304-288-9956

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Customer Satisfaction 304-290-7620 macs.inc@outlook.com Lic. Wy #2160643 &

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DRIVER WANTED

We are seeking for a driver for my old family member on a part-time basis (Mondays & Fridays only)weekly pay \$510 must Have a valid state-issued driver's license Must be professional, safe and patient email us: patient email us: williambumgarner6@gmail.com

Service

Traffic/Crossing Guard Needed for Cheat lake Elementary Call 304-685-3439

Houses for Rent

3 BEDROOM HOME FOR RENT 1 mile form hospital \$1200 plus utilities Deposit & Lease No Pets 304-216-1355

Mobile Homes

Mobile Home For Rent 2 Bedroom 6 Miles from Town \$600 Plus Gas & Electric Deposit & Lease No Pets 304-216-1355

Commercial Property

Comerical Property For Rent 1000-2000 sq. ft. available if needed. Good Traffic, 15 mins to Morgatown and Uniontown Small loading dock, affordable rent, compaired to Morgantown.

Call for details: 304-276-0558

Cemetery Plots

Bev. Hills Mem. Gardens 2 grave lots, Sec J, Lot 191-A, Units 3-4, Sermon on the Mount, \$2,500 call 919-749-7220

Dogs



French Bulldog puppies. AKC. Shots, wormed, flea meds, heart worm. Born 10/25/24. 3 males. Ready now! Raised with other dogs,two cats and children Extremely affectionate. Using puppy pads. \$1800 304-594-8894

Golden Doodles CKC registered Ready to go now \$600 1 males and 1 females 304-319-6566

Miniature Schnauzer Pup Male, Health Guarantee \$500.00 724-998-7231



Persian kittens 12 weeks old. Black smoke, silver shaded, and white males available. Vet checked and 1st shots. CFA registered. Located in Wheelg, WV just 45 minutes from Pitts-burgh airport. Limited delivery assistance available, \$550.00

Call or text 304 312 0054

Autos

SUV's

FOR SALE 2008 Hummer H3 Sport Utility 4D \$7500 Black w/ new 33" tires, new

radiator, motor is 2yrs old. Call or text 304-288-9956

For sale
2009 Chevy Suburban
Good Condition
Many New Parts
\$6200 Negotiable 681-285-1123

Public Notices

Jan. 16, 23

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE

The undersigned Substitute Trustee, by virtue of the authority vested in him by that certain Deed of Trust, dated October 30, 2008, and duly recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Monongalia County, West Virginia, in Document No. 301035, in Book No. 1662, at Page 392 and re-recorded in Document No. 703571 MOD, in 1662, at Page 392 and re-recorded in Document No. 703571 MOD, in Book No. 2211, at Page 438 and re-recorded in Document No. 919543 MOD, in Book No. 2594, at Page 94, C Michael Smith and Sheila Hunt did convey unto Douglas J. Leech, Trustee(s), certain real property described in said Deed of Trust; and the beneficiary has elected to appoint Seneca Trustees, Inc., as Substitute Trustee; and default having been made under the aforementioned Deed of Trust, and the undersigned Substitute Trustee having been instructed by Rocket Mortgage, LLC fl/ka Quicken Loans, LLC fl/ka Quicken Loans, Inc. to foreclose thereunder, will offer for sale at public auction at the front door of the Monongalia County Courthouse in Morgantown, West Virginia, on

February 13, 2025 at 12:00 PM

the following described real estate, together with its improvements, easements and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate in 08 - Morgan District, Monongalia County, West Virginia, and more particularly described as follows:

All of the following described real estate, together with the buildings and improvements thereon and the appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate, lying and being in Morgan District, Monongalia County, West Virginia,

are, lying and being in Morgan District, Monoringalia County, West Virginia, more particularly bounded and described as follows, to-wit: Parcel One: That certain Lot 57, Phase IV, Morning Side Estates, as more particularly set forth on that certain plat prepared by Kenneth L. Moran, and dated April 17, 2007, and revised on September 11, 2007, which plat is recorded in Monongalia County, West Virginia, in Deed Book 1352, at page 466, containing 14,699 square feet,

page 466, containing 14,699 square reet, more or less.

Parcel Two: Beginning at a point being the northwest corner to Lot-58A and the southwest corner to Lot-57 of the Morningside Estates development as shown on the Phase IV Plat, Revised September 11, 2007, and in the line of Lawrence Tress, Deed Book 1128 at page 51, thence leaving said Lot-58A and Lot-57 and through said Lawrence Tress the following two new division lines; N 76 42' 10" W 58.16' to a point, thence; N 25 08' 30" E 10.22' to a point being a common corner to aforesaid Lot-57 of the Morningside Estates development, thence continuing with aforesaid Lawrence Tress and said Lot-57 the following two calls; S 76 42'10" E 56.06' to a point, thence; S 13 17 50" W 10.00' to the point of beginning containing 571 square feet, more or less, and being a part of the same property as was conveyed to Lawrence Tress by Deed Book 1128 at page 51. And being the same real estate conveyed to C. Michael Smith and Sheila Hunt, from T.J. Contracting and Custom Homes, LLC, a West Virginia limited liability company, by deed dated October 28, 2008, and which said deed is to be recorded simultaneously with the Deed of Trust.

This conveyance is made subject to any and all exceptions, reservations, restrictions, easements, rights-of-way, and conditions as contained in prior

restrictions, easements, rights-of-way, and conditions as contained in prior deeds of conveyance in the Grantors' chain of title.

At the time of the execution of the Deed of Trust, this property was reported to have an address of: 1066 Autumn Ave, Morgantown, WV 26508. The referenced real estate will be conveyed with no covenants of warranty, and subject to all covenants, restrictions, easements, rights of way and ty, and subject to all covenants, restrictions, easements, rights of way and reservations which may be a matter of record in the aforesaid Clerk's Office or visible upon the ground, all prior liens and encumbrances, including, without limitation, liens for real estate taxes, incinerator, sanitary and sewer charges. The purchasers at the sale shall be responsible for paying the recording costs and also the tax on the privilege of transferring real property (the cost of the tax stamp to be affixed to the deed). The purchasers shall be responsible for payment of all real estate taxes. The subject property will be sold in "AS IS" condition. The Substitute Trustee shall be under no duty to cause any existing tenant or person occupying the subject property to vacate said property.

occupying the subject property to vacate said property.

TERMS: \$9000.00 in cash and/or certified funds as deposit at the time of sale with the balance due and payable within 30 days of the day of sale.

FEDERAL TAX LIEN: In the event that there are Federal Tax Liens against the property, the United States would have the right to redeem the property within a period of 120 days from the date of such sale or the period allowable for redempting under local law whichever is longer. period allowable for redemption under local law, whichever is longer. Pursuant to the Deed of Trust, the Trustee may postpone the sale by public announcement at the time and place designated or by posting a

notice of the same, and act by agent in the execution of the sale. The parties secured by the Deed of Trust reserve the right to purchase the property at such sale.

SENECA TRUSTEES, INC.

5000 Coombs Farm Drive, Suite 104

Morgantown, WV 26508

(300) 413-0044 (304) 413-0044 (304) 292-2918 Toll free: (888) 534-3132 Reference File No. 64109 CC: The Dominion Post January 16, 2025, January 23, 2025

Jan. 16, 23 In the circuit court of monongalia county, west virginia

IN THE INTEREST OF: H.H. (F) DOB: 11/24/2019 SSN: xxxx CASE NO.: 24-JA-13 M.H. (F) DOB: 05/16/2017 SSN: xxxx CASE NO.: 24-JA-14 A.H. (M) DOB: 09/20/2024 SSN: xxxx CASE NO.: 24-JA-202

ADULT RESPONDENT(s):
Joseph Hagley, biological father of M.H., H.H., and putative father of A.H.,
Criquet Hamrick, biological mother of M.H., H.H., and A.H.,

Unknown Father of A.H.
NOTICE TO ADULT RESPONDENTS

NOTICE TO ADULT RESPONDENTS

UNKNOWN FATHER of A.H. AND JOSEPH HAGLEY

Upon information and belief, the State of West Virginia was unable to identify the biological father of minor child, A.H. (DOB 09/20/2024), and has identified Joseph Hagley as the putative father for minor child, A.H. (DOB 09/20/2024). However, any person purporting to have parental rights to the above-named child is hereby notified that a hearing is scheduled for February 19, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. before the Honorable Perri Jo DeChristopher at the Monongalia County Courthouse, located at 75 High Street 3rd Floor, Morgantown, WV 26505. You may appear at that time and defend any such rights if you choose to do so and that if you choose not to participate in the proceedings, your absence may affect your parenand defend any such rights if you choose to do so and that if you choose not to participate in the proceedings, your absence may affect your parental and custodial rights to the child.

<u>Unknown Father of A.H.</u>, your appointed legal representation in this matter is John Rogers, Esq., who can be reached at 304-692-8898.

Joseph Hagley, your appointed legal representation in this matter is Andrew Tyler Reseter, Esq., who can be reached at 724-963-4710.

/s/Samantha J. Elkins Samantha J. Elkins (W

Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Monongalia County, WV

Regional Fundraising Manager

Make-A-Wish seeks a motivated and energetic full-time development professional in its Morgantown office. Looking for a unique individual who is bold, excellent with people and knowledgeable about community.

Requires professional fundraising experience with expertise in major gifts, annual and individual giving, event planning and donor prospecting. Responsibilities also include office/staff management, public speaking and community outreach. Excellent written and verbal communication skills are a must, as well as a BA or equivalent experience. Familiarity with Salesforce is a plus. Organization has an excellent benefits package, hybrid work schedule and an open and rewarding work environment.

Email cover letter, resume, salary requirements and three references to Make-A-Wish at resumes@greaterpawv.wish.org.

No calls please. EOE.



Notice of Ancillary Filing without Administration to Creditors, Distributees & Legatees

Notice is hereby given that the following foreign will or affidavit of heirs has been filed in the Monongalia County Clerk's Office at 243 High Street, Room 123 Morgantown, WV 26505-5461 and no appointment or administration is being made pursuant to the provisions of West Virginia Code 44-1-14b. An interested person objecting to the filing of the foreign will or affidavit or objecting to the absence of appointment or administration being made in this state must file a statement with the Monongalia County Commission through the Monongalia County Clerk's Office at the address listed above within 60 days after the date of first publication or 30 days of service of the notice, whichever is later. If an objection is not timely filed, the objection is forever barred. The Monongalia County Commission upon receiving any timely objection thereto shall schedule a hearing or hearings thereon and order relief, if any, it considers proper including, but not limited to, an order directing that full and complete ancillary administration of the estate of the nonresident decedent

First Publication Date: Thursday, January 9, 2025

ESTATE OF

THOMAS N. COWELL DECEASED

1374 MOUNT PLEASANT ROAD HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP PA 15601

AFFIANT

SHARON KOLSON AFFIANT

4802 GREENHEAD CT MURRYSVILLE PA 15668

ESTATE OF

JOHN ROBIN MOORE DECEASED 14907 VIEW CREST ROAD CUMBERLAND MARYLAND 21502

AFFIANT

JONATHAN RYAN MOORE AFFIANT 5665 OLD FARM CT COLUMBUS OH 43213

ESTATE OF GEORGE W. RADABAUGH AKA GEORGE WASHINGTON RADABAUGH, GEORGE

RADABAUGH DECEASED 3001 GRAFTON RD GRAFTON OH 44044

AFFIANT

DIANA K. MANNING AFFIANT

1009 SHADE CREED ROAD VICTOR WV 25938

Subscribed and sworn to before me on Wednesday, January 8, 2025

arye & Blancy Clerk of the Monongalia County Commission



The Beaver Excavating Company is looking for a goal-driven Project Manager/Estimator to work as part of our team in Morgantown, WV. This position is responsible for all aspects of the planning and execution of assigned projects. This position works closely with project superintendents, owners, engineers, and construction managers. In addition, this role supervises and trains project engineers and other related project staff.

The Project Manager/Estimator creates clear and attainable project objectives while keeping a focus on quality, cost, and time. This role advocates a teamwork approach and keeps the lines of communication open to ensure the best possible outcome for the customer.

- Main Job Tasks & Responsibilities:
 Actively participates in ensuring job site safety according to Beaver safety policies
 - Runs 'Pre-Job', 'Mid-Job', and 'Post-Job' meetings
- Communicates production goals clearly to field supervision Manages multiple projects at one time
- Develops and communicates project schedule
- Ensures that the activities of subcontractors and suppliers are monitored, completed appropriately, and are understood by job site Superintendents and Foreman
- Énsures that subcontracts and purchase orders are completed correctly with all pertinent information and submitted in a
- Provides mentorship to subcontractors to meet project goals and requirements
- Communicates with owners and their representatives regarding budgets, schedules, and change management in a professional manner, ensuring a long term relationship
 - Leads project reviews and problem resolution with owners, subcontractors, and suppliers
- Responds timely to customer's needs without compromising safety, quality, or reputation
- Coordinates project close-out and ensures completion of proper documentation Maintains project quality and conformance to drawings and specifications
- Seeks to meet project DBE, MBE, and EEO requirements
- Informs customers of the Beaver Companies' abilities and areas of expertise
 Maintains a vision of value engineering and actively pursues implementation within the project
- Proactively looks ahead to identify and avoid potential challenges Maintains full awareness of all current project conditions and issues, including union, environment, geotechnical, government regulations and permits, materials supply, subcontractors, and schedules

Marketing & New Work Development Responsibilities:

- Develops and maintains positive relationships both publicly and professionally in and outside of the workplace
- Management & Development Responsibilities:
- Weighs-in on performance reviews for assigned personnel when necessary - Estimating & Bidding Responsibilities: Accurately and efficiently bids projects
- Develops pricing for RFPs, change orders, change authorizations, bulletins, etc.
- Demonstrates a thorough understanding of how each project was bid and communicates efficiently with project Superintendents.

Cost Management Responsibilities:

- ope changes Identifies and ma
- Coordinates job set-up, cost codes, and reporting project costs - Manages project payment applications
- Tracks quantities to update project revenues
- Directs pre-job planning, turnover, lessons learned, etc. Manages project claims and change orders
- Takes the lead to address and solve issues that impact safety, job costs, production, quality, and profitability
- Responsibilities and tasks outlined in this document are not exhaustive and may change as determined by the needs of the company

Skills & Requirements:

- Ability to demonstrate an understanding of industry practices and the impacts of project activities
- Excellent written and verbal communication Strong organizational and prioritization skills
- Strong leadership skills and complex problem-solving skills as it relates to customers, equipment, personnel, subcontractors, suppliers, governmental agencies, etc.
- Competent use of MS Office and construction software skills - Demonstrates respect for coworkers and customers
- Education & Experience:
- Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering, Construction Management or equivalent required; equivalent field experience will be considered
- 5 years' experience in the construction industry required
- Previous field experience preferred

 Previous experience in a supervisory role preferred View the full job description and apply via our website: https://www.beaverexcavating.com/careers/

Notice of Administration to Creditors, Distributees & Legatees

Notice is hereby given that the following estate(s) have been opened for probate in the Monongalia County Clerk's Office at 243 High Street, Room 123 Morgantown, WV 26505-5461. 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 through 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 Monongalia County Clerk's Office at the address listed above 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 within 60 days of the date of first publication in accordance with West Virginia Code 44-2.

Settlement of the estate(s) of the following named decedent(s) 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: Thursday, January 9, 2025 Claim Deadline: Monday, March 10, 2025

Jan. 9.16

TERRY RAY PRICE Estate Name: John T. Price 145 Meadowview Dr., Howell MI 48843 DAVID A. BLONIARZ Estate Name: Sandra Lee White 220 Sherwood Street Morgantown WV 26505-3118 Karen Hall, Esq. 235 High Street Suite 422, Morgantown WV 26505-5447 Executrix: Attorney: KAREN TIBBS AKA KAREN WOLFE TIBBS Estate Name: Krista R. Tibbs Aka Krista Renee Tibbs 460 Blackberry Ridge, Morgantown WV 26508-4869 Executrix: Attorney: Estate Name **CAROLYN HAGEN JACOBS HAMPSON** Administrator: Sheriff Of Monongalia County 116 Walnut Street, Morgantown WV 26505-5422 SHIRLEY CRESS Estate Name: Ronald A. Cress 17188 Magic Mountain Dr., Round Hill VA 20141-4401 Executor: GEORGE C. POOLE AKA GEORGE CALVIN POOLE Estate Name: Jeffrey S. Poole 636 Kingwood Pike, Morgantown WV 26508-3966 Executor: Estate Name: **BRADLEY WAYNE THOMAS** Germaine Thomas 4115 Cove Point Dr., Morgantown WV 26508-8679 Executrix: Estate Name: STEVE ANTHONY MORRIS Mary Lou Morris 1026 Bakers Ridge Road, Morgantown WV 26508-1593

Executrix: PATRICK EUGENE DEBERRY Estate Name: Administratrix: Patricia Faye Schamberger 401 Alexandria Dr., Reedsville WV 26547-2003

Estate Name: **EILEEN T. FORD** Executor: Arthur L. Ford 283 Spring Street, Morgantown WV 26505-3531 Estate Name: **BARBARA J. GUTMAN**

Dan J. Krupp 17020 Duck Lane, Haymarket Va 20169 Michael W. Barill, Esq. Steptoe & Johnson PLLC Po Box 1616, Morgantown WV 26507-1616 FRANK L. FIELD Estate Name: Joyce A. Riffel Nka Joyce Agnes Field Co Executrix: 1009 Dawson Rd., Princeton KY 42445-6214 Blanche L. Field Nka Blanche Leslie Kessler Co Executrix:

Executor:

Attorney:

Administratrix

65 Dawson Rd., Morgantown WV 26501-7618 **SARAH P. WHITTY** Estate Name: Executrix: Susannah W. Azzaro 447 Marietta Place, Pittsburgh PA 15228-1230 PATRICIA SUE MALOTT Estate Name:

Trisha Malott Po Box 776, Dellslow WV 26531-0776 Estate Name: MICHAEL JAMES JACKSON Administratrix: Catherine Oneal 443 Washington St., Morgantown WV 26501-6646 Estate Name: Executrix:

Prem L. Jain 2017 Anna Furnce Circle, Morgantown WV 26508-8063 Michael W. Barill, Esq. Steptoe & Johnson PLLC Po Box 1616, Morgantown WV 26507-1616 Attorney: **SYLVIA ELAINE BELT** Estate Name: Executrix: Tina Marita Hartzell 918 Bakers Ridge Rd., Morgantown WV 26508-1436

Beth L. Umina 125 Green Bag Rd., Morgantown WV 26501-7157 Fiduciary Commissioner: ANTHONY P. BARILL Estate Name Sherri L. Pisegna 214 Poplar Dr., Morgantown WV 26505-2539 Executrix:

WILLARD DAVID DEAVERS Estate Name: Alan Hubert Deavers 1069 Aarons Creek Rd., Morgantown WV 26508 Administrator: Estate Name: **ROSELLA ANNE MURRAY**

Lori Jean Mobley 74 New Hill Rd., Maidsville WV 26541-8102 Executrix: **DAVID KENT SUMMERS** Estate Name:

David Michael Summers 66 Central Ave., East Falmouth MA 02536-6218 George B. Armistead Executor: Fiduciary Commissioner: Po Box 835, Morgantown WV 26507-0835 **WILDA C. MICHAEL** Estate Name:

Freddie W. Eddy II 1937 Daybrook Rd., Fairview WV 26570-9207 Administrator: DEBRA MANCINI AKA DEBRA MARIE MANCINI Estate Name: Administrator: Steven Mancini 109 Bonita Dr., Hampton VA 23664-1905 THOMAS P. KILIONSKI AKA THOMAS P. KILIONSKI SR. Estate Name: Thomas Kilionski Jr. 66 Lawrence St., Morgantown WV 26508-6244 Stephen Kilionski Po Box 232, Great Bend NY 13643-0232 Co Executor:

GREGORY T. NICHOLSON Estate Name: Dianna Mccune 520 Herman Avenue, Star City WV 26505-2032 Executrix: **BERNARD IVAN SWINNEY** Estate Name: Administratrix: Debra Ann Swinney 668 E Brockway Ave., Morgantown WV 26501-6216

Subscribed and sworn to before me on 1/8/2025

Estate Name:

BONNIE SUE ST. CLAIR

for more information or email

dominionpost.com





TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH

Double-check for drug interactions when taking new medicines

My wife was recently dis- the exact problem you've charged after a lengthy hospital stay with multiple diagnoses. Most of her issues were treated medically and resulted in six new medications from four different medical disciplines, in addition to three other medications that were prescribed pre-hospitalization.

Finding drug interactions was fairly easy online, and the hospital's need to be spaced out a few hours apart, and this wasn't explained in my wife's discharge papers. I had to research those intervals on my own.

Using an online spreadsheet, I was able to create a daily schedule to be sure that the drug interactions are held to a minimum. My question is: Is it common practice discharge patients without a clearer idea of when their medications should be taken? -- E.W.

ANSWER: When a person is taken care of by multiple providers, there is always the risk that nobody is looking at the whole person's history, and medication interactions are among the many problems that can occur. Having a regular physician, such as a family physician or

DEAR DR. ROACH: internist, can help avoid identified.

However, the person's regular doctor needs the up-to-date information, which is sometimes lacking. Very few people do what you do, and I admire your dedication and thoroughness. However, the online programs don't always make it clear whether a drug interaction is high-risk. Many interactions that my prodischarge papers indi- gram alerts me to have cated dosing by morning, minimal or no clinical noon and night. How- significance. It takes clinever, some of the drugs ical judgment to be able to interpret these.

> One person who has the training to help and is often overlooked is your pharmacist. I strongly recommend getting all your prescriptions in one place and speaking to the pharmacist after an enormous change in your medical regimen, such as the six new medicines your wife started. The timing of medicines consists of both art and science, but some interactions cannot be overcome by changing the timing. So, an expert, either her doctor or pharmacist, is

Dr. Keith Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell. edu or send mail to 628 Virginia Dr., Orlando, FL 32803

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

half of relationships, it's calm, wait for opportunity and impossible to know how the other person might be experiencing it, but oh, how we'll try in the after- LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). glow of the Cold Moon.

ARIES (March 21-April

19). There's someone you haven't spoken to in a while, and now's the perfect time to reconnect. Strike a casual yet respectful tone. Navigating this subtle balance makes all the difference in creating a meaningful and influential connection

TAURUS (April 20-May

20). You may doubt you can accomplish what's asked, but extend a little faith. Dismissing belief is for the unimaginative. You're far too creative for that. Wear belief like a cape and you may actually fly.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21).

People who turn to you for insights may not listen when you give them. Why is this? Because most people who ask for advice really want something else - attention, to make a sale, compliments, etc.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's thrilling when everything is moving fast and lots is happening simultaneously. Though it may feel like a bit of a blur as you're going through it, later you'll count this among your most productive

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).

days.

You've racked up some incredible achievements, but bragging about them isn't your style. You're not stuck in yesterday's victories; your heart is firmly fixed on the horizon. You sense the best is yet to come.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your ability to focus amidst chaos is unmatched. While

Since we only see our others scramble, you remain do the one thing that solves 12 problems. Your influence

will grow. There are people lost along

a route you know all too well. You can help them find their way, but remember -- it's more effective to guide them toward meeting their needs than to try to fulfill all their desires yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Contributions fuel today's exchanges. The support you'll receive comes from those you've already backed; relationships thrive on reciprocity. If you've yet to invest, don't expect a return.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec.

21). There you go again, effortlessly enchanting those unprepared for your charms. Keep it up and you might just make someone fall head over heels. This power isn't one to take lightly, though.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-

Jan. 19). Your social savvy naturally guides you toward a light touch, polite candor and the wisdom of listening more than speaking. Skimming the surface of conversation can still convey key ideas and spark rapport.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb.

18). Some people have a way of turning everything into a contest. You'll have some stiff competition even if you don't start off with an awareness that this is, indeed, a game. Even so, you have as good a chance at the prize as any.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The early days of a relationship set the tone for everything that follows. Knowing that key expectations are being established, be mindful of your words.

CROSSWORD

mate

region

group

13 Bar order

15 Calendar

23 Stone that

sparks

26 Conspired

30 Young man

31 Mermaid's

32 Physicians'

home

org.

33 Rime

abbr.

12 Likely

ACROSS 41 Unfashionable 1 Buck's 42 Small

43 Special 4 Italian wine talent 46 Judge's 8 "Fernando" office 50 Nobleman

51 San Obispo 14 Grow tepid 52 Kimono sash 53 Poker

16 Some payment children 54 Sea eagle 17 Fossil fuel 55 Scam 18 Accomplish 56 Marsh 20 Cartoon

plant - Boop . 57 Ownership 21 Have proof being 58 Plus 22 Dandy

DOWN

1 Art movement 2 Energy cartel 3 Engrave 4 Say with confidence 5 Push

34 Put a spell 35 Cup edge 36 Crying 39 Disagreeable job

comes to — 6 Timbre 7 Part of **TGIF**

Answer to Previous Puzzle

PENT

8 Take 31 "Eves willingly Wide 9 Italy's 37 Made shape turbid 10 Watercraft 38 Animal 11 Friend pelt 19 Writer -39 Stopped

Fleming 40 - and 20 Scary yell haw 22 Fiber 42 Complain plant 43 Dread 23 Dart 44 Highway 24 Doily division material 45 Commedia

big —?'

source

woman

29 Noble-

26 Skin

27 Poi

25 "What's the dell'-46 Panacea 47 - Raton, Florida 48 Black 28 Arab ruler 49 Orange

zest 51 Conducted

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column and 3x3 block. Use logic and process elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty

CURTIS









PEANUTS

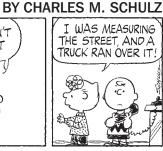


THE GRIZZWELLS

WORLD WAS IGHORANT











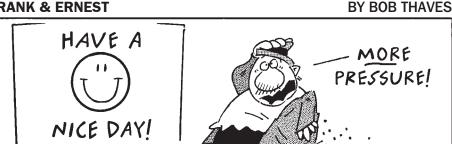
BEETLE BAILEY







FRANK & ERNEST



BORN LOSER







HAGAR THE HORRIBLE





JANRIC CLASSIC SUDOKU Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row,

level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest). 6 2 8 1 3 6 7 9 2 5 5 7 3 1 1 8 7 4 3 5 4

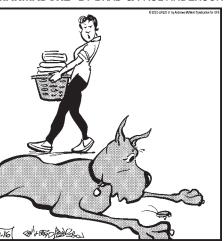


Rating: BRONZE

Solution to 1/15/25 6 5 6 5 2 8 1 5 3 8 8 3 4 2 5 9

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

MARMADUKE BY BRAD & PAUL ANDERSON FAMILY CIRCUS



"It must be great when the highlight of your overworked day is watching a crawly bug.'

KIDS ARE WEARING?

YEP, MY SON

TO GET ONE

BY BIL KEANE



"I'm three. How many fingers are you?"

BLONDIE HAVE YOU SEEN THE NEW BROCCOLI-TOP HAIRSTYLE THE

REN'T YEP, FIRST ONE PERSON FADS DOES IT, THE THEN SOON DOING IT!!



GARFIELD







MUTTS

