

Nourish Yourself
Fennel and saffron elevate
weeknight dish
Page A-3



SERVING NORTH-CENTRAL WEST VIRGINIA SINCE 1864

Sports
Home for 21 years, Mike Carey
honored in return to WVU
Page B-1



Local business
Apothecary's huge beer selection
pairs well with its cozy vibe
Page A-3

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Wednesday
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High 45 Low 36
Complete forecast
Page A-8

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OBITUARIES

PAGE A-7
Casseday, Betty
Christopher, James
Cress, Beverly
Lee, Henry

GOVERNMENT

House passes elections, 'ban-bans' bills with Democratic opposition

BY DAVID BEARD
DBeard@DominionPost.com

The House of Delegates passed two elections bills and a car-ban bill on Tuesday — two with Democratic opposition and one with bipartisan opposition.

HB 4017 sets the times for close of voter registration: 11:59 p.m. for online registration and close of business for county clerks' offices for in-person.

The portion that drew opposition sets new criminal penalties. It makes coercing or offering payment in exchange for a person registering to vote a misdemeanor subject to fine up to \$1,000 and/or jail time up to a year.

It also makes voting intentionally via absentee ballot and in person a felony subject to a fine up to \$1,000 and one-10 years incarceration.

Minority Leader Sean Hornbuckle, D-Cabell said he believes in safe, secure, fair elections. But "slow down and be careful of what we're doing here." The intent may be good, but the bill's language is open to interpretation.

It could discourage people from getting involved in the process, he said. It could make it illegal to set up a table at a college, offering water and cookies, and encouraging people to register. It could make the secretary of state's program illegal that qualifies any West Virginia high school that registers 85% of eligible students to vote to earn the Jennings Randolph civic engagement award.

"This is problematic," he said. "This could criminalize our secretary of state."

The vote was 90-7, with all opposition from Democrats, including, locally, Delegates Joey Garcia, Anitra Hamilton and Evan Hansen. It would take effect

SEE ELECTIONS, A-2

MORGANTOWN

Residents to see higher trash bills

BY BEN CONLEY
BConley@DominionPost.com

Morgantown residents and businesses are about to see their trash and recycling rates increase — twice.

On February 28, monthly rates will jump per the negotiated terms of the new five-year contract negotiated early last

year between the city and trash and recycling hauler Republic Services.

Residential rates will climb from \$21.35 to \$22.84. Commercial rates vary based on the amount of service needed.

On Tuesday, representatives of Republic came before Morgantown City Council to explain an additional

\$2.43 monthly is coming to residential bills (4% for commercial customers) by way of a rate increases approved for the Republic-owned Mountaineer Transfer Station by the West Virginia Public Service Commission.

The news didn't go over well for much of council. Members asked if Republic was requesting

the increase or simply making council aware.

It's the latter. The contract between the city and the hauler basically explains that any PSC-approved increases to fuel surcharges or disposal fees paid by the hauler will be passed on to

SEE HIGHER, A-2

Big name, big flavor



Ron Rittenhouse/The Dominion Post

Celebrity chef Aaron Sanchez talks about some of the Super Bowl Favorites dishes now available at his restaurant, Adobo Cantina, on the WVU Evansdale Campus. Sanchez himself served meals to students on Tuesday, to celebrate the special menu.

TV chef Aaron Sanchez brings Super Bowl menu to WVU eatery

BY JIM BISSETT
JBissett@DominionPost.com

Uh, excuse me, Taylor Swift? Can I get you to scoot over a couple of seats? Thanks.

Pay no mind to the Pittsburgh Steelers sweatshirt Estefania Ortega was wearing Tuesday at WVU's Café Evansdale.

She was patiently waiting to see a Super Bowl celebrity of a different kind.

"I'm just here for Chef Aaron," the WVU animal sciences major from Union City, N.J., said, laughing.

As in, Chef Aaron Sanchez, the TV chef who was paying a call at the state's flagship university to see how his Adobo Catina was doing.

Sanchez, who serves up his culinary expertise as a judge on FOX's food competition shows "Master Chef" and "Master Chef Junior," launched the endeavor last year with the help of Sodexo, the food service giant that also partners with the school in Morgantown.

"This is my second visit back," he said.

"I love this place. And love to see people enjoying the food. This is why we do this."

The cantina, which holds the center grill spot at the café, brings a variety of the traditional Mexican fare, and other culinary takes for which he's known, to the lunchtime university crowd.

Meanwhile, this particular lunchtime university crowd — including Ortega and her best friend, Aliyah Aponte, a forensic science major and fellow Jerseyite from Vineland — still got to enjoy three new Super Bowl-themed items debuted for the day in preparation for the Big Game two weeks from now.

With Sanchez pitching in, the cantina served up pineapple ginger wings, albondigas sliders and Mardi Gras king cake, which is a dessert nod to his Johnny Sanchez Restaurant in New Orleans.

The sliders are from his grandmother's recipe. The ginger wings are the creation of his mother, Zarela Martinez, the chef and restaurateur who inspired him.

"Oh, yeah, we're bringing something different," he said.

"That's just what my mom is about in the kitchen."

The matriarch found herself divorced and in El Paso, Texas, with two young sons, Aaron and his brother, Rodrigo, to raise.

A chance apprenticeship with Paul Prudhomme, the celebrity chef in New Orleans, gave her the confidence to make the leap to New York

SEE FLAVOR, A-2

CRIME

Nine arrested in multi-location drug bust

BY ERIN CLEAVENGER
ECleavenger@DominionPost.com

Nine people were taken into custody Monday following a multi-location drug bust coordinated by the Mon Metro Drug Task Force. Large amounts of drugs, money and firearms were recovered during the effort.

Throughout December 2023, investigators with the task force received multiple tips regarding a coordinated drug trafficking operation in the Morgantown area. According to reports from Task Force Officer Mark Trump, all the sources said Damir A. Swann, 28, of Clinton Township, Mich. (a suburb of Detroit), was involved in a conspiracy to sell drugs. The sources said Swann and his group were "well armed and went above and beyond to use their firearms to protect their drugs and money."

Investigators found evidence that Swann led a group of at least four other males from the Detroit area and two females from the Mansfield, Ohio, area.

Robert Crawford, 26; Jajuan Odum, 26; Darnell Spearman, 18; and Juan Patterson were identified as the males from Detroit. Kenietha Sandra Cason, 21, and Shdiamond Adams, 19, were identified as the females from Mansfield, Ohio, according to Trump's report.

Swann and Patterson were allegedly both fugitives from the state of Ohio for felony related drug crimes involving fentanyl and were listed as armed and dangerous.

During the investigation, it was discovered that Cason rented 220 E. Brockway Ave. Apt. 2 and Adams rented 222 E. Brockway Ave. Apt. 1, in Morgantown — according to Google maps, these are the apartment buildings directly across from the car wash. These apartments were allegedly used to store drugs, money and firearms for Swann's group.

They also identified Rebekah Rosalyn Feict, 47, of Morgantown, who rented 320 Pennsylvania Ave. Apt. 8 (which Google maps pictures as the low building at the dead end of Pennsylvania near the intersection with Pietro Street) and Emily Nicole McHenry, 34, of Morgantown, who rented 755 Garrison Ave. (located

SEE DRUG, A-2



INSIDE

LOCAL **A3** | OBITUARIES **A7** | OPINION **A5** | CROSSWORDS **B8** | COMICS **B8** | SPORTS **B1**

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HIGHER

FROM PAGE A-1

the customer.

Interestingly enough, the same company that owns the transfer station picks up the city’s trash.

And there’s the rub. Representatives of Republic repeatedly stated the increase tied to the transfer station has nothing to do with nag-

ging customer service issues raised by members of council.

“We’ve been operating at a loss of over \$1 million dollars per year for several years,” Republic’s Renee Shipley said of the transfer station.

Councilor Brian Butcher was unmoved, explaining he deals with complaints about Republic’s service nearly

every day.

“We’ve made requests, made complaints, beat our heads against the wall. It’s the same thing ... That’s why there’s some heartburn on this council,” he said. “I think it would be a much easier pill for us to swallow had the service and the promises been delivered on since the time when we gave a rate increase.”

The transfer station increases have been in the works for nearly a year.

Last June, the Monongalia County Commission voted to file a written protest with the WVPSC over the proposed changes.

The new rates when into effect in November for individuals and contractors hauling directly to the transfer station.

DRUG

FROM PAGE A-1

off Snider Street).

Investigators allege Feicht and McHenry allowed Swann and his group to use their apartments as places to “set up shop” and meet with drug customers.

Throughout January, the task force conducted seven controlled purchases of either fentanyl or methamphetamine from the group. During those meetings, Trump stated, investigators obtained evidence that the group possessed more than a pound of fentanyl at a time and often used Airbnbs or homes that can be rented for short-term lodging as places to stay, meet certain customers and store drugs, money and firearms.

During these controlled purchases, Trump reported that Swann, Patterson, Crawford, Odum, Spearman, Cason and Feicht were all directly involved in the distribution of fentanyl or methamphetamine.

Further evidence was obtained on Jan. 25 after members of the group checked out of an Airbnb on Flatts Lane in Morgantown and left approximately 2 ounces of fentanyl — worth around \$6,000 — inside the residence.

Based on the evidence, task force members were granted search warrants for five separate locations in Monongalia County.

The morning of Jan. 29, the five warrants were served by members of the task force, Morgantown Police Department, West Virginia State Police and West Virginia University Police Department.

During a search of 541 Rockley Road, located off of Tyrone Road, police found Swann and Patterson. Trump said the two men jumped out of a window and fled but were captured after a foot chase. Swann allegedly had a “substantial amount” of cash in his hand when he was captured.

Inside the Rockley Road residence, several ounces of fentanyl and methamphetamine were seized as well as multiple bundles of currency on the suspects and throughout the house. At least three loaded handguns were also recovered, according to Trump’s report.

At the 222 E. Brockway Ave. apartment rented by

Adams, law enforcement allegedly found Odum along with several ounces of fentanyl, bulk cash and items used to prepackage substances for retail level sales.

Inside Cason’s apartment at 220 E. Brockway Ave. investigators encountered Cason and Adams. They allegedly recovered approximately three ounces of fentanyl, materials to prepackage substances for retail sale, bulk cash and around nine firearms. Swann’s Michigan identification card was also observed in Cason’s bedroom.

A search of Feicht’s apartment at 320 Pennsylvania Ave. led to the discovery of Feicht and a notepad allegedly used as a ledger to document money owed for certain amounts of controlled substances. Trump reported the ledger had specific amounts of money owed for methamphetamine and the corresponding weight of the substance. It also indicated an amount of cash owed to Crawford.

The fifth warrant was for 755 Garrison Ave., where McHenry was found. During that search, law enforcement allegedly recovered around an ounce of fentanyl.

Eight of the nine suspects were arraigned in Monongalia County Magistrate Court starting Monday afternoon. Patterson had yet to be arraigned as of Tuesday afternoon, according to court records.

Swann, Spearman and Crawford are each charged with two counts of possession with intent to distribute controlled substances and conspiracy to distribute controlled substances. Their bonds were set at \$500,000 each.

Adams, Cason, Odum and McHenry are each charged with one count of possession with intent to distribute controlled substances and conspiracy to distribute controlled substances. Bonds for Adams, Cason and Odum were set at \$500,000. McHenry’s was set at \$50,000.

Feicht is charged with one count of conspiracy to distribute controlled substances. Her bond is \$50,000.

The group is currently being held at North Central Regional Jail. They are scheduled for preliminary hearings starting Feb. 7.



Ron Rittenhouse/The Dominion Post

Aaron Sanchez makes a video with WVU students Aliyah Aponte and Estefania Ortega as part of his Super Bowl Favorites appearance Tuesday at Adobo Cantina.

FLAVOR

FROM PAGE A-1

City, where she eventually opened her own restaurant.

Sanchez still smiles when she remembers the little family’s first week in the big city.

On one of those evenings, she smoked out their entire apartment building while roasting chiles for a recipe.

Far away from Manhattan in Morgantown on Tuesday, an eatery on the Evansdale campus was just as smoking, in a metaphorically menu kind of way.

“Yep, I think they’re liking it,” said the

cantina’s executive chef Monica Gaarz said.

Ortega and Aponte liked the autographs from Sanchez and the smartphone video greeting he gave to Ortega’s mom, in Spanish.

And when they sidled up for their food, Sanchez served them personally.

“Two VIPs right here,” he said.

So, how was it? “Oh, my God,” Ortega said, going in for the wings. “Perfect.”

“Couldn’t be better,” Aponte seconded, over her slider. “You know, we try to cook. We’re just not very good at it.”

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BASED ON THE EVIDENCE, TASK FORCE MEMBERS WERE GRANTED SEARCH WARRANTS FOR FIVE SEPARATE LOCATIONS IN MONONGALIA COUNTY.

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The Dominion Post

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EDUCATION

Mon County Math Field Day winners announced

BY JIM BISSETT
JBissett@DominionPost.com

So, just how much interest are paying on that credit card and what does it mean for your monthly household expenses, exactly?

And that square footage your contractor is talking about – well, heck, you just needed the driveway resurfaced. You weren’t counting on fractions and division, and all that.

Good luck, doubling up on that recipe while you’re at it: What’s two-thirds, times-two, anyway?

Nothing like those grown-up revelations about math, the subject you used to love to hate in school, Monica McCartney says.

“You never get away from

math,” as she likes to say, and she should know.

McCartney is the middle school math coach for Monongalia County Schools.

It’s her job to demystify that subject, so youngsters can grow up to be comfortable adults in a world brimming with ledgers of numbers — like it or not.

Mon’s district in the meantime just came out of its 2024 Math Field Day competition, annual showcase for top-equation solvers in the county’s elementary, middle and high school columns.

The regional contest for students across north-central West Virginia is March 23 at University High School.

Mon’s winners

Fourth grade

- First place – Dan Nguyen, North Elementary School
- Second place – Lavitra Bodas, Suncrest Elementary School
- Third place – Pierino Silveri, North Elementary School
- Alternates — Lacey Gross, Mason-Dixon Elementary School; Camden Evans, Cheat Lake Elementary School

Fifth grade

- First place — Luke Wan, North Elementary School
- Second place — Xinxi Xu, North Elementary School
- Third place — Joseph Samuel, Covenant Christian School

- Alternates — Wesley Paulk, Ridgedale Elementary School; Tre Tallman, Brookhaven Elementary School

Sixth grade

- First place — Riya Zinn, Suncrest Middle School
- Second place — Laura Du, Suncrest Middle School
- Third place — Anand Subramani, Suncrest Middle School
- Alternates — Isaac Richards, Mountaineer Middle School; Arjun Chadha, Suncrest Middle School

Seventh grade

- First place — Gloria Hu, Suncrest Middle School
- Second place — Isabell Tabone, Suncrest Middle School
- Third place — Leo Grammer,

Westwood Middle School

- Alternates — Ethan Rakes, Mountaineer Middle School; Umit Avci, Suncrest Middle School

Eighth grade

- First place — Emily Liu, Suncrest Middle School
- Second place — Breanna Li, Suncrest Middle School
- Third place — Kyrian Haas, Suncrest Middle School
- Alternates — Eliot Sorensen, Suncrest Middle School; Tessa Abildo, South Middle School

Ninth grade

- First place — Larry Du, Morgantown High School
- Second place — Caden Yao,

SEE WINNERS, A-4

Nourish Yourself: Provencal braised chicken



AP photo

This image released by Milk Street shows a recipe for braised chicken with fennel and saffron.

Fennel and saffron elevate weeknight dish

BY CHRISTOPHER KIMBALL
Associated Press

In this recipe from our book “Tuesday Nights Mediterranean,” which features weeknight-friendly meals from the region, we deeply brown tomato paste to lay the foundation of flavor for the braising liquid. Deglazing the pan with dry white wine adds acidity, while scraping up the flavorful browned bits ensures that no flavor goes wasted.

Fresh fennel, garlic, orange zest and saffron give the braise a rich, heady perfume and an unmistakably Mediterranean flavor. Any uncooked dry white wine works well here, but ideally look for one produced in southern France, such as white Côtes du Rhône or marsanne.

We use strips of orange zest instead of grated zest to lend citrusy notes to the braise. A sharp Y-style vegetable peeler is the best tool for

peeling away zest strips, but try to remove only the colored peel, not the bitter white pith just underneath.

Serve the chicken with toasted crusty bread drizzled with olive oil.

PROVENCAL BRAISED CHICKEN

Start to finish: 45 minutes
Servings: 4

1 1/2 pounds boneless, skinless chicken thighs, trimmed, patted dry and cut crosswise into 1-inch pieces

Kosher salt and ground black pepper

1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil

1 medium red onion, halved and thinly sliced

1 medium fennel bulb, trimmed, cored and thinly sliced

2 tablespoons tomato paste

3 medium garlic cloves, minced

1/4 teaspoon red pepper flakes

2 wide strips orange zest (each about 2 inches long), plus 2 tablespoons orange juice

1/2 cup dry white wine

1/4 teaspoon saffron threads

1 cup lightly packed fresh basil, torn

In a medium bowl, toss the chicken with 1/2 teaspoon each salt

and black pepper; set aside. In a large Dutch oven over medium-high, heat the oil until shimmering. Add the onion, fennel and 1/2 teaspoon salt, then cook, stirring occasionally, until the vegetables begin to brown, about 10 minutes.

Add the tomato paste, garlic, pepper flakes and orange zest. Cook, stirring often, until the tomato paste begins to darken and stick to the pot, about 4 minutes. Reduce to medium and add the wine. Bring to a simmer and cook, scraping up any browned bits, until the liquid is almost evaporated, about 3 minutes.

Add the chicken, 3 cups water and the saffron, then stir to combine. Bring to a simmer, then reduce to medium-low and cook, uncovered and stirring occasionally, until a skewer inserted into the chicken meets no resistance, about 15 minutes.

Off heat, remove and discard the zest strips. Stir in the orange juice and about half the basil, then taste and season with salt and black pepper. Transfer to a serving dish and sprinkle with the remaining basil.

— For more weeknight-friendly recipes, go to Christopher Kimball’s Milk Street at 177milk-street.com/ap.

POLICE

MPD says missing woman found ‘safe and sound’

BY ERIN CLEAVENGER
ECleavenger@DominionPost.com

The story of a missing West Virginia University student went viral in the Morgantown and Pittsburgh area Tuesday after social media posts alerted the community of her apparent disappearance from the Pittsburgh International Airport on Sunday.

The posts said 22-year-old Taylor Mras, said to be a senior at WVU, was last seen at the airport boarding a plane to Tampa, Fla., but had not discussed her travel plans with anyone and had left most of her possessions, including her dog, behind. The posts alleged she may have been a victim of human trafficking.

The Dominion Post reached out to West Virginia University regarding Mras’ status as a student. According to the university,

Mras is not currently enrolled as a student at WVU and has not been at any point during the spring semester.

On Monday, the Morgantown Police Department began an investigation for Mras and a multi-agency effort to find her ensued. Allegheny County Police Department in Pennsylvania posted on its Facebook page that while neither the department nor airport officials had received an official report on Mras, officers did review surveillance video from the airport and Mras had been seen being dropped off at the airport on Jan. 28 and then boarding a flight alone.

Just before 3 p.m. Tuesday, Morgantown Police Department issued a statement that Mras was “located safe and sound” at around 1:30 p.m.

No other information is available at this time.

LOCAL BUSINESS

Apothecary’s huge beer selection pairs well with its cozy vibe



EVA MURPHY

APOTHECARY ALE HOUSE & CAFE got its start on Chestnut Street in Downtown Morgantown but has long called 227 Spruce St. home. The narrow space has high ceilings, weathered floorboards and a moody aesthetic. Apothecary is known for its alcoholic beverages, but is more sophisticated and subdued than the average watering hole — especially given the lack of a blaring television. During the warmer seasons, patrons can enjoy an outdoor patio and seating area, complete with a fire pit and games like bocce ball. A privacy fence lends a sense of seclusion despite a busy street being mere steps away.

With over two dozen taps featuring a rotating selection of brews and more than 100 varieties of

bottled beer, Apothecary is a wonderful option for beer fans who want to find an old favorite or perhaps try something new. The impressive range of domestic and imported beers has made it a frequent winner of the “Best Beer Selection” category of Morgantown Magazine’s “Best of Morgantown” competition.

On a recent visit, I enjoyed a Stroopwafel Bier by Bad Shepherd Beer Company based in Charleston. It echoed the caramel and cinnamon notes of its pastry namesake, the Stroopwafel cookie. The food menu is limited but features several delicious options that pair well with the libations. I tried the smoked oysters (watch out; they’re spicy) and devoured a truly excellent, fresh-from-the-oven soft pretzel with house-made beer cheese. The food and drink were great, but the real treat was the opportunity to enjoy them in a laid-back and unbar-like atmosphere.

SEE APOTHECARY, A-4

EDUCATION

Teachers: Low parent involvement a problem in W.Va. schools

BY BRAD McELHINNY
WVMetroNews.com

Only about 5.5% of teachers responding to a state Department of Education survey described high parent involvement at their schools.

That was one of the big takeaways as state Superintendent Michele Blatt described the survey results before the Senate Education Committee today.

The result about parental involvement sparked a discussion, with comments by Senator Jay Taylor, R-Taylor.

“It’s almost student and parent apathy. I don’t know how we address that. It’s almost a cultural issue,” Taylor said.

Blatt agreed.

“It is a matter of no appreciation of the educa-

tion system by the parents,” she said of some parental priorities. “It does go back to the culture and the mindset of so many of our communities.”

Other results from the survey included 64.2% of respondents describing their workloads as very challenging while about 35% said their workload is manageable.

About 55% of teachers who responded described adequate access to teaching materials.

And 84.4% said they feel supported by their school’s administration.

Those results are generally in line with the results of a recent survey by the West Virginia Education Association. That survey underscored perceptions of salaries, student behavior, and burnout.

The WVEA found a 73% dissatisfaction rate with current working conditions in the past year in education, with just 2% saying they are satisfied.

The WVEA survey showed that 39% of respondents described serious concern about parental involvement. About 80% of respondents described parental involvement as a somewhat serious issue.

As Fred Albert, director of American Federation of Teachers-West Virginia, listened to the Department of Education survey results he concluded they were in line with what educators have been hearing across the state.

“I was not surprised at all, actually, because I think it pretty much mirrored the surveys that have been done the past

couple of years,” Albert said. “Our teachers are feeling overworked, overburdened and they don’t think people are listening to them.”

He continued by saying student absenteeism and lack of support from the home are common concerns.

Albert said he hopes such surveys can provide context as legislation about schools is considered.

“Absolutely, we hope that could bring about bills that would help,” Albert said, but he also reflected on how much state government can truly do about educational attitudes in people’s homes.

“I don’t think you can legislative that,” he said, “but any help would be welcome.”

STATE

A sampling of bills introduced Tuesday

DPNews@DominionPost.com

Here is a sampling of bills introduced Tuesday, Jan. 30. Local sponsors and cosponsors are noted.

■ SB 592, to authorize the Division of Motor Vehicles to provide images of persons issued any identification or license to the Secretary of State for voter identification purposes. Sen. Jay Taylor, R-Taylor, co-sponsor.

■ SB 593, to prohibit ranked choice voting in any election held in West Virginia.

■ SB 596, to provide further assurances to the United States Environmental Protection Agency regarding the state of West Virginia’s application for primary enforcement authority over underground carbon dioxide sequestration programs in the state of West Virginia.

Sen. Randy Smith, R-Tucker, lead sponsor.

■ SB 597, providing permanent partial disability awards for occupational pneumoconiosis (black lung). Sen. Mike Caputo, D-Marion, co-sponsor.

■ SB 601, the West Virginia Women’s Bill of Rights.

■ SJR 8, a proposed constitutional amendment: The possession of cannabis for purposes of consumption by adults 21 years of age or older shall be lawful in quantities of no more than 2 ounces, or four individual plants per person. Caputo, co-sponsor.

■ HB 5358, s to create an ombudsman program within the Division of Corrections and Rehabilitation to review complaints against a state agency or correctional facility.

DRUGS

Fentanyl state of emergency declared in Portland, Ore.

Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — Several elected leaders in Oregon declared a state of emergency on Tuesday for downtown Portland over the public health and public safety crisis fueled by fentanyl.

Oregon Gov. Tina Kotek, Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler and Multnomah County Chair Jessica Vega Pederson made

the declaration for a 90-day period during which collaboration and response will come from a command center downtown. The three governments are directing their agencies to work with first responders in connecting people addicted to the synthetic opioid with resources including drug treatment programs and to crack down on

drug sales.

“Our country and our state have never seen a drug this deadly addictive, and all are grappling with how to respond,” Kotek said in a statement.

The declaration is a recommendation from a governor-established task force that met for several months last year to determine ways to rejuvenate downtown Portland.

People addicted to fentanyl who interact with first responders in Portland’s downtown in the next 90 days will be triaged by this new command center. Staff can connect people with various resources from a bed in a drug treatment center to meeting with a behavioral health clinician to help with registering for food stamps.

NATION

Teachers strike in Boston suburb enters its eighth day, with tensions fraying

Associated Press

NEWTON, Mass. — A teachers strike in a Boston suburb entered its eighth day Tuesday — one of the longest in recent state history — with both sides still unable to agree on salaries and other issues.

The Newton School Committee on Tuesday said it made another revised offer to the Newton Teachers Association, which it described as “a fair and competitive offer that addresses the concerns that the NTA has expressed to the negotiating team and publicly.”

“Throughout the duration of the strike, we have

presented increasingly competitive (cost of living adjustment) proposals, even when compared to the highest-paying peer districts,” the committee said in a statement.

The union has said it is seeking living wages for all employees, increased paid family leave time and a guarantee that social workers will be placed in every elementary and middle school.

The school committee proposal addresses union priorities, according to the school committee, including 12 weeks paid parental leave, smaller class sizes and increased social worker support for students.

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FROM PAGE A-3

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WINNERS
FROM PAGE A-3

Morgantown High School

■ Third place — Pavan Subramani, Morgantown High School

■ Alternates — Maxwell Abildo, Morgantown High School; William Tapia, Morgantown High School

10th-12th grade

and noon-8 p.m. on Sundays.

EVA MURPHY is a freelance business writer for The Dominion Post. She writes a column on businesses, churches and other entities in the city. To suggest a topic, email her at DPNews@DominionPost.com

■ First place — Lauren Shen, Morgantown High School

■ Second place — Sanketh Guppi, Morgantown High School

■ Third place — Austin Luo, Morgantown High School

■ Fourth place — Shankar Subramani, Morgantown High School

■ Fifth place — Grace Yan, Morgantown High School

■ Sixth place — Joyce Hu, Morgantown High School

■ Seventh place — Andrew Kisner, University High School

■ Eighth place — Will DeVault, University High School

■ Ninth place — Claire Lu, Morgantown High School

■ 10th place — Luke Puderbaugh, Morgantown High School

■ Alternates — Maxwell Chen, Morgantown High School; Isaiah Harvey, University High School

The Dominion Post

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EDITORIAL

Our immigration problems require humane solutions

Gov. Jim Justice and 24 other governors of (mostly red) states have signed a letter of support for Texas Gov. Greg Abbott’s so-called “self-defense” tactics to guard against migrants crossing the U.S.-Mexico border: Those tactics have included, but not been limited to, lining riverbanks with layered coils of razor wire and installing a “wall” of large rotating buoys with nets underneath.

The U.S. Supreme Court recently decreed U.S. Border Patrol Agents may cut through the razor wire, since it can hinder their ability to do their jobs. Abbott has seemingly accepted the letter of the law, though not the spirit: Under his guidance, new razor wire continues to be installed on the Rio Grande’s Texas shores. Unfortunately, the buoys and nets — which may be responsible for at least one migrant’s death — also remain in place.

Most of us can agree the U.S.’s immigration system has flaws that must be addressed. But at some point, we stopped agreeing that immigrants should be treated like fellow humans. Some even started advocating for and implementing inhumane measures.

The Washington Post interviewed a young Venezuelan couple trapped in the shallow waters of the Rio Grande at Eagle Pass, Texas. Behind them was Mexico — where they’d been chased by criminals and forced to flee into the water. In front of them was the razor wire that kept them from the safety of land. They were terrified to go to the legal crossing, because they feared Mexican authorities would push them into the hands of criminal organizations; but they couldn’t exit the river on the Texas side, even though soldiers had been watching them pace along the riverbank for two days. “It was never my plan to cross illegally,” the young man told reporters.

As this couple shows us, immigrants who come to our border are fleeing things far scarier and more dangerous than even Abbott’s inhumane ploys. They, and most other immigrants seeking to cross the border, are not criminals or drug smugglers. They are people, just like us, who are desperate for a better life. As long as that remains the case, they will continue to come.

The solution is not to build bigger walls, or station more soldiers with more guns, or put up more razor wire. The solution is to repair the broken pieces of our legal immigration system and streamline the aspects that do work.

President Biden and some members of Congress have tried to focus efforts on increasing resources to clear asylum backlogs and process legal entries, but any initiative to address the border requires funding — and funding can only come from Congress.

Congressional Republicans have backed Biden into agreeing to measures some Democrats won’t support, like accepting fewer asylum claims, denying asylum to those who cross illegally and increasing deportations. But even that hasn’t been enough for Republican hardliners. Now, House Speaker Mike Johnson is, ironically, calling on Biden to use more executive orders to stem immigration and demanding he re-implement illegal Trump policies that had been blocked by the courts.

Some Republican lawmakers and candidates — including Donald Trump — have said the quiet part out loud: They won’t pass any kind of immigration reform, especially not this year, because then they wouldn’t be able to campaign on “border crisis” outrage. As long as anti-immigrant sentiment can be used as campaign fodder, the politicians who rely on it to rile their base will never work on actionable, humane solutions.

Fight against antisemitism now used to promote an ‘anti-woke’ agenda

WHEN FECKLESS AGITATORS ACCUSE DEREK PENSLAR OF ANTI-SEMITISM, YOU KNOW THAT SOMETHING HAS GONE WAY OFF THE RAILS. We should be clear: What they are attacking is not just an eminent scholar, but more broadly, the American university as the site of expertise and critical thinking.

Penslar, a Harvard history professor, is the embodiment of expertise. He was appointed by that institution’s interim president, Alan Garber, to co-chair a task force on antisemitism at the university. In response to the announcement, right-wing media outlets including the New York Post and National Review reacted with indignation, suggesting that Penslar was not suitable for the task because, as the National Review said, he “has been critical of Israel.”

In this case — and in fact, with that particular accusation — we can see how transparently disingenuous such right-wing critics are. They often assert criticism of Israeli governmental policy is not necessarily anti-semitic. But either they don’t believe that claim, or they deploy it strategically to advance their agenda of silencing those with whom they disagree.

In Penslar, they’ve simply picked the wrong person. He is a deeply committed Jew and outstanding scholar who is widely known and respected for his judicious, kindly and unfailingly balanced nature. Over the course of his career, he has developed a reputation as one of

the leading historians of Zionism in the world.

Penslar’s major works are hallmarks of conceptual rigor, a careful sifting of evidence and clear writing. His reputation extends to Israel, where he is well known and widely admired by the scholarly establishment there. Indeed, he has been a major factor in the growth and expansion of Israel studies in North America and Europe.

A good deal of the energy behind the attack on Penslar results not from something he wrote but rather from something he signed: the “Elephant in the Room” letter, which attracted the support of nearly 3,000 scholars and intellectuals. Drafted in August, well before Oct. 7, the letter called on Israel to make meaningful moves toward democracy by bringing an end to the occupation of Palestinian territory.

The letter referred to Israeli control over the West Bank as “a regime of apartheid.” While this is undeniably sharp language, it captures the harsh and often brutal realities faced by Palestinians in the West Bank, who are denied access to the same rights, services and facilities as Israeli Jews who live there.

It is language that former Mossad director Tamir Pardo used to describe Israel’s stranglehold. And it is language that a good number of human rights organizations, including leading Israeli NGOs, have used themselves. These individuals and organizations refer to apartheid not because they are motivated by antisemitism, but because it is the word that they believe best describes the two-tiered system of justice with which Palestinians must live in the West Bank.

Into the fray have now stepped former Harvard President Lawrence Summers and Anti-

Defamation League Chief Executive Jonathan Greenblatt, who both posted messages on social media critical of Penslar. Greenblatt accuses Penslar of being someone who “libels the Jewish state.” Rep. Elise Stefanik (R-N.Y.) went beyond the pale in lambasting him for “his despicable antisemitic views and statements.”

These critics don’t seem to care that they’re being used by right-wing actors such as Christopher Rufo and the Claremont Institute intent on attacking the “wokeness” of the American university and setting in place a new kind of institution marked by conservatism, lack of diversity and, frankly, mediocrity.

The strategy of these actors is to identify terms like critical race theory, social justice and diversity, equity and inclusion, strip any nuance or virtue from them, then use them to caricature fine colleges and universities.

The aim is to reverse decades of multiculturalism, affirmative action and efforts at diversity that have deeply enriched American higher education. They prefer institutions that proudly eschew all forms of diversity in favor of a conservative, anti-woke ideological agenda.

Colleges and universities are not perfect institutions; they face their own challenges in navigating the boundary between free speech and respectful discourse. But those of us who care about the integrity and excellence of the higher education system in the U.S. need to awaken to the reality of the growing power of this right-wing campaign of destruction. The attacks on Derek Penslar that cast him as insufficiently attentive to antisemitism show how far this movement is willing to go. Its highly partisan agenda has already knocked off some large targets. Let’s not allow it to control the future of the American university.

DAVID N. MYERS holds the Kahn Chair in Jewish History at UCLA and directs the Luskin Center for History and Policy.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

EMAIL submissions to opinion@dominionpost.com. MAIL submissions to: The Dominion Post, 1251 Earl L. Core Road, Morgantown, WV 26505. INCLUDE your name, hometown and phone number for confirmation. Letters should not exceed 300 words.

Democrats and abortion: Bring it on

WITH THE ECONOMY, THE BORDER AND FOREIGN POLICY NOT WORKING FOR THEM IN THIS ELECTION CYCLE, Democrats are counting on the abortion issue to save their hides in November.

Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) has announced a “Winning Pro-Life Strategy” to counter their game plan. In a memo reported by The Washington Times, Rubio says Republicans “need to develop and fight for a compassionate, pro-family agenda that counters caricatures of our beliefs and makes life easier for mothers and their children. Second, we need to put Democrats on the defensive about their extreme support for abortion. Third, we need to tell the truth about what abortion is — the taking of innocent life — and advocate for limits to the practice.”

A fourth way could be approaching the issue from an angle rarely heard in the ongoing abortion debate. Melissa Ohden is



CAL THOMAS

doing that. Her new book, “Abortion Survivors Break Their Silence,” tells the stories of several women and men who survived abortions, along with the backstories of who and what persuaded their mothers to terminate their pregnancies.

Ohden says she survived a saline abortion and was put aside to die but was saved by a nurse who took her to a neonatal intensive care unit. Now in her 40s, married with two daughters, she writes: “The truth has been swept so far under the rug that abortion survivors are silenced, or just

plain ignored. The same is true about almost anyone whose experience doesn’t support the popular narrative that abortion is synonymous with women’s empowerment.”

The book is not a political screed, but personal accounts of healing and reconciliation between the women who at first wanted to get rid of “The Dreaded Complication,” as some abortion doctors call those who survive, and their sons and daughters.

Ohden writes about her mother being pressured by her mother; an OBGYN nurse, into having an abortion in 1977. Her grandmother, she says, was able to bypass normal procedures at a local hospital to fast track her abortion. Many years later after meeting her birth mother, she writes about their reconciliation.

When Ohden discovered she was not alone in her experience, she founded the Abortion Sur-

vivors Network.

Ohden quotes a 1981 story in the Philadelphia Inquirer: “(Abortion live births) are little known because organized medicine, from fear of public clamor and legal action, treats them more as an embarrassment to be hushed up than a problem to be solved.”

The number of abortion survivors in the U.S. is unknown, but Canada and Australia are among countries that keep records. While their numbers are relatively small, Ohden notes every life is precious and none of those whose stories she tells regrets being given a chance at life.

One of the few abortion survival stories that made national news, because it was too grisly to ignore, was about Philadelphia abortion doctor Dr. Kenneth Gosnell, who was convicted of murdering babies that survived abortions in his rogue clinic by “snipping” their spinal cords. He was sentenced in 2013 to three life terms in prison.

Instead of cowering in fear or

arguing about the number of gestational weeks after which abortions should be limited or outlawed, Republicans and pro-lifers should attach the left’s favorite word “extreme” to pro-choice Democrats. Why don’t they do more to support adoption? Why won’t congressional Democrats vote for “The Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act,” which passed the Republican majority House a year ago, but has languished in the Democrat majority Senate?

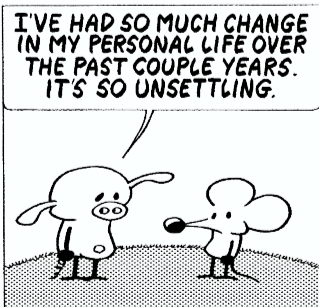
During campaigns, Republicans — from their presidential nominee to House and Senate races — should feature abortion survivors. Polls show a large majority of Americans want some restrictions on abortion after viability. They would likely support protections for survivors of abortion if they were aware of them.

Republicans should follow Melissa Ohden’s example and help her tell their stories.

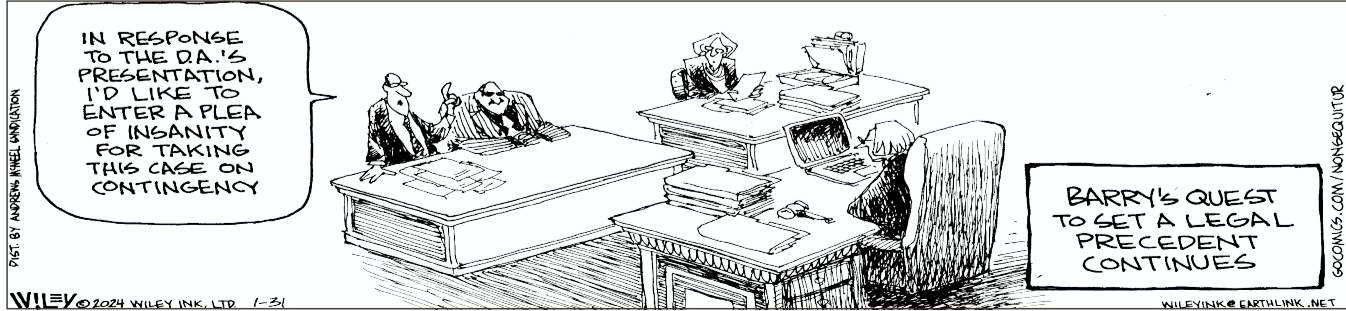
READERS MAY email Cal Thomas at tcaeditors@tribpub.com.

BY STEPHAN PASTIS

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SCIENCE

Are insects drawn to light? New research shows it's confusion, not fatal attraction

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Like a moth to flame, many scientists and poets have long assumed that flying insects were simply, inexorably drawn to bright lights.

But that's not exactly what's going on, a new study suggests.

Rather than being attracted to light, researchers believe that artificial lights at night may actually scramble flying insects' innate navigational systems, causing them to flutter in confusion around porch lamps, street lights and other artificial beacons.

"Insects have a navigational problem," said Tyson Hedrick, a biologist at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, who was not involved in the research. "They're accustomed to using light as a cue to know which way is up."

Insects do not fly directly toward a light source, but actually "tilt



AP file photo

This 2022 photo provided by Samuel Timothy Fabian shows an Atlas Moth (*Attacus lorquinii*) used to test the interaction of flying insects with artificial light is photographed at Imperial College London.

their backs toward the light," said Sam Fabian, an Imperial College London entomologist and co-author of the study published Tuesday in the journal *Nature Communications*.

That would make sense if the strongest light source was in the sky. But in the presence of artificial lights,

the result is midair confusion, not attraction.

For the study, researchers attached tiny sensors to moths and dragonflies in a laboratory to film "motion-capture" video of flight — similar to how filmmakers attach sensors to actors to track their movements.

They also used high-resolution cameras to film insects swirling around lights at a field site in Costa Rica.

This allowed them to study in detail how dragonflies will circle endlessly around light sources, positioning themselves with their backs facing the beams. They also documented that some insects will flip upside down — and often crash land — in the presence of lights that shine straight upward like search lights.

Insect flight was least disrupted by bright lights that shine straight downward, the researchers found.

"For millions of years, insects oriented themselves by sensing that the sky is light, the ground is dark" — until people invented artificial lights, said Avalon Owens, a Harvard entomologist who was not involved in the research.

NATION

Could Ohio be the next state to use nitrogen gas in executions? New method would end a 5-year halt

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Ohio's Republican attorney general put his weight behind a legislative effort Tuesday to bring nitrogen gas executions to the state, joining what could be a national movement in pro-death penalty states to expand capital punishment on the heels of Alabama's first use of the method last week.

Three states — Alabama, Mississippi and Oklahoma — have already authorized nitrogen hypoxia as an execution method, and many more are looking for new ways to execute people because the drugs used in lethal injections have become difficult to find.

Attorney General Dave Yost said adding nitrogen gas as an execution alternative in Ohio could end an unofficial death penalty moratorium that Republican Gov. Mike DeWine declared in 2020. The governor said at the time that lethal injection was "no longer an option" for Ohio because of difficulties finding drugs and repercussions the state could face from drugmakers if one of their pharmaceuticals was used in an execution. The state's last execution was

in 2018.

"Saying that the law of Ohio should be thwarted because pharmaceutical companies don't want to sell the chemicals is an abdication of the sovereignty of the state of Ohio, which still has this law on the books," Yost said.

He was joined at a Tuesday news conference by Republican state Reps. Brian Stewart and Phil Plummer, who introduced a bill Tuesday to add the new method. Alabama used it for the first time Thursday, when convicted murderer Kenneth Eugene Smith, 58, was put to death with nitrogen gas administered through a face mask to deprive him of oxygen.

The execution took about 22 minutes from the time between the opening and closing of curtains to the viewing room. Smith seemed to remain conscious for several minutes. For at least two minutes, he appeared to shake and writhe on the gurney, sometimes pulling against the restraints.

State officials in Alabama said the process was humane and effective, while critics called it cruel

and experimental.

The Ohio bill would give condemned inmates a choice between lethal injection and nitrogen gas but would require their executions to go forward with nitrogen gas if lethal injection drugs are not available, Stewart said. Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt on Tuesday endorsed the idea of using nitrogen gas only in cases when lethal injection is unavailable.

Yost said nitrogen gas is abundant and would be easy for the state to procure from the private sector. At least one private company, industrial gas distributor Airgas, has announced its opposition to supplying nitrogen for executions.

Yost, a former prosecutor and potential 2026 gubernatorial contender, said he is not concerned that the method has been used only once and that Smith appeared to struggle for several minutes as he died.

"It's important to recognize that Europe is already using this for assisted suicide," he said.

While a 3-D printed pod that employs nitrogen gas, the Sarco capsule, has been privately used for that purpose in Switzerland, the

device has not been approved for use by any Swiss agencies. The European Union and the United Nations' human rights office expressed regret over the Alabama execution on Friday.

Plummer, a former county sheriff, said lengthy delays are defeating part of the purpose of Ohio's death penalty law: "We need some closure for the victims in cases like these ones."

Stewart criticized DeWine for delaying so many executions over pharmaceutical companies' unwillingness to see their products used to put people to death. He noted that Florida and the federal government have continued administering lethal injections while Ohio's unofficial pause has been in place.

Yost noted that the federal government had a stockpile of drugs, putting it in a potentially different position than Ohio.

Ohio's last execution was on July 18, 2018, when Robert Van Hook was put to death by lethal injection for killing a man he met in a Cincinnati bar in 1985. His was the 56th execution since 1999.

STATE

Gayle Manchin hospitalized after car wreck in Alabama

BY JEFF JENKINS
WVMetroNews.com

U.S. Senator Joe Manchin announced Tuesday that his wife, Appalachian Regional Commission federal co-chair, Gayle Manchin was involved in a car wreck in Alabama on Monday.

The senator's full statement:

Today, Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) released the following statement on Federal Co-Chair of the Appalachian Regional Commission Gayle Manchin's health after a car accident in Birmingham, Alabama

"On Monday, my wife Gayle and her colleague Guy Land were involved in a car accident on the way from the airport to the hotel in Birmingham, Alabama for an Appalachian Regional Commission event that was planned for today.

Both were admitted to UAB Hospital and are receiving excellent care. She remains in stable condition but will stay there for a couple of days for precautionary measures. We want to thank the first responders who answered the call and were first on-site to provide assistance and support."

A statement from the ARC said the vehicle Manchin and Land were in was struck by another vehicle. They were scheduled to attend a grant workshop.

Fellow U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito also issued a statement:

"Charlie and I are thinking about our friends Gayle Manchin and Guy Land as they recover from a car accident. We hope for a speedy recovery and are thankful for the quick action of first responders."

COURTS

Hunter Biden's lawyers press for dismissal of gun charges by arguing they are politically motivated



AP file photo

Hunter Biden, son of President Joe Biden, talks to reporters at the U.S. Capitol, in Washington, Dec. 13, 2023.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Hunter Biden again asked a judge to dismiss the federal gun case against him on Tuesday, arguing it is politically motivated and key evidence was tested after charges were filed.

Cocaine residue found on the pouch the president's son used to hold his gun was only identified last year, after a scuttled plea deal and subsequent indictment, Hunter Biden's defense attorney said in court documents.

The pouch was originally found in a trash can and not tested for fingerprints or to determine how long the residue had been there, defense attorney Abbe Lowell wrote. It had been in police evidence storage since 2018, and testing it last year to bolster the case is "clear evidence" of selective prosecution," Lowell argued.

Prosecutors had been ready to strike a plea deal in the case, but Lowell argued they bowed to "political pressure" after the agreement hit the skids in court and was publicly pilloried by Republicans, including former President Donald Trump, as a "sweetheart deal."

Prosecutors, meanwhile, have said there's no

evidence the case is politically motivated, while "the strength of the evidence against him is overwhelming." The charges were "brought in spite of, not because of, any outside noise made by politicians," they said in court documents this month.

Hunter Biden has pleaded not guilty to lying about his drug use in October 2018 on a form to buy a gun that he kept for about 11 days. He has acknowledged struggling with an addiction to crack cocaine during that period, but his lawyers have said he didn't break the law and another non-violent, first-time offender would not have been charged.

The yearslong investigation had looked ready to wrap up with a plea deal last year, but the agreement fell apart and now the president's son is facing a possible trial this year while his father, President Joe Biden, is campaigning for another term.

Hunter was indicted in Delaware after the plea deal broke down following a hearing where a judge who was supposed to approve it instead raised a series of questions. He is also facing tax charges in Los Angeles.

POLICE

5 suspects arrested in California desert killings in dispute over marijuana, sheriff's officials say

Associated Press

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. — The six men found dead at a remote dirt crossroads in the Southern California desert last week were likely shot to death in a dispute over marijuana, sheriff's officials said Monday as they announced the arrests of five men suspected in the violence.

Authorities discovered the bodies Tuesday in the Mojave Desert outside El Mirage after someone called 911 and said in Spanish that he had been shot,

San Bernardino County Sheriff's Sgt. Michael Warrick said during a news conference.

All the victims were likely shot to death, and four of the bodies had been partially burned together, Warrick said. A fifth victim was found inside a Chevy Trailblazer, and the sixth was discovered nearby the following day, he said.

"It looks like illicit marijuana was the driving force behind these murders," Sheriff Shannon Dicus said, adding that the area is

known for illegal marijuana growing operations.

The scene showed a "level of violence" reminiscent of a drug cartel, but investigators couldn't immediately confirm that cartels were involved, officials said.

Five men, ranging in age from 24 to 34, were arrested, and eight firearms were seized after deputies served search warrants Sunday in the Adelanto and Apple Valley areas of San Bernardino County and the Pinyon Hills neighborhood of Los

Angeles County, Warrick said at a news conference.

Officials said investigators believe all the suspects in the case are in custody. They were held without bail.

Authorities identified four of the victims as: Baldemar Mondragon-Albarran, 34, of Adelanto; Franklin Noel Bonilla, 22, of Hesperia; Kevin Dariel Bonilla, 25, of Hesperia; and a 45-year-old man whose name was withheld pending family notification. Coroner's officials were trying to identify the remaining two men.

Investigators believe Franklin Bonilla was the man who called 911, Warrick said.

California voters legalized recreational marijuana in 2016, and the state has become the world's largest legal cannabis marketplace since then, with billions in annual sales. But the illegal market continues to thrive.

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OBITUARIES

Betty Casseday

Betty Christine (Emerson) Casseday, 93, passed from this life on Jan. 27, 2024, at Lavender Fields Assisted Living in Beverly. She was born May 19, 1930, in Bretz, the daughter of Glenn and Mabel (Johnson) Emerson.



Betty Casseday

Betty grew up in the Masontown area. On May 22, 1948, she married Junior “Hoppy” Roy Casseday, who preceded her in death Oct. 2, 2017. She worked several years at the Sterling Faucet company in Reedsville. After leaving there she took great pride in caring for her family. She and her husband were very active members of the Masontown Church of the Nazarene where she served many years as a Sunday School teacher and was very involved in the church’s missionary projects.

Betty is survived by her son, Larry (Terry) of Elkins; grandson, Dr. Adam Casseday (Kadra) of Elkins, and granddaughter, Julie Casseday Stutler (Bret) of Winfield; great-granddaughters, Ruby and Annie Stutler; and great-grandsons, Vernon and Norman Casseday; brothers-in-law, Richard Casseday (Carolyn), Phil Casseday, Jim Casseday (Diane), and Bob Casseday; sisters-in-law, Iva Casseday and Doyleene

Davis (Ronnie); as well as many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was preceded in death by sisters, Frances Emerson and Helen Southall; and brother, Donald Emerson; brothers-in-law, Rev. Lynn Casseday, Fred Casseday, Dave Molisee, Albert Shaffer, Bob Davis, and Eathel Southall; sisters-in-law, Arlene Molisee, Eva Shaffer, Linda Emerson, and Kathleen Casseday; and niece, Lanita Southall Vicars.

Friends may call the Field Funeral Home in Masontown on Wednesday, Jan. 31, from 10 a.m. until the noon time of service at the funeral home with Rev. Tim Heaney officiating. Interment will follow in the Masontown Cemetery.

The family would like to extend thanks to the staff at Lavender Fields Assisted Living, neighbors Tracy and Julie Livengood, caregiver Debbie Rouzee, and a special thanks to her cousin Donna Eddy for her extra care and companionship.

She received many flowers during her stay at Lavender Fields so the family is asking that in lieu of flowers, donations be made in her memory to the Masontown Church of the Nazarene, P.O. Box 345, Masontown, WV 26542.

Condolences: www.fieldfuneralhome.com



HEALTH

The U.S. hasn’t seen syphilis numbers this high since 1950

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The U.S. syphilis epidemic isn’t abating, with the rate of infectious cases rising 9% in 2022, according to a new federal government report on sexually transmitted diseases in adults.

But there’s some unexpected good news: The rate of new gonorrhea cases fell for the first time in a decade.

It’s not clear why syphilis rose 9% while gonorrhea dropped 9%, officials at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said, adding that it’s too soon to know whether a new downward trend is emerging for the latter.

They are most focused on syphilis, which is less common than gonorrhea or chlamydia but considered more dangerous. Total cases surpassed 207,000 in 2022, the highest count in the United States since 1950, according to data released Tuesday.

And while it continues to have a disproportionate impact on gay and bisexual men, it is expanding in heterosexual men and women, and increasingly affecting newborns, too, CDC officials said.

Syphilis is a bacterial disease that can surface as painless genital sores but can ultimately lead to

paralysis, hearing loss, dementia and even death if left untreated.

New syphilis infections plummeted in the U.S. starting in the 1940s when antibiotics became widely available and fell to their lowest by 1998.

About 59,000 of the 2022 cases involved the most infectious forms of syphilis. Of those, about a quarter were women and nearly a quarter were heterosexual men.

“I think it’s unknowingly being spread in the cisgender heterosexual population because we really aren’t testing for it. We really aren’t looking for it” in that population, said Dr. Philip Chan, who teaches at Brown University and is chief medical officer of Open Door Health, a health center for gay, lesbian and transgender patients in Providence, Rhode Island.

The report also shows rates of the most infectious types of syphilis rose not just across the country but also across different racial and ethnic groups, with American Indian and Alaska Native people having the highest rate. South Dakota outpaced any other state for the highest rate of infectious syphilis at 84 cases per 100,000 people — more than twice as high as the state with the second-highest rate, New Mexico.

Beverly Charlene Cress, left us on Jan. 26, 2024, wrapping up a life as warm and intricate as the quilts she crafted.



Beverly Cress

Beverly was born on July 29, 1947, in Morgantown, where she also peacefully passed away, encircled by the love of her family and the community that meant so much to her.

Charlene’s life was marked by love, dedication, and service. Predeceased by

her beloved husbands, Robert Eugene Hern and Jackie Lee Cress, she continued to embrace life’s journey with strength and grace. A proud and loving mother, her legacy thrives through her children, Shaun (Traci) (Jonna), Darren (Lisa), Cale (Yvonne), and Royce. Beverly’s joy was multiplied by her cherished grandchildren, Zayne, Garret, Haden, Tehya, Leah, Dave, Daniel, Dakota, Briana, Deidre, and Tristen; along with her precious great-grandchildren, Kennedy, Sydney, Evelyn, Vincent, Carson, Madalynn, Scarlett, and Lewis.

James Christopher

James W. “Jim” Christopher, 76, of Morgantown, passed away Sunday evening, Jan. 28, 2024, at his home after a long illness.



James Christopher



Jim was born Oct. 22, 1947, in Morgantown, a son of the late Wallace Glenn and Jeannette Wilson Christopher. Jim is survived by his wife of 49 years, Rita Mae Gall Christopher, whom he married July 27, 1973; his son, Jamie Glenn Christopher of Morgantown; his sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Tammy Christopher Barnhouse and husband Tom of Morgantown; and sister-in-law, Helen Baker of Morgantown. Also, he leaves behind his favorite feline companion, Blackie.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Bob Christopher; as well as his nephews and niece, Eric, Wesley, and Kim.

Jim owned and operated Jim’s Auto Body for 30 years. He was a 1966 graduate of University High School. He loved working in his shop, tinkering around

with anything he could. He enjoyed camping and was a fan of NASCAR.

Jim was a proud veteran of the United States Army, having served two tours of duty in defense of his country.

Above all, Jim was a loving and cherished husband, father, and brother. His passing leaves an unfillable void, but his family is proud to remember and carry on his legacy.

Friends may join Jim’s family to honor his life and legacy at Smith Funeral & Cremation Care, 108 Holland Ave., Westover/Morgantown, from 5-8 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 1, and again on Friday, Feb. 2, from 10 a.m. until the time of the funeral service at 11 a.m. officiated by Pastor Kevin Cain. Following the funeral service, Jim will be laid to rest with full Military Honors accorded at the graveside at Beverly Hills Memorial Gardens in Westover.

Jim’s family wishes to acknowledge and sincerely thank the following people for the love, care, and concern given to him during his illness — Sara, Jessica, and Desiree from Amedisys Hospice, and Brooke with Village Home Health Care.

Condolences: www.smithfcc.com



COURTS

Russian billionaire loses art fraud suit against Sotheby’s over \$160 million

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A Russian billionaire art collector lost a legal fight with Sotheby’s on Tuesday, when a U.S. jury sided with the auction house in a lawsuit over claims that the businessman was ripped off while assembling a trove of works that included a famous painting known as “the lost Leonardo.”

A New York federal jury deliberated for a few hours before reaching a decision in Dmitry Rybolovlev’s case against Sotheby’s, The New York Times reported. The fertilizer titan alleged that the auction house helped a Swiss art dealer cheat him out of over \$160 million by quietly imposing huge markups on works that he acquired. Tearing up when he testified earlier this month, he said he’d not only lost money but trust.

Sotheby’s maintained it knew nothing of any misconduct and said it had fol-

lowed all legal, financial and industry standards. It cast the decision Tuesday as a mark of total vindication.

“Today’s ruling reaffirms Sotheby’s long-standing commitment to upholding the highest standards of integrity, ethics and professionalism in all aspects of the art market,” the auction house said in a statement after the verdict.

However, Rybolovlev lawyer Daniel Kornstein said that “secrecy made it difficult to prove a complex aiding and abetting fraud case.”

“This case achieved our goal of shining a light on the lack of transparency that plagues the art market,” the attorney said, calling for reforms that “must be made outside the courtroom.”

Rybolovlev, 57, spent \$2 billion from 2002 to 2014 to build a prime art collection featuring works by such giants as Picasso, Rodin, Modigliani, Klimt, Magritte and Leonardo da Vinci.

Beverly Cress

Throughout her career, Charlene was known for her reliability and warmth, working in retail, as an Avon representative, and retiring after a commendable 18-year tenure with the U.S. Postal Service as a distributor. Her passions extended beyond her work to her hobbies which included quilting, crocheting, and calligraphy — all endeavors that showcased her creativity and attention to detail.

Committed to making the world a better place, Charlene supported various organizations such as the ASPCA, Humane Soci-

ety, National Wildlife Foundation, World Wildlife Federation, and the Nature Conservancy. Described as loving and kind by all who knew her, she imparted a sense of beauty and care in everything she touched. Charlene Cress will be remembered not only for the lives she warmed with her crafts but also for the hearts she touched with her generous spirit.

McCulla Funeral Home assisted the family with graveside service at Beverly Hills Memorial Gardens on Tuesday, Jan. 30.

Condolences: www.mcculla.com

Henry Lee

Henry Andrew Lee, 65, passed away peacefully Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024, at UPMC Presbyterian, surrounded by his loved ones. Henry was born Oct. 13, 1958, in Morgantown, the youngest son of the late Harold and Marguerite Lee.



Henry Lee

Henry is survived by Margaret Wisinski Lee, the love of his life and wife of 36 years; two sons, Samuel and Benjamin Lee; and brother, Richard Lee. He is preceded in death by his older brother, Joesph Lee.

Henry was a loving father to his two sons, Samuel and Benjamin. He leaves behind a legacy of kindness, strength, and support that will continue to guide and inspire his family.

Henry served his country with honor in the Air Force for four years where he was trained as a Security Specialist and was awarded the Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon. After completing military service, Henry returned to Morgantown, where he continued his education and met Margaret Wisinski. His profession in information technology took the couple to

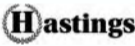
the East Coast until the birth of their firstborn son, Samuel. He came home to be closer to family and to begin his 23-year career at WVU College of Business & Economics, where he received the Staff Emeritus award. During this time, Henry and Margaret were blessed with their second son, Benjamin Lee.

Henry’s friends and family remember him for his bright personality, good humor, and deep empathy. His hobbies included hunting, fishing, camping, traveling, cooking, and gardening. Henry also loved to play with his Dachshunds, Bruno and Finn, who always brought a joyous smile.

Cremation arrangements have been entrusted to Hastings Funeral Home. Friends and family will be received at Spruce Street United Methodist Church, 386 Spruce St., Morgantown, from 11 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 3, until the time of the memorial service at 1 p.m. with Rev. Bart Thompson officiating.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to the Prader Willi Syndrome Association, 1032 E Brandon Blvd #4744 Brandon, FL 33511. Donations can also be made directly to Spruce Street United Methodist Church.

Condolences: www.hastingsfuneralhome.com



Published obituaries can now be viewed for free at dominionpost.com.

When someone is going through a storm, your silent presence is more powerful than a million empty words.

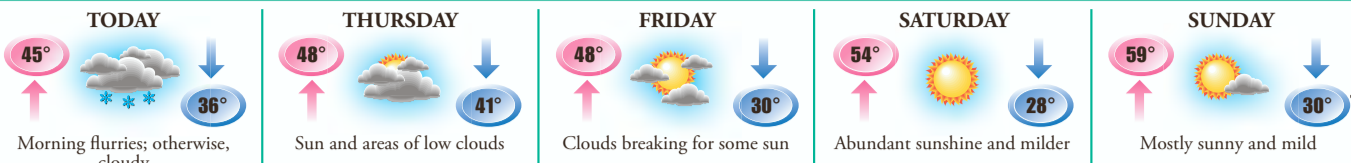


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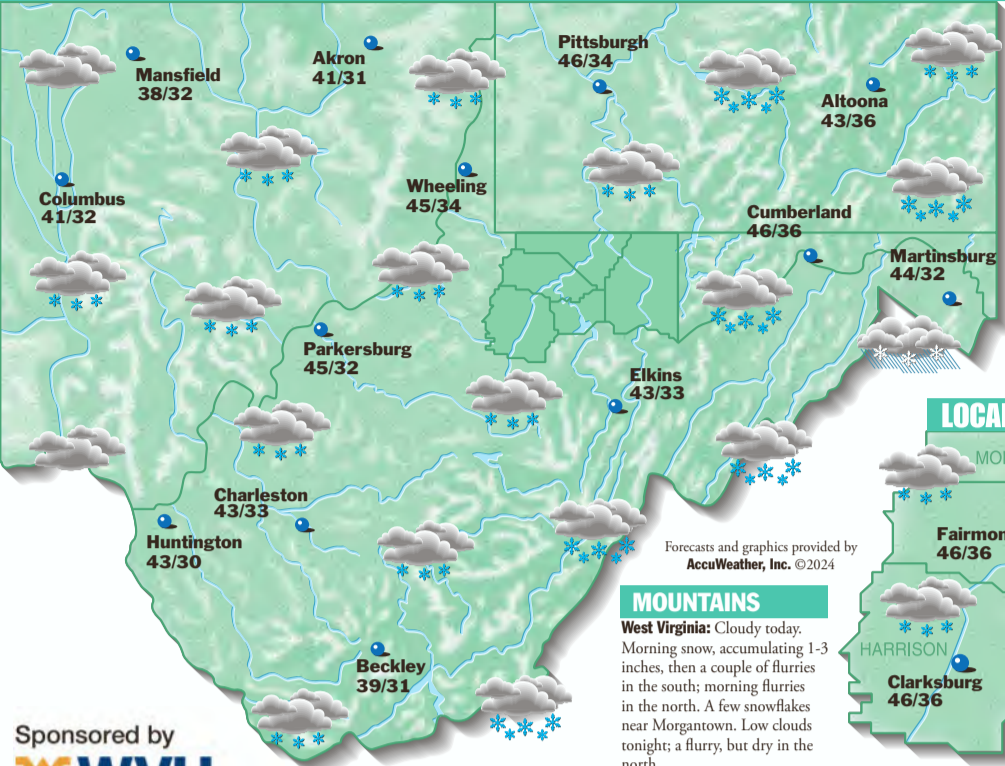
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FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR MORGANTOWN



REGIONAL WEATHER



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ALMANAC

Morgantown through 4 p.m. Tuesday

Temperature	
High/low	43°/34°
Normal high/low	39°/20°
Record high	74° in 2013
Record low	-8° in 1897
Precipitation	
24 hrs ending 4 p.m. Tuesday	0.00"
Month to date	4.90"
Year to date	4.90"
Sun and Moon	
Sunrise today	7:29 a.m.
Sunset tonight	5:58 p.m.
Moonrise today	11:27 p.m.
Moonset today	10:16 a.m.

Last

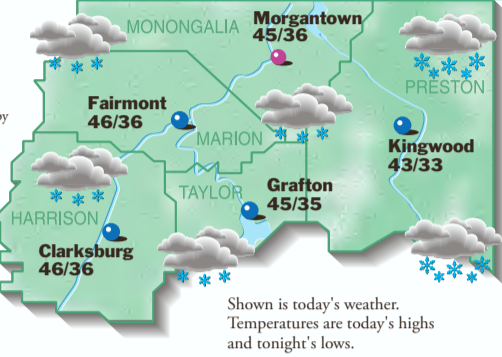
Feb 2

Feb 9

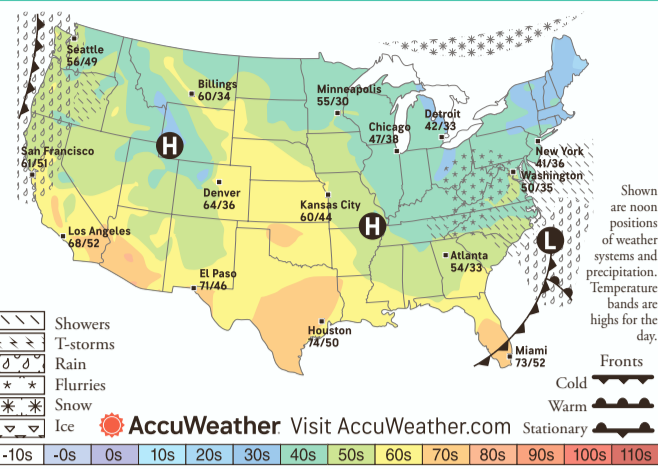
Feb 16

Feb 24

LOCAL WEATHER



NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



SKI CONDITIONS

Ski Area	New snow (in)	Base (in)	Trails Open
Canaan Valley	0	25-47	21
Seven Springs, PA	2	18-18	30
Snowshoe/Silver Creek	1	0-45	59
Timberline Four Seasons	0	30-70	20
Wisp, MD	0	18-20	21

Snow reports provided by OnTheSnow.com

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Wed. Hi/Low	Thu. Hi/Low
Beckley, WV	39/31/sn	49/36/pc
Charleston, WV	43/33/sf	52/37/pc
Columbus, OH	41/32/sf	48/41/pc
Cumberland, MD	46/36/sn	53/41/pc
Fairmont, WV	46/36/sf	48/39/c
Grafton, WV	45/35/sf	50/39/c
Huntington, WV	43/30/c	54/38/pc
Kingwood, PA	43/33/sf	46/39/c
Pittsburgh, PA	46/34/sf	49/40/c
Wheeling, WV	45/34/sf	48/39/c

SOLUNAR TABLES

Five-day forecast indicates peak feeding times for fish and game.

	Major	Minor	Major	Minor
Wed.	3:22 a.m.	9:32 a.m.	3:41 p.m.	9:51 p.m.
Thu.	---	10:36 p.m.	---	---
Fri.	4:49 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	5:11 p.m.	11:22 p.m.
Sat.	5:34 a.m.	11:47 a.m.	5:59 p.m.	---
Sun.	6:22 a.m.	12:11 a.m.	6:49 p.m.	12:35 p.m.

LAKES AND RIVERS

Lake	7 a.m. Yest.	24-hour Change
Chester Lake	869.87	+0.29
Deep Creek, MD	2458.74	-0.08
Jennings Randolph	1466.28	+2.66
Stonewall Jackson	1069.53	+0.35
Tygart	1076.55	+8.58
Youghiogheny	1437.45	+1.72

River Stages
Fld: flood stage. Prs: stage in feet at 7 a.m. yesterday. Chg: change in previous 24 hours. M: missing.

Monongahela	Fld.	Prs.	Chg.
Morgantown	22	12.04	-0.42

ALMANAC

Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 31, the 31st day of 2024. There are 335 days left in the year.

Highlight:

In 1958, the United States entered the Space Age with its first successful launch of a satellite, Explorer 1, from Cape Canaveral.

On this date:

In 1797, composer Franz Schubert was born in Vienna.

In 1863, during the Civil War, the First South Carolina Volunteer Infantry, an all-Black Union regiment composed of many escaped slaves, was mustered into federal service at Beaufort, South Carolina.

In 1971, astronauts Alan Shepard, Edgar Mitchell and Stuart Roosa blasted off aboard Apollo 14 on a mission to the moon.

In 2023, a New Mexico district attorney filed involuntary manslaughter charges against actor Alec Baldwin and a weapons specialist in the fatal shooting of a cinematographer on the set of the Western movie "Rust." (Prosecutors later dropped the charges, but on Jan. 19, 2024, Baldwin was indicted by a grand jury on a charge of involuntary manslaughter.)

Today's birthdays: Composer Philip Glass is 87. Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands, the former queen regent, is 86. Former U.S. Rep. Dick Gephardt, D-Mo., is 83. Blues singer-musician Charlie Musselwhite is 80. Actor Glynn Turman is 77. Baseball Hall of Famer Nolan Ryan is 77. Actor Jonathan Banks is 77.

Wife finds it difficult to accept husband's past

DEAR ABBY: After 17 years of marriage, I learned, to my dismay, that when he was 22, my husband had a long-term relationship with a 16-year-old. He insisted that she had lied about her age and told him she was 20.

But even after finding out her true age, he went back to her. Her mother was OK with it, as well as other family members who all knew she was underage.

I'm livid because he tried to say he told me she was underage, but he never did. I would never have dated or married someone who knowingly had sex with an underage individual. I've been questioning a lot about this marriage, but this sent me over the top. Am I overreacting because he "was young and dumb" and "did something stupid and never did it again," as he puts it? — CAN'T GET OVER IT

DEAR CAN'T: The first item on your agenda should be to make an appointment with a licensed marriage and family therapist.

DEAR ABBY: My son and daughter-in-law are in their early 30s. They have a 5-year-old child who hasn't seen a doctor since infancy. They opted not to vaccinate.



JEANNE PHILLIPS

Although my husband and I do not agree with it, we keep our mouths shut.

Our precious granddaughter has been sick with a severe cough and fever on and off for close to two months. Although they have health insurance, they refuse to take her to a doctor. They treat her with over-the-counter meds and holistic remedies.

What else can I do to make things right again? My son is no help. He doesn't go against his wife for any reason. — HEARTBROKEN NANA IN FLORIDA

DEAR NANA: The two of you could contact child protective services and ask if they agree that what's happening is negligence.

JEANNE PHILLIPS writes "Dear Abby" under the pseudonym Abigail Van Buren. Write Dear Abby at DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

TV LISTINGS

1/31/24	► 6 PM	► 6:30	► 7 PM	► 7:30	► 8 PM	► 8:30	► 9 PM	► 9:30	► 10 PM	► 10:30	► 11 PM	► 11:30					
BROADCAST CHANNELS																	
2	KDKA-TV News at Six (N)	KDKA-TV News at 6:30pm (N)	CBS Evening News (N)	KDKA-TV News at 7:30PM (N)	The Price Is Right at Night (N)	Let's Make a Deal Primetime (N)	FBI True "Hunting a Terrorist Mastermind; Stopping a Sniper" (N)	KDKA-TV News at Eleven (N)	Late Show-Colbert (N)								
4	WTAE Pittsburgh's Action News 4 (N)	ABC World News (N)	Inside Edition (N)	Entertainment Tonight (N)	NBA Countdown (L) (N)	NBA Basketball Phoenix Suns at Brooklyn Nets From Barclays Center in Brooklyn, N.Y. (L) (N)	Pittsburgh's Action News 4 (N)	Jimmy Kimmel Live! (N)									
5	WDTV First News (N)	CBS News (N)	ET (N)	Inside Ed. (N)	Price Is Right (N)	Let's Make a (N)	FBI True (N)	5 News	Colbert								
7	WTRF 7News at (N)	CBS News (N)	ET (N)	Inside Ed. (N)	Price Is Right (N)	Let's Make a (N)	FBI True (N)	7News at (N)	Colbert								
9	WTOV News 9 at Six (L) (N)	NBC Nightly News (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel of Fortune (N)	Chicago Med Asher's first date takes a surprising turn. (N)	Chicago Fire "Trapped" (N)	Chicago P.D. "Safe Harbor" (N)	News 9 Tonight (L) (N)	Tonight Show (N)								
11	WPXI Channel 11 (N)	NBC News (N)	Wheel (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	Chicago Med (N)	Chicago Fire (N)	Chicago P.D. (N)	News (N)	J. Fallon								
12	WBOY News (N)	NBC News (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel (N)	Chicago Med (N)	Chicago Fire (N)	Chicago P.D. (N)	News (N)	J. Fallon								
13	WQED PBS NewsHour (N)	BBC News America (N)	Untamed "Citizen Science" (N)	Nature (N)	NOVA Paleontologists uncover a whole new species of whale. (N)	Secrets of the Dead	Amanpour and Company (N)										
22	WCWB Two and a Half Men (N)	Two and a Half Men (N)	Modern Family "Snip" (N)	Modern Family "School-ed" (N)	Wild Cards Max and Ellis look into the disappearance of a butcher. (N)	Family Law Abby represents an environmental activist. (N)	Court Cam iCRIME With Elizabeth Vargas (N)	The National Desk (L) (N)									
24	WNPB Legis. (N)	America (N)	PBS NewsHour (N)	Nature "Gorilla" (N)	NOVA (N)	Secrets of the Dead	Legis. (N)	Energy									
46	WVFX News (N)	Investig. (N)	Last Man (N)	Last Man (N)	I Can See (N)	We Are Family (N)	WVFX 10 Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Housewife								
53	WPGH The Big Bang Theory (N)	Channel 11 News on Fox 53 at 6:30 (N)	The Big Bang Theory (N)	Young Sheldon (N)	I Can See Your Voice Montell Jordan, Dwight Howard and Jon Lovitz. (N)	We Are Family New contestants perform with their hidden famous relatives. (N)	Channel 11 News on FOX 53 at 10 (N)	Seinfeld "The Doodle" (N)	Seinfeld "The Wink" (N)								
CABLE CHANNELS																	
	► 7 PM	► 8 PM	► 9 PM	► 10 PM	► 11 PM												
A&E	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Booked (N)	Court Cam	Court Cam							
AMC	4300	★★ Clash of the Titans (10) Sam Worthington.					★★★ Tombstone '93, Western) Val Kilmer, Michael Biehn, Kurt Russell.										
AT&TSP	Penguins	Duquesne	Basketball Chicago State at Duquesne (N)				World Boxing	College Basketball									
BET	As. Living	Payne	Payne	Neighbor	Neighbor	Tyler Perry's Sistars (N)	Celebrity	Queen-Men (N)	Sistas								
CNN	Situation Room (L) (N)	E. B. OutFront (L) (N)	Cooper 360 (N)	The Source With (N)			King Charles (N)	Laura Coates Live (N)									
DISC	Expedition Unknown	Expedition Unknown	Expedition Unknown	Expedition Unknown			Expedition Unknown	Expedition Unknown	Expedition Unknown								
DISN	Kiff	★★★ The Lion King '94, Ani	Marvel's	Marvel's	Marvel's	Marvel's	Ladybug	Ladybug	Bunk'd	Bunk'd							
ESPN	SportsCenter	SportCtr	NBA (N)	College Basketball Florida at Kentucky (L) (N)			NBA Basketball										
ESPN2	ESPN BET Live	College Basketball Notre Dame at Virginia (N)			College Basketball Vanderbilt at Auburn (L) (N)								SportsCenter (L) (N)				
FOOD	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Grocery (N)	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games									
FNC	Special Report (L) (N)	Ingraham (N)	Jesse Watters (L) (N)	Hannity (L) (N)			Gutfeld! (N)	Fox News at Night (N)									
FREE	★★★★ Inside Out '15	Amy Poehler.	★★★ Aladdin '92	Scott Weinger.	Chrissy & Dave (N)	The 700 Club											
HIST	American Pickers	American Pickers	American Pickers	American Pickers	American Pickers (N)	American Pickers (N)	American Pickers (N)	American Pickers (N)	American Pickers								
LIFE	Castle "Room 147"	Castle	Married at First Sight (N)	Prison Brides (N)			Married	Prison Brides									
NEWSN	The Hill (L) (N)	On Balance (L) (N)	Cuomo (L) (N)	Dan Abrams Live (N)			Banfield (L) (N)	Cuomo									
NICK	Loud House Loud House	Danger (N) SlimeTime	SpongeBob SpongeBob	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends							
PARMT	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	★★★ Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade '89			Harrison Ford.	Indiana Jones & the T.								
TNT	Lucifer	NHL on T.	NHL Hockey Los Angeles Kings at Nashville Predators (N)					Post-Game	Pirates of the Caribbe.								
TVLAND	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King						
USA	Law-SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law-SVU	Law-SVU						
WE	NCIS "Seek"	NCIS "Squall"	NCIS	NCIS	NCIS "Berlin"	NCIS "Revenge"	NCIS "Double Blind"										
WTBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite (L) (N)	Mod Fam	Mod Fam						Mod Fam	Mod Fam			
MOVIE CHANNELS																	
	► 7 PM	► 8 PM	► 9 PM	► 10 PM	► 11 PM												
HBO	4XXX: State of the U.				★★ Anna '19	Luke Evans, Sasha Luss.	Tatiana Suarez (N)	True Detective "Part 3"	Movie								
MAX	★★ The Dead Don't Die '19				Bill Murray.	★★★ (500) Days of Summer	★ Midnight Sun '18	Bella Thorne.	★★★ Knocked Up								
SHOW	★ Beverly Hills Cop III				★ Alex Cross '12	Matthew Fox, Tyler Perry.	★★ Reindeer Games Ben Affleck.		★★ The Longest Yard								
TMC	Movie	New York Ninja '21	John Liu.	Deadly Cuts '21	Victoria Smurfit.	God's Petting You Alice Lowe.	★★ Crouper										

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SCOREBOARD

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31
BOYS BASKETBALL
Preston at Liberty Harrison, 7:30 p.m.
HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING
Morgantown at Preston, 6 p.m.
MEN'S BASKETBALL
Cincinnati at West Virginia, 7 p.m.

ON TV

AHL HOCKEY
7 p.m. NHLN — Hershey at Lehigh
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)
6:30 p.m. BTN — Northwestern of Purdue
FS1 — St. John's at Xavier
SECN — Alabama at Georgia
7 p.m. ACCN — Wake Forest at Pittsburgh
ESPN2 — Notre Dame at Virginia
ESPNU — Wichita St. at Tulsa
8 p.m. CBSSN — N. Iowa at Bradley
ESPN — Florida at Kentucky
8:30 p.m. BTN — Penn St. at Rutgers
FS1 — Providence at UConn
SECN — Arkansas at Missouri
9 p.m. ESPN2 — Vanderbilt at Auburn
ESPNU — UAB at North Texas
10:30 p.m. FS1 — Boise St. at New Mexico
11 p.m. ESPNU — Santa Clara at Saint Mary's (Cal)
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (WOMEN'S)
7 p.m. PEACOCK — Indiana at Maryland
8 p.m. PEACOCK — Iowa at Northwestern
NBA BASKETBALL
8:30 p.m. ABC — Phoenix at Brooklyn
10 p.m. ESPN — Milwaukee at Portland
NFL FOOTBALL
10:30 a.m. ESPNU — Senior Bowl: Practice, Mobile, Ala.
NFLN — Senior Bowl: Practice, Mobile, Ala.
1 p.m. ESPN2 — Senior Bowl: Practice, Mobile, Ala.
NFLN — Senior Bowl: Practice, Mobile, Ala.
NHL HOCKEY
7:30 p.m. TNT — Los Angeles at Nashville
SOCCER (MEN'S)
2:30 p.m. USA — Premier League: Brentford at Tottenham Hotspur

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

The AP Top 25

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, and total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous rankings.

	Record	Pts	Prv
1. UConn (48)	18-2	1559	1
2. Purdue (14)	19-2	1517	2
3. North Carolina	17-3	1441	3
4. Houston (1)	18-2	1396	4
5. Tennessee	15-4	1328	5
6. Wisconsin	16-4	1135	13
7. Duke	15-4	1066	12
8. Kansas	16-4	1051	7
9. Marquette	15-5	1025	14
10. Kentucky	15-4	1018	6
11. Arizona	15-5	915	9
12. Iowa St.	16-4	869	23
13. Creighton	16-5	741	17
14. Illinois	15-5	717	10
15. Texas Tech	16-3	713	20
16. Auburn	16-4	631	8
17. Utah St.	18-2	596	18
18. Baylor	14-5	404	15
19. New Mexico	18-3	387	25
20. FAU	17-4	321	22
21. Dayton	16-3	294	16
22. BYU	15-5	283	21
23. Oklahoma	15-5	247	11
24. Alabama	14-6	240	-
25. TCU	15-5	215	-

Others receiving votes: South Carolina 108, San Diego St. 95, Memphis 48, Northwestern 32, Mississippi 30, Texas 10, Colorado St. 10, Saint Mary's 9, Indiana St 5, Boise St. 5, Richmond 4, Gonzaga 4, Virginia 3, McNeese St. 2, Appalachian St 1.

USA Today Top 25

The USA TODAY Sports Top 25 men's basketball poll, with first-place votes received in parenthesis, team's records, total points based on 25 for first place through one point for 25th and ranking in last week's final poll:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Connecticut (23)	18-2	766	1
2. Purdue (8)	19-2	746	2
3. North Carolina	17-3	710	3
4. Houston	18-2	680	4
5. Tennessee	15-4	658	5
6. Wisconsin	16-4	593	10
7. Duke	15-4	512	12
8. Kentucky	15-4	510	6
9. Kansas	16-4	503	8
10. Marquette	15-5	454	15
11. Iowa State	16-4	408	18
12. Arizona	15-5	405	9
13. Creighton	16-5	367	16

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

W. Va. boys poll

CHARLESTON — The Associated Press high school boys basketball poll with first-place votes in parentheses and total points:

Class AAAA

Team	Record	Pts	Prv
1. Spring Mills (9)	12-0	99	1
2. Morgantown (1)	13-1	91	2
3. George Washington	9-3	78	3
4. Martinsburg	6-3	64	4
5. Wheeling Park	10-4	52	7
6. Bridgeport	10-2	51	5
7. Hedgessville	10-2	36	8
8. Huntington	7-5	29	9
9. Jefferson	11-5	27	6
10. Musselman	10-4	9	NR
Others receiving votes: Woodrow Wilson 8, St. Albans 6.			

Class AAA

	11-0	100	1
1. Fairmont Spring (10)	8-2	85	2
2. Shady Side	9-4	78	4
3. East Fairmont	11-1	77	3
4. Nitro	10-5	53	6
5. Lewis County	7-5	49	5
6. Herbert Hoover	6-6	33	8
7. Logan	9-2	31	7
8. Midland Trail	7-6	22	7
9. Sissonville	7-4	15	10
10. Liberty Harrison	7-4	15	10
Others receiving votes: Grafton 4, North Marion 3.			

Class AA

	8-2	92	3
1. Bluefield (4)	13-1	89	2
2. Williamson (5)	12-1	80	1
3. Charleston Catholic	12-3	79	4
4. Wheeling Central (1)	10-5	60	T4
5. Chapmanville	11-3	50	6
6. Ravenswood	7-5	34	8
7. Pocca	10-3	25	7
8. Petersburg	9-4	22	10
9. Wyoming East	8-5	9	9
10. Trinity	9-4	9	NR
(tie) Westside			
Others receiving votes: Frankfort 1.			

Class A

	11-2	98	1
1. Tucker County (9)	10-1	84	3
2. Tup Valley (1)	7-2	84	2
(tie) James Monroe	11-1	72	4
4. Webster County	7-1	62	5
5. East Hardy	12-2	45	7
6. Wahoma	10-4	38	6
7. Clay-Battelle	10-3	29	9
8. Cameron	8-4	22	8
9. Greater Beckley Chris-tian	10-1	7	NR
10. River View			
Others receiving votes: Tolsia 6, Greenbrier West 3.			

14. Illinois	15-5	359	11
15. Texas Tech	16-3	340	21
16. Auburn	16-4	331	6
17. Utah State	18-2	258	20
18. Baylor	14-5	188	14
19. Dayton	16-3	166	17
20. New Mexico	18-3	162	25
21. Brigham Young	15-5	159	19
22. Alabama	14-6	147	NR
23. Florida Atlantic	17-4	122	24
24. Oklahoma	15-5	106	13
25. TCU	15-5	99	NR

Others receiving votes: San Diego State 67; Mississippi 57; South Carolina 46; Gonzaga 38; Memphis 26; Northwestern 23; Colorado State 14; Indiana State 13; Texas 11; Grand Canyon 9; Saint Mary's 5; Appalachian State 4; McNeese State 4; Virginia 4; Cornell 2; Seton Hall 2; Princeton 1.

The Women's AP Top 25

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' women's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, and total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous rankings.

	Record	Pts	Prv
1. South Carolina (35)	19-0	875	1
2. Kansas St	20-1	819	4
3. Iowa	19-2	795	5
4. Stanford	19-2	769	6
5. NC State	18-2	739	7
6. Colorado	17-3	677	3
7. UCLA	16-3	637	2
8. Ohio St.	17-3	596	12
9. LSU	18-3	595	9
10. Indiana	17-2	477	14
11. UConn	17-4	460	8
12. Texas	19-3	452	10
13. Baylor	16-3	441	13
14. Notre Dame	15-4	408	15
15. Southern Cal	14-4	393	11
16. Louisville	18-3	331	18
17. Virginia Tech	16-4	328	19
18. Oregon St.	17-3	323	25
19. Gonzaga	20-2	320	17
20. Utah	15-6	296	16
21. Syracuse	17-3	176	22
22. Creighton	16-3	160	21
23. West Virginia	17-2	132	24
24. North Carolina	15-6	75	20
25. Princeton	15-3	28	-

Others receiving votes: UNLV 21, Washington St 15, Fairfield 13, Marquette 7, Florida St. 6, Oklahoma 6, Mississippi 2, Penn St. 1, Washington 1, Mississippi 1.

W. Va. girls poll

CHARLESTON — The Associated Press high school girls basketball poll with first-place votes in parentheses and total points:

Team	Record	Pts	Prv
1. Wheeling Park (9)	14-3	98	4
2. Spring Valley	12-2	84	1
3. George Washington (1)	12-2	79	5
4. Morgantown	11-4	72	2
5. Parkersburg	11-3	57	3
6. St. Albans	10-6	53	6
7. Parkersburg South	10-5	44	7
8. Greenbrier East	11-3	28	9
9. University	8-9	15	10
10. Princeton	9-3	11	8
Others receiving votes: Huntington 4, Martinsburg 2, Preston 2, Cabell Midland 1.			

Class AAAA

	14-3	98	4
1. Wheeling Park (9)	12-2	84	1
2. Spring Valley	12-2	79	5
3. George Washington (1)	11-4	72	2
4. Morgantown	11-3	57	3
5. Parkersburg	10-6	53	6
6. St. Albans	10-5	44	7
7. Parkersburg South	11-3	28	9
8. Greenbrier East	8-9	15	10
9. University	9-3	11	8
10. Princeton			
Others receiving votes: Keyser 6, Winfield 3, Elkins 2.			

Class AAA

	13-0	98	2
1. East Fairmont (8)	13-1	92	1
2. Wayne (2)	15-1	75	5
3. Lewis County	11-3	65	3
4. Nitro	11-2	61	4
5. Philip Barbour	9-5	48	7
6. North Marion	11-5	39	6
7. Sissonville	9-8	30	8
8. Ripley	10-4	17	NR
9. PikeView	12-2	7	NR
10. Independence	8-5	7	9
(tie) Robert C. Byrd			
Others receiving votes: Keyser 6, Winfield 3, Elkins 2.			

Class AA

	12-2	100	1
1. Wyoming East (10)	12-3	86	2
2. Summers County	12-3	84	3
3. Williamson	12-4	68	6
4. Wheeling Central	13-4	57	5
5. St. Marys	10-5	47	4
6. Mingo Central	10-4	28	7
7. Parkersburg Catholic	11-6	28	8
(tie) Ravenswood	9-6	26	9
9. Chapmanville	8-5	10	10
10. Charleston Catholic			
Others receiving votes: Trinity 9, Roane County 4, Petersburg 3.			

Class A

	9-5	98	1
1. Cameron (8)	11-3	86	3
2. Tucker County	12-1	86	2
(tie) Gilmer County (2)	10-5	66	5
4. James Monroe	11-5	55	7
5. St Joseph	12-3	54	4
6. Doddridge County	9-5	40	6
7. Greenbrier West	12-4	32	8
8. River View	7-7	20	9
9. Clay-Battelle	9-8	8	10
10. Valley Wetzel			
Others receiving votes: Meadow Bridge 5.			

PRO FOOTBALL

Arthur Smith nearing a deal to join the Steelers

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — The Pittsburgh Steelers are hoping Arthur Smith can turn around one of the NFL's most underachieving offenses.

The Steelers are nearing an agreement to make Smith their new offensive coordinator, multiple sources told The Associated Press on Tuesday.

Smith would come to Pittsburgh just weeks after the Atlanta Falcons fired him as head coach following three straight 7-10 seasons. The magic Smith was able to produce while serving as the offensive coordinator in Tennessee in 2019 and 2020 — when the Titans finished 12th and then second in total offense — never materialized in Atlanta, which finished in the bottom half of the league in yards and points during Smith's tenure.

He could get a fresh start

with the Steelers, who managed a 10-7 record and a playoff berth despite an offense that ranked 25th in yards and 28th in points and didn't show any real signs of life until the final three weeks when third-string quarterback Mason Rudolph spurred a late winning streak that helped Pittsburgh sneak into the postseason.

Steelers president Art Rooney II said Monday that while the team still believes in starting quarterback Matt Kenny Pickett — who endured a bumpy first full season as a starter before sustaining an ankle injury in early December that forced him to watch from the sideline — it's also time for Pittsburgh to get "quality play out of the quarterback position going forward."

Rooney also indicated he'd be interested in bringing back the free-agent-to-be Rudolph to compete with

Pickett during training camp, praising Rudolph for his play down the stretch.

Smith's charge with whoever is behind center will be to come up with an approach that puts more points on the board to take some of the pressure off Pittsburgh's star-laden defense. The Steelers have finished 21st or worse in scoring in four of the past five seasons, one of the reasons the team took the unusual step of firing offensive coordinator Matt Canada just before Thanksgiving, the club's first in-season dismissal of a coordinator or head coach since World War II.

There are players to build around. Pittsburgh has one of the best running back tandems in the league in Najee Harris and Jaylen Warren. Wide receiver George Pickens has shown flashes of brilliance, though those flashes have been tempered with bouts

must still play No. 13 Baylor twice.

But what about continuing to climb, continuing to contend to the point where WVU could possibly be a host site for the opening rounds of the NCAA tournament?

That's never happened before in program history.

Kellogg is not naive to what's been accomplished to this point, yet is keeping all those what-if scenarios off in the distance.

"We still haven't really talked about it much," he said. "We did talk about this being the halfway points (of the Big 12 season). We'll talk briefly about what this next part looks like and here's the

next stretch coming up.

"It's the old coaching cliché, we're going to take it one game at a time. We've got a couple of opponents now that we still haven't faced and that will be something different for us again, something new. I don't want to get too far ahead of ourselves."

To those on the outside, WVU's accomplishments thus far have been more than just noticeable.

"I think they are a really good team. I really do," said UCF head coach Sytia Messer, who spent seven seasons at Baylor as Kim Mulkey's top assistant. "I think they're record shows where they stand in this league. They're physical.

spots and in good positions to shoot the ball," Shrewsberry said. "It's something we work hard on every day, all of us on the team, and we have confidence in ourselves and each other to make shots."

Young and Shrewsberry each added another three in the second as MHS opened a lead doubling up the Hawks at 38-19 at halftime. Sharron Young matched the total of UHS at the break with 19 of his own.

"They shot the lights out," UHS coach Barry Sanders said, who was acting head coach in place of Joe Schmdie, absent with an illness. "52% from three and they had open looks. Our defense needs to be better and we need to limit transition against a team like that and our guys didn't do the best job of getting back."

UHS opened the second half with improved offense and found some good baskets, but the Mohigans seemed to answer every one, slamming the door on any chance of a UHS comeback.

Sharron Young entered Tuesday's contest 52 points away from breaking the all-time scoring record at MHS. His 33 points Tuesday means he is just 19 away from breaking Jay Jacobs' 68-year record of 1,268 points set in 1956. The Mohigans will travel to White Sulphur Springs this weekend for a pair of contests at the Greenbrier Resort on Friday and Saturday nights.

"We all know who Jay Jacobs is, he is an icon around our school and city, and our state," Tallman

Trinity Christian 82, Paden City 26

PADEN CITY — Outscoring you opponent with just three-pointer is a satisfying way to win as Trinity Christian hit 10 times from range while holding Paden City to just 26 points Tuesday evening.

Every player scored for the Warriors, who were led by Chayce Adams' 21 points. Carter Hartsock was right behind him with 19 points while Austin Porta scored 14 and Charles Steptoe had 10.

Trinity led 49-9 at halftime.

Trinity Christian 82, Paden City 26
TCS 25 24 21 12 — 82
PC 2 7 4 13 — 26

By Carey's third season, WVU was back in the NCAA tournament.

It is a similar situation Carey finds himself in with the Knights (10-9, 1-8 Big 12), who are in their first season as a Big 12 member.

Sytia Messer, the former top assistant at Baylor and LSU under Kim Mulkey, took over the program last season after former coach Katie Abrahamson-Henderson was hired at Georgia.

UCF played in the NCAA tournament in 2021 and 2022, but Messer had to rebuild a roster that saw its

top returning players enter the transfer portal after Abrahamson-Henderson's departure.

"Coach Messer is really trying to build a program and I've been through that," Carey said. "Absolutely it feels the same way. It was the same way at Salem, too. Coach Messer has been with some great programs at Baylor and LSU, so she's been a part of great success.

"It's a really good situation that I've enjoyed greatly."

Carey retired from WVU

of petulance. Wide receiver Diontae Johnson is one of the league's better route-runners and tight end Pat Freier

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Kansas to play entire college football season on the road amid stadium construction

Associated Press

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Kansas will spend next college football season playing on the road.

At least the Jayhawks' home games will be only a bit down the road.

With their old stadium being razed, and a new stadium anchoring a massive development project expected to open for the 2025 season, the Jayhawks had to find an alternate location for their home games. They decided to split them with its nonconference games being played at Children's Mercy Park, the home of MLS club Sporting Kansas City, and its four conference games being played across the state line at Arrowhead Stadium in Kansas City, Missouri.

Both of the stadiums are less than an hour drive from the Kansas campus in Lawrence.

The school initially thought it could play part of the season at Memorial Stadium while construction was ongoing. But that did not prove to be feasible, so Kansas moved all its home games in order to keep the progress on its new stadium on track.

"While we are disappointed we can't play in Lawrence, ultimately, we want to create the best possible experience for all involved," Jayhawks athletic director Travis Goff said. "This decision allows that construction to continue on a necessary timeline while also benefiting the overall budget of the project and the 2024 fan experience."

The Jayhawks will play Lindenwood and UNLV at the soccer stadium in Kansas City, Kansas, but the much smaller capacity of about 18,500 means that the school will not sell indi-



AP Photo

Kansas will play its entire schedule on the road next season, though some of those games will be played just down the road in venues that should create a home atmosphere.

vidual tickets for those games. They will only be part of season-ticket packages.

Their Big 12 games scheduled for Arrowhead Stadium will be against TCU, Houston, Iowa State and Colorado.

"I'm confident our fans will be able to create a home field that our players will

be energized to play in," said Kansas coach Lance Leipold, who led the Jayhawks to a 9-4 record with a victory over UNLV in the Guaranteed Rate Bowl this past season.

The new stadium is the centerpiece of a new campus gateway that will include multi-use spaces designed to generate rev-

enue throughout the year. That includes a conference center, dining and retail space, office space and housing.

"While we had hoped to play these games in Lawrence, the move to alternate venues is needed to ensure that our fans, student-athletes and all constituents have the best possible gameday experience and that we stay on schedule to complete construction for the 2025 season," Kansas chancellor Doug Girod said. "We recognize this move is not ideal for some members of the Lawrence community, and we hope they will understand this is a necessary one-year move to ensure the Gateway District can begin benefitting Lawrence as soon as possible in 2025."

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DR. STEPHEN POWELL RETIRING AFTER 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

Ophthalmologist Stephen Powell, MD, will be retiring on **February 29, 2024**, following more than 40 years serving patients in our region.

Dr. Powell began his career as an ophthalmologist in 1983. In 1987, he began working in private practice in Morgantown. In the early 1990's he founded Regional Eye Associates and expanded the practice to better serve patients. Under Dr. Powell's passionate leadership, Regional Eye Associates has grown to include several talented physicians that provide personalized and compassionate care to the community across six locations.

His pioneering efforts in the late 1990's to establish one of West Virginia's only ambulatory surgery centers changed the outpatient surgical services landscape. The establishment of this facility allows patients to receive surgical services at a fraction of the cost while maintaining the highest standards of care.

The entire team and Regional Eye is honored to have served alongside him. His contributions to our team, his patients and the community are unmatched.

If you are a patient of Dr. Powell and have an upcoming appointment, you will be rescheduled with one of Regional Eye's board-certified physicians.

If you have questions about how to obtain or transfer your medical record, please contact the office.



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SCHEDULE

FROM PAGE B-1

been able to enjoy recently,” Brown said in a statement. “Playing Penn State and Pitt in the same season used to occur every year around here, and I know our fans have appreciated having those two rivalries back on the schedule.”

Big 12 play will begin on Sept. 21 when Kansas comes to town. Following the team’s first open week, the Mountaineers will play at Oklahoma State (Oct. 5), vs. Iowa State (Oct. 12) vs. Kansas State (Oct. 19) and at Arizona (Oct. 26). It will

be the first game ever played between WVU and Arizona.

The team’s second open week will be Nov. 2. WVU will then play at Cincinnati on either Thursday Nov. 7, Friday, Nov. 8 or Saturday Nov. 9.

The season will end vs. Baylor (Nov. 16), vs. UCF (Nov. 23) and at Texas Tech (Nov. 30). The Big 12 Championship will be played on Dec. 7.

“It’s great to have the return of seven home games to the football schedule and for Penn State’s to come to Morgantown for the first time since 1992,” athletic director Wren Baker said. “When you add our nonconference games to the Big 12 slate, WVU once again will play a strong, competitive and challenging football schedule.”

WVU’s homecoming is scheduled for Oct. 19 against Kansas State.

2024 Schedule

Aug. 31 vs. Penn State
Sept. 7 vs. Albany
Sept. 14 at Pitt
Sept. 21 vs. Kansas
Sept. 28 OPEN WEEK
Oct. 5 at Oklahoma State
Oct. 12 vs. Iowa State
Oct. 19 vs Kansas State (Homecoming)
Oct. 26 at Arizona
Nov. 2 OPEN WEEK
Nov. 7/8/9 at Cincinnati
Nov. 16 vs. Baylor (Mountaineer Week)
Nov. 23 vs. UCF
Nov. 30 at Texas Tech
*Dec. 7 Big 12 Championship

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STRENGTH

FROM PAGE B-1

going.”

On paper, the story seems simple enough.

Eilert referenced it to “getting the band back together,” and then that band goes out and suddenly makes some sweet music.

That theory sounds good to the players.

“You finally have everything that you wanted at the start, so in a way it’s motivating for us that we get to show what we can actually do,” Edwards said. “It’s nice to have the idea that you can finally go at full power. It’s up to us to show what we got.”

It’s a whole other thing, though, to actually go out and do it, which is the mission for the Mountaineers, who host Cincinnati (14-6, 3-4) at 7 p.m. today inside the Coliseum.

And WVU, in a sense, will be playing in fast forward. The calendar is about to turn to February. There are just 11 games remaining in the regular season.

“Yeah, it feels like you have less time to show everything you want to

Cincinnati at WVU

WHEN: 7 p.m. today
WHERE: WVU Coliseum
TV: ESPN+ (Online subscription needed)
RADIO: 100.9 JACK-FM
WEB: dominionpost.com

.....

show,” Edwards said. “In another way, you look at the positive. It’s the period of the year when you want to show what you got. That’s what we’re going for. We have what we have at the right time of the year.”

Those 11 games will have challenges. Seven of them will come against teams currently ranked or were previously ranked in the AP Top 25.

But, this WVU team has already faced dozens of obstacles between coaching changes, injuries, suspensions and court battles with the NCAA just to now be at this point in the season.

“I don’t think any of the guys are going to forget this year,” Edwards said. “Win or not, it’s been the craziest year of all of our careers. That does make for some



William Wotring/The Dominion Post

West Virginia center Jesse Edwards (right) said Tuesday his wrist and conditioning is improving daily after coming back from surgery in December.

really great friendships and some bonds that we’ll never forget.”

And while it looks good to see Edwards’ name next to RaeQuan Battle, Quinn Slazinski and Kerr Kriisa in the scorebook, Eilert knows the transition to getting the band all on the same page right away will be an enormous challenge.

“Is it hard to build that chemistry midway through the hardest conference in the country?” Eilert asked. “Absolutely it is.”

It’s been done before. Eil-

ert referenced the story of the 2010-11 UConn team that got hot at the right moment and went from the No. 9 seed in the Big East tournament to winning the national championship.

More recently, the 2020-21 Oregon State team finished the regular season with a 14-12 record, only to magically go on and somehow win the Pac-12 tournament and then advance to the 2021 Elite Eight.

Could that be WVU? That’s the question Eilert is asking of his own players.

“Let’s look at these 11 games we have left and the conference tournament and see if we can maximize our potential and see what we could have been from Day 1,” Eilert said. “We’ve had a lot of challenges up to this point and that’s something we had to navigate. Let’s not hang our head and see what we can make of the rest of the season.”

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PAR SCORE 155-165 TOTAL 217

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The Dominion Post

PRO FOOTBALL

The 49ers take on the Chiefs in a rare Super Bowl rematch

Associated Press

The San Francisco 49ers finally climbed back up the playoff mountain to return to the Super Bowl only to find a familiar foe waiting for them.

When the Niners get a second shot at a Super Bowl against the Kansas City Chiefs it will be a rare title game rematch in this short of a span.

“It’s perfect,” 49ers defensive end Nick Bosa said about getting a second shot to knock off Patrick Mahomes and the Chiefs in the past five seasons.

“They’re as great an organization, coach, quarterback as there is. And they were down, not looking great this year either, and they’re playing they’re best ball now. So it’s going to be a big challenge.”

There have only been eight Super Bowl rematches in the previous 57 games, with just three happening in a five-year span before this rematch. The winners of those three rematches were the teams that won the first meeting.

There will be more than a dozen players scheduled to appear in this game — including several stars on both teams — after also playing in the game won by Kansas City 31-20 in Miami

following the 2019 season.

The Chiefs rallied from 10 points down in the fourth quarter to win that game and earn the first of two Super Bowl titles with Mahomes and coach Andy Reid at the helm. Kansas City also lost another and will be the third team to reach the championship game in four out of five seasons.

“We already have a pretty good idea how it’s going to look,” San Francisco coach Kyle Shanahan said. “They’ve been doing it a while. Since we met them in ‘19, seems like they’ve been there every year since. We have been trying really hard to get back to this moment.”

Both teams have eight players on the active roster who played for them in the first meeting with Bosa joined by Deebo Samuel, George Kittle, Fred Warner, Dre Greenlaw, Arik Armstead, Kyle Juszczyk and Mitch Wishnowsky.

Mahomes will be joined by Travis Kelce, Chris Jones, Harrison Butker, Mecole Hardman, James Winchester, Nick Allegretti and Blake Bell.

San Francisco also has cornerback Charvarius Ward, who was on the Chiefs team four years ago

that beat the Niners, and injured tight end Ross Dwelley, who is on season-ending injured reserve.

The Chiefs have a former Niners player from that game in receiver Richie Hames, along with defensive lineman Derrick Nnadi on IR, and Austin Reiter and Mike Pennel on the practice squad.

Here’s a look at the other times there was a Super Bowl rematch within five seasons of the first meeting.

GIANTS vs. PATRIOTS
Eli Manning and the Giants spoiled New England’s bid for a perfect season in 2007 and then pulled off the upset again four years later.

The Patriots came into Super Bowl 42 with an 18-0 record and were on the brink of matching the perfect season of the 1972 Dolphins when Tom Brady threw a 6-yard TD pass to Randy Moss to make it 14-10 with 2:42 to go.

But Manning drive New York down the field — with help from David Tyree’s helmet catch — and threw a game-winning TD to Plaxico Burress to stun New England.

Manning did it again in the 2011 season, driving to a game-winning touchdown



AP Photo

Pittsburgh Steelers receiver Lynn Swann diving to catch a pass in Super Bowl X against the Dallas Cowboys, Jan. 18, 1976.

with 57 seconds left for a 21-17 win.

COWBOYS vs. BILLS
Dallas and Buffalo had the only Super Bowl rematch in consecutive seasons, meeting at the end of the 1992 and 1993 campaigns.

The Cowboys got the best of both.

They used nine takeaways and four TD passes from Troy Aikman to hand the Bills a 52-17 loss in Super Bowl 27.

The rematch was far closer but had the same end result. James Washington returned a fumble for a TD early in the third quarter to tie the game and Emmitt

Smith ran for two TDs in the second half for a 30-13 win.

STEELERS vs. COWBOYS

The Cowboys were on the wrong end of a Super Bowl rematch in the 1970s, losing to the Steelers following the 1975 and 1978 seasons.

Dallas became the first wild-card team to reach the title game in Super Bowl 10 thanks to a desperation pass to beat Minnesota and a blowout against the Rams.

But they fell short against the Steel Curtain in the second second-half comeback in Super Bowl

history. Pittsburgh got a safety, two field goals and a 64-yard touchdown catch by Super Bowl MVP Lynn Swann in the fourth quarter of a 21-17 win to complete back-to-back titles for the Steelers.

Pittsburgh won again three years later in the first Super Bowl rematch ever to deny Dallas back-to-back championships.

MVP Terry Bradshaw threw four TD passes and Jackie Smith dropped a potential touchdown for Dallas. Roger Staubach’s late rally fell short and the Steelers won their Super Bowl 35-31.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

30352 JANUARY 31, FEBRUARY 7

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Westover is requesting sealed bids for the following truck:
New Ford F-350 XL (or equivalent)
Race Red (or equivalent)
4 wheel drive
Gas engine
11 foot dump body w/ full height front and rear gusset
Bids must include the cost of delivery to Westover WV along with all applicable fees and taxes.
Delivery must occur by December 1st, 2024.
The City can provide proof of tax exemption upon request.
The City of Westover reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Deadline for bid submissions is 4:30 PM on Friday, February 16th, 2024.
Please contact Jason Stinespring at 304-376-1027 or by e-mail at winspector@comcast.net
Please contact DEP_REAP at 1-800-322-5530 to report your bid submission

30342 JANUARY 25, 31

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONONGALIA COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

CYNTHIA S. TRIPLETT
Plaintiff,

v. CIVIL ACTION NO.: 23-C-287

BRIAN K. GRUBB,
Defendant.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of the above-entitled action is to seek damages Defendant has caused Plaintiff, arising out of a motor vehicle collision occurring on or about the 11th day of November 2021, in Monongalia County, West Virginia, in which Defendant was at fault and committed other violations of law.

It has been shown by an Affidavit filed in this action that due diligence has been used without effect to ascertain the location of Defendant, Brian K. Grubb, for service of process. It is ordered that Defendant, Brian K. Grubb, do serve upon Counsel for Plaintiff, Bader C. Gigenbach, Esq., Gigenbach Legal, PLLC, whose address is 154 Pleasant Street, Morgantown, West Virginia 26505, an Answer or other responsive pleading to the Complaint filed in this action on or before February 28, 2024, which is not fewer than thirty (30) days after the date of the first publication of this notice, otherwise judgment by default will be taken against Defendant Brian K. Grubb, at any time thereafter. A copy of said Complaint can be obtained from the office of the undersigned Clerk.

Enter this 23rd day of January 2024, by the Circuit Clerk of Monongalia County, West Virginia.

/s/ Donna Hidock
Circuit Court Clerk

30326 JANUARY 31, FEBRUARY 14

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
BID CALL 2024-05
CITY OF MORGANTOWN
CITY MAINTENANCE GARAGE

Sealed bids for the construction of City Maintenance Garage will be received by City of Morgantown at the office of the FINANCE DIRECTOR, until 2:00 p.m. on February 21, 2024, local prevailing time; at which time and place, said bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

A two-envelope system will be used. Each bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope. Envelope No. 1 must contain the Bid Bond, Certification of Compliance, Power of Attorney, and all other necessary documents required on the Bid Opening Checklist. Envelope No. 2 must be a separate, sealed envelope marked “Bid Proposal” and must contain the completed and signed Bid Proposal. If the documents are not in order, the envelope containing the Bid Proposal will not be opened and the Bid will be considered non-responsive and will be returned to the Bidder.

Both envelopes must have the following information in the lower left-hand corner.

Name and address of Bidder, Bidder’s WV Contractor’s License Number, “Bid Call 2024-05 “City Maintenance Garage”, City of Morgantown, 389 Spruce Street, Morgantown, Monongalia County, West Virginia 26505. To be opened on February 21, 2024.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is the City of Morgantown. Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents online at <http://morgantownwv.gov/bids.aspx>

Printed copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Finance Office, Monday through Thursday 7:00am to 5:00pm upon payment of a non-refundable fee of \$255.00 for each set. Checks for Bidding Documents shall be payable to “City of Morgantown.” Upon request and receipt of the document fee indicated above plus a non-refundable shipping charge, the Issuing Office will transmit the Bidding Documents via delivery service. The shipping charge amount will depend on the shipping method selected by the prospective Bidder. The date that the Bidding Documents are transmitted by the Issuing Office will be considered the Bidder’s date of receipt of the Bidding Documents. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Architect will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office.

There will be a Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting on site on February 15, 2024, at 1:00 p.m

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

30323 JANUARY 24, 31

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
CITY OF MORGANTOWN
Asbestos Sampling and Testing
BID CALL 2024-06

Separate, sealed bids will be received by the Finance Director of the City of Morgantown, West Virginia, until 2:30 p.m. (L.S.T.), Wednesday, February 13, 2024, for providing Asbestos Sampling and Testing for 59 Dwellings/Structures in accordance with the specifications on file and available in the Development Services Office, 430 Spruce Street, Morgantown, West Virginia, 26505.

All bids must be clearly marked “SEALED BID 2024-06”. A five percent (5%) bid bond or certified cashier’s check must accompany all bids. Bids may not be withdrawn after the time set for the bid opening, unless the award of the contract is rejected for a period exceeding sixty (60) days.

The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive irregularities or informalities in the bid or in the bidding where the best interest of the City may be served.

A. Kim Haws, City Manager
City of Morgantown
Morgantown, West Virginia

30324 JANUARY 31, FEBRUARY 7, 14

TRUSTEE’S SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE

The undersigned Substitute Trustee, by virtue of the authority vested in it by that certain Deed of Trust dated November 17, 2006, and duly recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Monongalia County, West Virginia, in Deed of Trust Book 1516, at Page 132, Bobbie Jo Frederick did convey unto Daniel A. Oliver, Trustee, certain real property described in said Deed of Trust; and the beneficiary has elected to appoint Pill & Pill, PLLC as Substitute Trustee by a Substitution of Trustee recorded in the aforesaid Clerk’s Office; and default having been made under the aforementioned Deed of Trust, and the undersigned Substitute Trustee having been instructed by the secured party 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 20, 2024, at 5:02 PM

The following described real estate, with its improvements, easements and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate in the Fourth Ward District, Monongalia County, West Virginia, and more particularly described as follows:

All of Lot 1, Block T of the Wiles Addition to the City of Morgantown, a map or plat of said Addition being duly recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Monongalia County, West Virginia in Deed Book 199, at Page 51, together with the improvements thereon, and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate, lying and being in the Fourth Ward of the City of Morgantown, Monongalia County, West Virginia, and being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a point located at the intersection of Morgan Street and a twelve (12) foot alley; thence with the western right of way line of said Alley, S. 35° 30’ East 40.00 feet to a point; thence with the common boundary line of lot 2, S. 54° 30’ West 111.00 feet to a point in line with the eastern right of way line of Duquesne Avenue; thence running with same N. 35° 30’ West 40.00 feet to the common intersection of Duquesne Avenue and Morgan Street; thence with the eastern boundary line of Morgan Street, N. 54° 30’ East 111.00 feet to the point and place of beginning, as shown on the plat prepared December, 1991, by Paul D. Harbert, LLC No. 86, of McCoy Surveying Company, Inc., of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Monongalia County, West Virginia in Deed Book 1119, at Page 73.

And being all of the same property conveyed to Bobbie Jo Frederick, by virtue of a deed dated the 10th day of November, 2006, from Holly S. Smith and recorded in Deed Book 1330, at Page 265.

At the time of the execution of the Deed of Trust, this property was reported to have a mailing address of 402 Morgan Street, Morgantown, WV 26505.

AND BEING the same real estate which was conveyed to Bobbie Jo Frederick, by Deed dated November 10, 2006, from Holly S. Smith, and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Monongalia County, West Virginia, in Deed Book 1330, at Page 265.

The above-described property will be sold subject to any covenants, restrictions, easements, leases and conditions of record, and subject to any unpaid 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.

TERMS: Ten percent (10%) of the purchase price as a deposit with the balance due and payable within 30 days of the day of sale.

Pill & Pill, PLLC, Substitute Trustee

Jonathan L. Wertman, Authorized Signatory

P. O. Box 440, 85 Aikens Center,
Martinsburg, WV 25404
Phone (304) 263-4971, Fax (304) 267-5840,
e-mail: foreclosures@pillwvllaw.com

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

30090

Jan. 17, 24, 31, Feb. 7

ADVERTISEMENT

Notice is hereby given that MONONGALIA COUNTY COAL RESOURCES, INC., 46226 NATIONAL ROAD, , ST. CLAIRSVILLE, OH 43950 has a permit on file with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for the surface mining of approximately 339.55 acres and has submitted an application to the DEP, 47 School Street, Suite 301, Philippi, WV, 26416-1600, for renewal of Article 3 Permit Number U004684 to operate an underground mine, preparation plant, and refuse facility. in the Pittsburgh seam of coal.

The operation is discharging into West Virginia Fork of Dunkard Creek of Monongahela River and is located 0.2 miles, northeast of Wana in Battelle District of Monongalia County, Longitude 80° 17’ 40” and Latitude 39° 42’ 28” (Coordinates from USGS Topographic Map).

Surface of the area associated herewith is owned by:

NAME	ADDRESS
Thomas, Rose Taylor, James Edward & Earl Lynn Consol Mining Company LLC CNX Land LLC McClure Robert C Life: Harold N McClure Wells, Harvey A III (Life Margaret A Staggers) Monongalia County Coal Resources, Inc. Consolidation Coal Company Wolfpen Knob Development Co Reed, Roger & Monica Chisler Roy Dale & Twyla Leah, Crystal Jenae & David R Spears Levy, Sylvia Bailes Trump, Shawn Allen & Aleeda Marie Ford (Phys)	416 Browns Run Rd, Burton WV 26562 1157 Toms Run Rd, Holbrook PA 15341 1000 Consol Energy Dr, Canonsburg PA 15317 1000 Consol Energy Dr Ste 400, Canonsburg PA 15317 765 Maple Ave, New Martinsville WV 26155 36 Barrington Hill Rd, Fayetteville WV 25840 46226 National Rd, St. Clairsville OH 43950 46226 National Rd, St. Clairsville OH 43950 1000 Consol Energy Dr Ste 400, Canonsburg PA 15317 7760 Mason Dixon Hwy, Wana WV 26590 11 Frank Tennant Rd, Blacksville WV 26521 1760 E 13th St, Brooklyn NY 11229 88 Wana Front St, Wana WV 26590

Surface of the area within 100 feet of the permit area is owned by:

NAME	ADDRESS
Gunter, Christina S & Ormer P Thomas, Edward L Taylor, James Edward & Earl Lynn Vamer, Warren H Jr Haught, Clifton Ray & Michael D (Life Francis R Haught) Spears David Russell & Crystal Jenae; Roy Dale & Twyla Leah Wolfpen Knob Development Company Cottrell, Mark	838 August St NE, Palm Bay FL 32909 1409 Frederick St, Niles OH 44446 1157 Toms Run Rd, Holbrook PA 15341 PO Box 14, Wana WV 26590 7499 Mason Dixon Hwy, Wana WV 26590 11 Frank Tennant Rd, Blacksville WV 26521 1000 Consol Energy Dr Ste 400, Canonsburg PA 15317 PO Box 104, Wana WV 26590

Written comments and/or requests for an informal conference of the permit renewal application shall identify the applicant and application number and will be received by the Permit Supervisor at the DEP address above until 03/08/24, or thirty (30) days from the date of final publication. A copy of the application will be available for review until 03/08/24, or thirty (30) days from the date of final publication in the DEP Regional Office located at the address above and is available at:

http://apps.dep.wv.gov/WebApp/_dep/Search/ePermitting/ePermittingApplicationSearchPage.cfm.

The above link can be accessed from a computer at all West Virginia public libraries.

DEP Telephone Number: 304-457-3219
Permit Number: U004684

*These items are to be completed only for operations involving mineral removal.

Include location map in accordance with 38-2-3.2(b)(2)



COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Naithan George’s late layup lifts Georgia Tech over No. 3 North Carolina

Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Naithan George scored a go-ahead layup with 7.7 seconds remaining and Georgia Tech beat No. 3 North Carolina 74-73 on Tuesday night to end the Tar Heels’ 10-game winning streak.

RJ Davis, who scored a game-high 28 points for North Carolina (17-4, 9-1 Atlantic Coast Conference), won the race to a loose ball following a missed jumper by George and scored on a layup with 34 seconds remaining for a 73-72 lead.

Following a Georgia Tech timeout, George drove for the go-ahead layup.

Georgia Tech (10-11, 3-7) ended a three-game losing streak.

Kyle Sturdivant led Georgia Tech with 18

points. George had 16 points and Miles Kelly added 15.

SOUTH CAROLINA 63, NO. 5 TENNESSEE 59

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Ta’Lon Cooper hit a critical 3-pointer with 40 seconds left and scored 18 points, and B.J. Mack added 16 points to lead South Carolina to victory over Tennessee.

Myles Stute scored 13 points for the Gamecocks (18-3, 6-2 Southeastern Conference), who have beaten the conference’s two highest-ranked teams. They knocked off No. 10 Kentucky on Jan. 23.

Dalton Knecht scored 12 points in the final three minutes and finished with 31 points, and Santiago

Vescovi added 10 points for the Volunteers (15-5, 5-2), who had won four straight games and 11 of their last 12 entering the game.

NO. 9 MARQUETTE 85, VILLANOVA 80

VILLANOVA, Pa. (AP) — Tyler Kolek hit five 3-pointers and scored a career-high 32 points to lead Marquette over Villanova for its fifth straight win.

Kolek rallied the Golden Eagles (16-5, 7-3 Big East) after they squandered a 20-point lead. With the Wildcats on fumes after a 34-10 run gave them the lead, Kolek connected on four 3s that sparked the Golden Eagles.

TJ Bamba and Eric Dixon led Villanova (11-10, 4-6) with 24 points apiece. Dixon hit a late 3 that made it 81-78 with 38 seconds left,

only for Kolak to seal the win from the foul line.

Once a national power with two national championships in the last decade, the Wildcats have lost five straight games for the first time since the end of the 2011 season.

NO. 14 ILLINOIS 87, OHIO STATE 75

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Marcus Domask and Terrence Shannon Jr. each had 23 points and Ty Rodgers had 13 as Illinois beat Ohio State.

Illinois (16-5, 7-3 Big Ten) held a 41-34 lead at the break after going 7-of-10 in the final 6:32 of the first half. Ohio State went scoreless in final 2:16 of that span.

Ohio State (13-8, 3-7) got within 10 points after Jamison Battle made a 3 with 1:54 remaining. The Buck-

eyes shot 6-of-10 in the final five minutes and went 50% on the night.

Battle scored 21 points and Roddy Gayle Jr. had 20 for the Buckeyes.

NO. 25 TCU 85, NO. 15 TEXAS TECH 78

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Trevian Tennyson scored 23 points, Micah Peavy added 18 against his former team and TCU beat Big 12-leading Texas Tech.

Tennyson made a tiebreaking 3-pointer with 17:21 left and the Horned Frogs, who had trailed by 11 points before halftime, were ahead to stay.

JaKobe Coles added 12 points for TCU (16-5, 5-3 Big 12), including four free throws in the final 14 seconds. Emanuel Miller had 11 and Jameer Nelson 10.

Pop Isaacs scored 25 points and had nine assists

for Texas Tech (16-4, 5-2), whose only loss its previous 12 games had been to fourth-ranked Houston. Chance McMillan had 19 points with five 3-pointers while Warren Washington had 14 points with a couple of thunderous dunks.

NO. 21 DAYTON 83, GEORGE WASHINGTON 61

DAYTON, Ohio (AP) — DaRon Holmes II had 25 points and 12 rebounds as Dayton bounced back from its first loss in over two months to rout George Washington.

Nate Santos and Koby Brea each added 17 for the Flyers (16-3, 6-1 Atlantic 10), whose five-point loss to Richmond last Saturday ended a 13-game winning streak and dropped them five spots in the AP Top 25.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

30358JANUARY 31, FEBRUARY 7

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONONGALIA COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

Rowland Marietta, Inc., dba CNAC

Plaintiff,

v.

Civil Action No.: 22-C-150

James Messenger,

Defendant.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this action is to obtain a judgement against the Defendant for the amounts owed to the Plaintiff as a result of Defendant’s breach of contract.

TO DEFENDANT, JAMES E. MESSENGER:

It appearing by Affidavit filed in this action that Plaintiff, Rowland Marietta, Inc., dba CNAC, has used due diligence to ascertain the residence or whereabouts of the said Defendant, without effect, it is hereby ORDERED that Defendant, James E. Messenger, serve upon Khadine L. Ritter, Plaintiff’s Attorney, whose address is 424 Second Street, Marietta, Ohio 45750, an Answer, including any related counterclaim or defense you may have to the Complaint filed in this action on or before February 26, 2024. If you fail to do so, a judgement by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint will be rendered against you, at any time thereafter.

A copy of the Complaint can be obtained from the undersigned Clerk at the office.

ENTERED by the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Monongalia County, West Virginia on this 17th day of January, 2024.

/s/ Donna Hidock
Circuit Clerk

30445JANUARY 31

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF PRESTON COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

TO:

NATHANIEL RAYMOND SPINA
Respondent’s Name (First/Middle/Last)

Unknown

Magistrate Court Case No.: 24-M39D-2

Respondent’s Street Address
(Please do not list PO Box #)

Monongalia County, WV

Family Court Civil Action No.: 24-DV-2

Respondent’s City/State/Zip

12/18/1993

Respondent’s Date of Birth

ORDER OF PUBLICATION
(PROTECTIVE ORDER / HEARING DATE)

1. The object of this suit is to obtain protection from the Respondent.

2. The object of this publication by Class I legal advertisement is to notify Respondent of the PROTECTIVE ORDER prohibiting the above-named Respondent from having contact with certain individuals. This Order may affect property and other rights of the Respondent. Violating this Order may subject the Respondent to criminal sanctions. The Respondent is strongly encouraged to obtain a copy of this Protective Order and Petition from the Circuit Clerk of the county listed above.

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

If appearing by evidence duly taken in this action that you could not be found in or that you have left the State of West Virginia, you are hereby notified of the ORDER referenced above, a copy of the Petition and Order may be obtained at the Preston County, Circuit Clerk’s office. This PROTECTIVE ORDER will remain in effect until February 12, 2024.

A Final Hearing is scheduled for the 12th day of February, 2024, at 1:00PM, before the Preston County Family Court.

Issued January 29, 2024
(Date/Time)

/s/ Lisa Leishman
Lisa Leishman
Circuit Clerk

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

30430JAN. 31, FEB. 2

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Division of Highways
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service (www.bidx.com) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia until March 12, 2024 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the constructions of the following project(s):

Call Contract State Project Federal Project Description

011 2023310057 S331- DITCH-24. 00 MISCELLANEOUS CONSTRUCTION
2024 Monongalia County Ditching
US 19
COUNTY: MONONGALIA

Proposals will be received from prequalified and West Virginia licensed contractors only except that on Federal-Aid Projects a contractors’ license is not required at time of bid, but will be required before work can begin. Registration is required with the Department of Administration, Division of Purchasing, in accordance with Chapter 5A, Article 3, Section 12 of the West Virginia Code. All contractors submitting bids on project(s) must submit electronically with their bid a Proposal Guaranty Bond for \$500.00 or 5% of the total bid, whichever is greater.

The West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways reserves the right to defer, delay or postpone the date for receiving and publicly opening proposals for any project designated in this advertisement, without the necessity of renewing such advertisement. The deferment, delay, postponement, and the date that proposals will be received and publicly opened will be available on www.bidx.com.

The West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex or national origin in consideration for an award.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

30405Jan. 31, Feb. 7

PUBLIC NOTICE

Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Water and Waste Management
Office of Waste Management
601 57th Street SE
Charleston, WV 25304
(304) 926-0465

APPLICATION FOR WEST VIRGINIA SOLID WASTE FACILITY PERMIT RENEWAL/NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE
ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT

Permit notice no.: SW-02-24
Public notice dates: January 31, 2024
February 7, 2024

Paper: The Dominion Post

The following has applied to the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection for a solid waste landfill permit renewal/ national pollutant discharge elimination system permit:

Applicant: City of Morgantown
389 Spruce Street
Morgantown, WV 26505

Application no.: SWF-4870/WV0109053

Location: Adjacent to the municipal airport, Morgantown, WV

Activity: Post-Closure related activity only

The City of Morgantown Landfill is closed and does not receive any waste.

The facility is located along an unnamed tributary of Hartman Run. The center on the site is 39° 38’ 24” N latitude and 79° 55’ 15” W longitude. The storm water discharge point is 39° 38’ 15” N latitude and 79° 55’ 22” W longitude. All leachate will be collected and piped to the Morgantown Utility Board Wastewater Treatment Plant (MUBWTP).

On the basis of review of the application, the Solid Waste Management Act, Chapter 22, Article 15, Sections 5(b) and 5(c); and the West Virginia Solid Waste Management Rule 33CSR1, the state of West Virginia will act on the above application.

Interested persons may submit written comments during the 30-day public comment period, which begins on **January 31, 2024 and ends on March 1, 2024** to the following address:

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Water and Waste Management
601 57th Street SE
Charleston, WV 25304
Attention: Kenneth Wanding

Comments received within this time period will be considered prior to any state action on the subject application
Correspondence should include the name, address, and telephone number of the writer and a concise statement of the nature of the issues addressed.

To receive a copy of the permit application, draft permit, and any required fact sheet, please contact Kenneth Wanding at the Division of Water and Waste Management, Office of Waste Management, 601 57th Street SE, Charleston, WV 25304, (304) 926-0499, extension 43854, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

A public hearing may be held if the state identifies a significant degree of public interest on issues relevant to the permit application. To obtain further information concerning the subject application or to request a public hearing, you may contact the Division of Water and Waste Management during the public comment period at the above address.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

30322JANUARY 31, FEBRUARY 7, 14

TRUSTEE’S SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE

The undersigned Substitute Trustee, by virtue of the authority vested in it by that certain Deed of Trust dated March 3, 2023, and duly recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Monongalia County, West Virginia, in Deed of Trust Book 2555, at Page 135; John Michael Carson did convey unto Joseph C. Camp, Trustee, certain real property described in said Deed of Trust; and the beneficiary has elected to appoint Pill & Pill, PLLC as Substitute Trustee by a Substitution of Trustee recorded in the aforesaid Clerk’s Office; and default having been made under the aforementioned Deed of Trust, and the undersigned Substitute Trustee having been instructed by the secured party 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 20, 2024, at 5:04 PM

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

All of the following described parcel of real estate together with the improvements thereon and the appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate, lying and being in Clinton District, Monongalia County, West Virginia, and more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at an iron pin, located in the center of a 30 foot right-of-way, said pin also being the Southwestern corner of the subject real estate; thence North 37° 36’ 10” East 134.84 feet to an iron pin; thence running with the common boundary line of lands of Dennis J. Vernon, South 61° 23’ 36” East 352.81 feet to an iron pin; thence with lands now or formerly of Michael Huston, South 7° 42’ 55” West 322.34 feet to an iron pin; thence running with lands now or formerly of Elsie Michael, North 42° 25’ 50” West 516.89 feet to the point and place of beginning; containing 2.012 acres, more or less; and being the residue of that certain real estate conveyed unto the Grantors herein by deed from John H. Caldwell, II, and Rosalee R. Caldwell, husband and wife, dated the 15th day of September, 1989, recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Monongalia County, West Virginia, in deed Book No. 999, at page 622.

There is also granted and conveyed a non-exclusive right-of-way as is set forth in that certain Deed recorded in Deed Book No. 999, at page 622. In accepting this conveyance, the Grantee, his heirs, and assigns agree to share in the maintenance of said roadway.

There is excepted and reserved from this conveyance that certain property described in the deed dated December 13, 2012, and recorded in Deed Book 1470 at Page 633.

At the time of the execution of the Deed of Trust, this property was reported to have a mailing address of 42 Bramble Lane, Fairmont, WV 26554.

AND BEING the same real estate which was conveyed to John Michael Carson by Deed dated April 7, 1997, from Mohamed Alshallah and Sahar Alshallah, and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Monongalia County, West Virginia, in Deed Book 1142, at Page 495.

The above-described property will be sold subject to any covenants, restrictions, easements, leases and conditions of record, and subject to any unpaid real estate taxes.

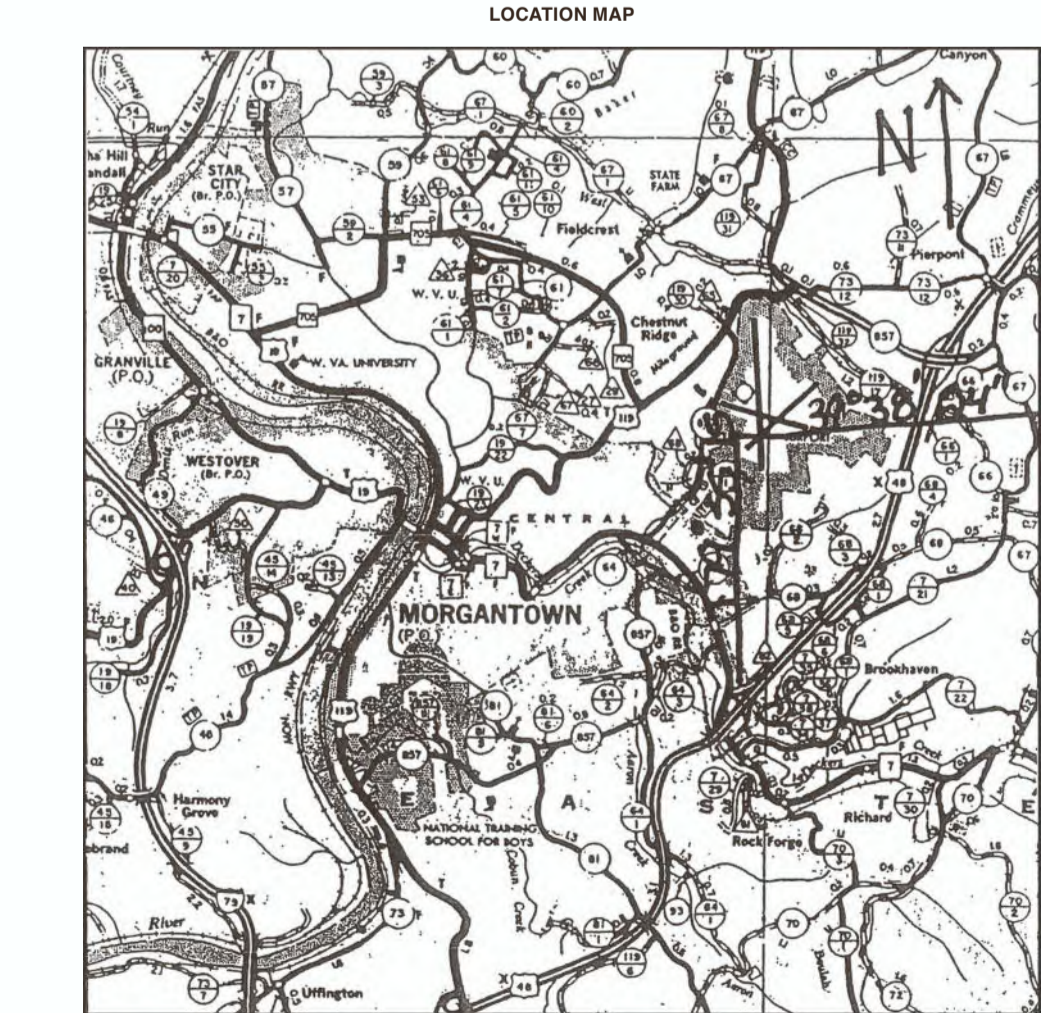
The subject property will be sold in “AS IS” condition. The Substitute Trustee shall be under no duty to cause any existing tenant or person occupying the subject property to vacate said property.

TERMS: Ten percent (10%) of the purchase price as a deposit with the balance due and payable within 30 days of the day of sale.

Pill & Pill, PLLC, Substitute Trustee

Matthew R. Leonard, Authorized Signatory

P. O. Box 440, 85 Aikens Center, Martinsburg, WV 25404
Phone (304) 263-4971, Fax (304) 267-5840, e-mail: foreclosures@pillwllaw.com



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VROOOOM!

Dangers of raw milk arise from bacteria

DEAR DOCTORS: We might start buying raw milk from a family farm in our area. It seems safe because they have only two cows and test the milk for bacteria. But when I told my dad, he said raw milk is always risky. Is that true?

Dear Reader: The term “raw milk” refers to milk that does not undergo pasteurization. That’s the process of heating milk to the high temperatures needed to kill bacteria and other microbes. The safety of raw milk is a hot-button issue with deeply held opinions, both pro and con. On one side are public health officials, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, who warn of the potential dangers of milk that has not been sufficiently processed to kill bacteria. On the other side are advocates, often impassioned, who say that modern-day dairy practices have removed the risks associated with raw milk and that pasteurization strips the milk of vital nutrients.

The potential dangers of raw milk arise from bacteria including salmonella, E. coli, listeria and brucella. They can make any-



DRS. ELIZABETH KO & EVE GLAZIER

one ill, but are particularly dangerous to young children, older adults and individuals with weakened immune systems. Diseases known to be caused by contaminated raw milk include tuberculosis, diphtheria, listeriosis, Guillain-Barre syndrome and typhoid fever.

Microbes may come directly from the animal, or they can contaminate milk in the series of steps that take place as it makes its way to the consumer. This includes during milking, packaging and storage. Milk of any kind is an excellent medium for bacterial growth and requires vigilant hygiene to keep it safe. According to the CDC, improper handling of milk leads to nearly triple the hospitalizations of any other type of foodborne illness.

Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024

Adjust what’s necessary. Thinking ahead will help you navigate your way through unexpected situations. Don’t feel obligated to take on more than you can handle. Do what’s feasible, and you’ll feel comfortable with the outcome. Take a healthy approach to life and love. Live life your way.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Don’t exceed what’s necessary. Maintain integrity and be reasonable. Stick to your guns.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Refuse to let anyone limit you. Step outside your comfort zone if it helps you get what you want.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Seek out people who have something to contribute. Your partnerships will be just as important as what you have to offer.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Set your sights on your destination, and don’t stop until you get there. Be true to yourself.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Pay attention to detail, and don’t let your emotions get in the way. Educate yourself before making a purchase.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — You have a choice. Refuse to let some-



EUGENIA LAST

one take advantage of your kindness and generosity.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Spend more time at home. Build better relationships with loved ones and keep the peace with colleagues and associates.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Don’t spend money on unnecessary items. Self-improvement doesn’t have a price tag.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — You’ll face mixed emotions regarding relationships and domestic changes. Take the initiative.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Consider how travel and educational pursuits will affect your life, and weigh the pros and cons.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Do your best. Put your mind and muscle behind your skills and knowledge, and don’t let anyone distract you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Align yourself with trustworthy people. Refuse to let your emotions stop you from making the right decisions. Put a cap on spending.

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
- 1 Took a load off
 - 4 Primrose —
 - 8 Hospital area
 - 12 Sporty truck
 - 13 Sailor’s greeting
 - 14 Fever
 - 15 — out a living
 - 16 Leaf
 - 17 Narrative
 - 18 Singer — Wynette
 - 20 Los —
 - 22 Big boat
 - 24 Ventilate
 - 25 Treat for a pooch
 - 29 Whirled
 - 33 — on a Grecian Urn
 - 34 Shock
 - 36 Metal source
 - 37 In the manner of (2 wds.)
 - 38 Oklahoma town
- DOWN
- 1 Fat
 - 2 Alaskan island
 - 3 Be abundant
 - 4 Paper reed
 - 5 “Gotcha!”
 - 6 Roman garment
 - 7 “Laughing” animal
 - 8 Diluted
 - 9 “I’ve Got — in Kalamazoo”



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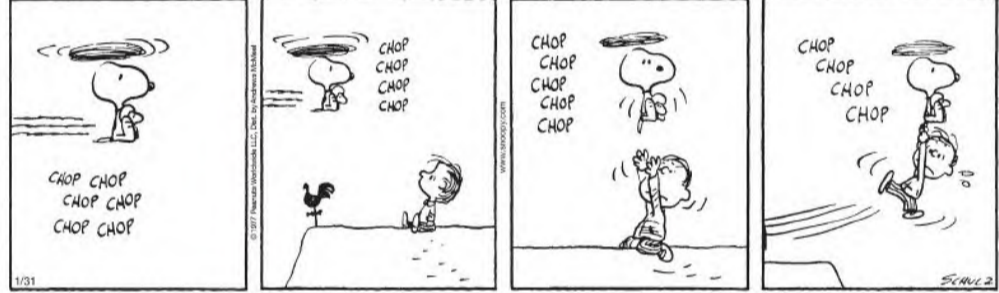


- Answer to Previous Puzzle
- 6 Roman garment
 - 7 “Laughing” animal
 - 8 Diluted
 - 9 “I’ve Got — in Kalamazoo”
 - 10 Govern
 - 11 Poor grades
 - 19 PC alternative
 - 21 Bands’ booking
 - 23 Flying toy
 - 25 Tub
 - 26 Lazy
 - 27 Actor — Penn
 - 28 Adjust pitch
 - 30 Horse of a certain color
 - 31 Therefore
 - 32 Doe
 - 35 Long river in Africa
 - 39 Oil well framework
 - 42 Ohio city
 - 43 “Space Odyssey” computer
 - 45 Turkish chief
 - 47 Skyscraper
 - 49 Box
 - 50 Busy place
 - 51 Similar
 - 52 Sticky strip
 - 54 Act
 - 55 Roughly (2 wds.)
 - 56 Aerie
 - 59 — “Fledermaus”

CURTIS



PEANUTS



THE GRIZZWELLS



BEETLE BAILEY



FRANK & ERNEST



BORN LOSER



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MARMADUKE BY BRAD & PAUL ANDERSON



“Why aren’t any of the buses stopping for us?”

GARFIELD



BLONDIE



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



MUTTS

