

Issues & Needs Reports



1st Quarter 2013
WVVA-TV

Bluefield, WV

Quarterly Listing of Issues and Needs

1. **BUSINESS:** Need for jobs; tourism; industry; downtown revitalization; compensation; availability of liability insurance; more regional cooperation.
2. **PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE:** Strengthening of family unit, support for single parent families; child abuse; spouse abuse; sexual abuse; religion; need for resources for elderly; transportation and housing for poor and elderly; more problems for the elderly; needs for disadvantaged; nurses, doctors, and dentists; problems of alcohol and drug abuse; racial problems; lack of opportunities for blacks; charities.
3. **EDUCATION:** Need for upgrading of system and high educational standards; more money and support of system; education for non-traditional students; post-graduate educational opportunities; retaining and acquisition of new job skills; adaptation to high technology; more parental involvement.
4. **ORGANIZATIONS OF AND FOR YOUTH:** Problems of juvenile delinquency; lack of activities; drug and alcohol abuse; need for more jobs; teenage pregnancy; letter teen center; better communications and awareness of services available.
5. **RECREATION:** Need for more and improved facilities; more cultural programs. Community activities, more sports programs, playgrounds, etc.
6. **ELDERLY:** Services for elderly; seniors living with dignity; senior activities and facilities; transportation and housing for poor and elderly; senior nutrition.
7. **LABOR:** Lack of job opportunities; unemployment rate in WV; more upward mobility in jobs; job training.
8. **GOVERNMENT:** Need for adequate housing for poor and elderly; strong community leadership; community pride; increase/decrease population; more blacks in political community; long range community planning; community clean-ups; better enforcement of minimum housing codes; city-wide effort alcohol and drug abuse.
9. **ENVIRONMENT:** Problems of hazardous waste; weapons proliferation; nuclear energy; soil erosion; flooding; need for preservation of environment; conservation and recycling; pollution control.
10. **TRANSPORTATION:** Need for better highways, including interstate, rail services, maintaining air service, retain bus routes, city street repairs.

Locally Produced Programming



Station WVVA-TV programs to the ascertained problems and needs through a variety of programming vehicles. Being heavily community-oriented and interested in community problems and issues, the licensee devotes a very considerable amount of its news time to the coverage of significant problems, needs and issues facing the community. WVVA-TV has produced and broadcast the following programming material in response to the problems and needs of our viewing area.

IN FOCUS

Sunday 9:00-9:30 am (30 minutes)

If no network programming, repeat 12:00-12:30 pm (30 minutes)

In Focus is a public affairs program of WVVA TELEVISION, INC. that airs twice weekly. The first telecast is on Sunday, 9:00 am, with a repeat the same Sunday at noon (if no network programming.) This program provides discussion of local, state and national issues affecting our audience.

January 13, 2013

(1, 2, 7)

Guests: Phyllis Owens, Brenda Workman, Connie Saunders, Cheryl Shippey

Moderator: Greg Carter

Content: Economic development, drugs, obesity, unemployment, community togetherness, leadership, cooperation with bordering towns, poverty

January 20, 2013

(2, 7)

Guests: Zane Lawhorn, Scott Mullins

Moderator: Greg Carter

Content: Drug abuse, lack of quality jobs, community cooperation, unemployment

January 27, 2013

(2, 7)

Guest: Greg Puckett

Moderator: Greg Carter

Content: Substance abuse, economic development

February 10, 2013

(1, 2, 3, 8)

Guests: Sarita A. Rhonemus, Terri Philpott
Moderator: Greg Carter

Content: Low educational attainment, Education is not valued, drug and alcohol use, local economy, focus on completing, secondary and post secondary education, increased taxes, decrease in federal funding (budget cuts) for education and post-secondary education.

February 17, 2013

(2, 3)

Guests: Leta V. Bailey. Joan Reed
Moderator: Greg Carter

Content: Finding employment, the economy in general, education, communication

February 24, 2013

(7)

Guests: Daniel W. Farley
Moderator: Greg Carter
Content: Quality Jobs, Quality workforce, an attitude that we can do anything we make up our minds to do.

March 10, 2013

(3, 7)

Guest: Jim Holland
Moderator: Gil McClanahan
Content: Employment & counseling kids to get a better start toward a career, creating more manufacturing.

March 17, 2013

Guest: Regina Thomas, Jenni Canterbury
Moderator: Greg Carter
Content: Prescription Drug Abuse, Obesity (youth),

March 24, 2013

Guest: Jennifer Tobia, Francis Coffey
Moderator: Greg Carter
Content: Drug Problems, families in need of food, child abuse and neglect, low income families, broken homes

March 31, 2013

Guest: Justin Lowe
Moderator: Greg Carter
Content: All the cut backs to the education system, drugs, apathy

NEWSCHANNEL 6

Monday – Friday 5:30-7:00 am (90 minutes)
Monday – Friday 5:00-5:30 pm (30 minutes)
Monday – Friday 6:00 - 6:30 pm (30 minutes)
Monday – Friday 11:00-11:30 pm (30 minutes)
Saturday – Sunday 11:00 - 11:30 pm (30 minutes)

WVVA News at 6 provides the most up-to-date information in the two Virginias with periodic in-depth background stories that deal with the problems and important issues of the communities we serve. Detail includes date telecast, length of in-depth story, number of specific problem or need, and topic. In most cases, the story was aired on both the 6:00 and 11:00 pm newscasts.

January 1, 2013

(3)

A rural school system in southwest Virginia is canceling the start of classes in the new year because of concerns about an online posting that mentions the school massacre in Connecticut and local schools. Virginia State Police alerted the Giles County Schools of the posting and media reports state the county schools will be closed Wednesday as a precaution.

The sheriff's office scheduled a news conference Tuesday to discuss the situation.

Superintendent Terry Arbogast posted a letter on the school's website that said no specific threats have been made at any schools in the county.

The website causing the concern mentions Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., and "Narrows Schools." The district includes schools in the town of Narrows.

January 2, 2013

(2)

BECKLEY (WVVA) - Police are searching for a suspect who robbed a Raleigh County convenience store Tuesday.

Authorities say a person walked into the Little General on Eisenhower Drive, demanded money and ran off.

If you have any information on the incident, contact the Beckley Police at 304-256-1708 or Crimestoppers at 304-255-STOP.

January 2, 2013

(2)

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) -- Revised abortion clinic regulations that include strict building standards have been certified by Gov. Bob McDonnell.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch reports that McDonnell certified the regulations on Dec. 28. Following a 60-day public comment period, the regulations will go back to the state Board of Health for a final vote. The board approved the regulations in September.

The new regulations require abortion clinics to meet the same strict building standards as new hospitals. Abortion-rights advocates argue that the strict standards could force most of Virginia's 20 clinics out of business.

McDonnell spokesman J. Tucker Martin says the governor believes the regulations will help ensure the safety and well-being of patients.

Existing clinics will half until the latter half of 2014 to comply with the new regulations.

January 2, 2013

(2)

TAZEWELL (WVVA) - Detectives in Tazewell County are currently investigating a bomb threat that forced the county courthouse to move cases on Wednesday.

Court was instead being held in the American Legion Building and the Town Council Chambers.

Authorities were following up on a number of leads. The last bomb threat conviction in Tazewell County brought a 10 year prison sentence.

Tazewell County Sheriff's Department on Facebook: www.facebook.com/tazewellcountysheriff

Tazewell County Sheriff's Department on Twitter: @TazewellSheriff

January 2, 2013

(2)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- A former superintendent at West Virginia's Upper Big Branch mine is asking a judge to delay his sentencing.

Gary May's lawyer, Tim Carrico, argues in a recent filing that public interests in sentencing May on Jan. 17 are outweighed by public interests that would be furthered by delaying the proceeding.

May pleaded guilty to a conspiracy charge in March 2012. He's cooperating with federal authorities in the ongoing criminal investigation of the 2010 explosion that killed 29 miners.

Carrico says May would lose the benefit of his plea agreement's cooperation provision if his sentencing isn't delayed. Consequently, he would lose the opportunity to provide additional cooperation.

Last month, U.S. District Judge Irene Berger denied a prosecution motion to delay the sentencing.

The Charleston Gazette reported May's filing Wednesday.

January 2, 2013

(2)

BLUEFIELD (WVVA) - Another business in the city of Bluefield has closed its doors.

Employees of Appalachian Tire on Princeton Avenue were notified on Monday that the Bluefield store would be closing.

Appalachian Tire had been operation in Bluefield for decades.

While city officials say the closing is unfortunate, Economic Development Director Greg Shrewsbury says the situation could be a positive for the city.

"We look at this as opportunity for other merchants in town that do the same type of work," Shrewsbury said. "We have other locally-owned businesses that can absorb that business so we think it can be a positive for the other merchants in town."

Appalachian Tire operates several stores in Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and Kentucky. Officials at the corporate office in Charleston did not immediately return calls made by WVVA News for comment.

January 3, 2013

(2)

FANCY GAP, Va. (AP) -- State wildlife officials are investigating a fatal hunting accident in Carroll County.

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries says a juvenile mistook 50-year-old Sanford Ray Semones of Fancy Gap for a deer and shot him with a .50-caliber muzzleloader.

The department tells media outlets that Semones and the juvenile were hunting on private property when the shooting occurred Tuesday evening.

No criminal charges are planned.

January 3, 2013

(10)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- Gasoline prices in West Virginia continue to climb.

Motorists in the state are paying an average of about \$3.43 for a gallon of regular gas this week, a nickel more than a week ago.

AAA East Central says the year ended with an annual national average of \$3.60 per gallon, topping last year's record-setting price by nine cents.

This week's average price in West Virginia is well above the national average of \$3.29 per gallon. The lowest average price in the state can be found in Weirton, where a gallon of regular costs about \$3.33. The highest is Martinsburg at \$3.49.

January 3, 2013

(2)

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) -- Virginians bought more alcohol in the state's beverage control stores and restaurants as the state agency again saw a record profit in the last fiscal year.

The Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control's most recent annual report says it has seen retail sales increase to record-breaking levels consecutively for the past 14 years, even as discussions continue about privatizing the state's liquor stores. The agency that runs more than 330 shops saw a profit of \$132.1 million in the fiscal year that ended June 30.

Gross wholesale and retail sales increased nearly 6 percent to \$734 million. That translates to more than 10 million gallons of wine, spirits and nonalcoholic mixers.

Nearly 1.4 million cases of vodka were sold. But Jack Daniel's remained the top-selling brand based on dollar figures.

January 3, 2013

(2, 8)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- Preliminary figures show 19 coal miners in the U.S. were killed on the job in 2012, down from 21 the previous year.

West Virginia led the nation with seven coal mining deaths.

The Charleston Gazette reports that the figures from the U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration show Kentucky had four coal mining deaths, followed by Alabama with two. Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee and Virginia each recorded one death.

There also were 17 metal and nonmetal mining deaths, up from 16 in 2011. These fatalities bring the overall death toll in the mining industry to 36.

January 3, 2013

(2, 8)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics says on-the-job incidents killed 43 workers in West Virginia in 2011.

The preliminary 2011 total released Thursday is 54.7 percent lower than the total in 2010, when 95 workers were killed on the job. The 2010 total includes 29 miners who were killed in an explosion at the Upper Big Branch mine.

Nationwide, there were 4,609 workplace fatalities in 2011, down from 4,690 in 2010.

Eighteen West Virginia workers suffered fatal injuries in highway incidents. Eleven workers died after they were struck by an object or equipment.

Other causes included falls and exposure to harmful substances or environments.

All the victims were white, non-Hispanic men. Sixty-three percent of the victims, or 27, were between the ages of 25 to 54, the prime working group.

January 3, 2013

(8)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- U.S. Sen. Jay Rockefeller says most West Virginians will benefit from the fiscal cliff deal approved by Congress.

The legislation raises the top income tax rate on families earning over \$450,000 a year. It also includes \$12 billion in spending cuts.

Rockefeller said Thursday that the bill extends tax cuts for 99.7 percent of Mountain State residents. The West Virginia Democrat says many tax credits will continue under the legislation. They include the earned income tax credit, expanded child tax credit and tax credits for economic development, mine safety and school construction.

About 10,000 West Virginians will continue to receive federal unemployment benefits.

President Barack Obama signed the bill Wednesday evening.

January 3, 2013

(2, 8)

The condition of a heavily traveled intersection in Oak Hill is frustrating local drivers. Residents say the intersection of Main Street and Gatewood Road has been uneven and difficult to travel to for years.

"It's overdue to be done. Like I said, I've addressed it with the city and the state and nothing's been fixed yet," says Jim Ayres, owner of Sam's Bar.

Local officials tell WVVA that there's a drainage problem in that area that the state is responsible for maintaining because it is their highway. The water on the road is causing the asphalt to deteriorate and potholes to form.

Oak Hill city manager, Bill Hannabass, says they work well with the state, but almost a year has gone by since they met. "I expected it to happen last summer, and it didn't, so I don't know... I don't know what the holdup is," says Hannabass.

The Department of Highways says they are aware of the issue and have done some investigation. They met with the city and surveyed the intersection. Right now, they tell WVVA News, they are in the design process, but they do not have funds allocated at this time. They say they will continue to patch the intersection and drain the water with the city's help as needed.

January 3, 2013

(2)

MERCER COUNTY (WVVA) -- Health officials say the number of people with flu-like symptoms is increasing drastically across the Two Virginias.

The number rose by 100 in just one week in Mercer County. Officials say in the weeks prior to Christmas the number of cases was in the 50's. This past week the Mercer County Health Department reported 356 cases of people with flu-like symptoms. They say seeing a spike at the start of the year makes this a unique flu season.

Health officials say avoid contact with others, wash hands often, and cover coughs and sneezes to prevent spreading the flu. They also recommend getting a flu shot and want to remind people there is still time to get one.

January 4, 2013

(2)

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) -- Virginia gun sales surged to an apparent record high in 2012.

State police statistics on gun buyers' mandatory criminal-background checks showed that there were 432,387 gun transactions last year. That's a 35 percent jump from 2011 and the largest year-to-year increase in 20 years.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch reports that those in the industry say the spike was fueled in part by the summer repeal of the state's one-handgun-per-month law and fears of increased gun restrictions after December's school shooting in Connecticut. Transactions in December rose 79 percent over the same month in 2011.

Not all checks represent the sale of a gun, as some customers buy multiple firearms and other checks involve people reclaiming firearms that had been pawned. Exact sales figures aren't recorded in Virginia.

January 18, 2013

(2)

PRINCETON (WVVA) - Appalachian Power crews were working Friday to assess damage to power lines caused by Thursday's snowstorm.

The majority of the outages were in Southwest Virginia.

Phil Moyer with Appalachian Power says it could take crews several days to fully restore service.

A more specific estimate of restoration times was expected Friday evening.

[*View AEP's outage map for the latest totals*](#)

Moyer says the storm did not cause the amount of damage the region saw following last summer's derecho that cut off power to many for up to two weeks.

January 18, 2013

(2)

By Kristen Conner

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, W. Va (WVVA)-- Friday morning, 600 people in White Sulphur Springs and its surrounding area were without power.

Greenbrier County's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management director Al Whitaker said the outages were expected to be fixed by 3 PM Friday.

WVVA spoke with Tex Vance, whose power was out when we met with him. He said he has a way to get by, but it comes at a price

"Well we're getting through with a generator, but it gets expensive. It only runs eight hours on a tank, which is five gallons, so you do the math," he said.

Charles Clendenin, who also lives in White Sulphur Springs, said when the storm hit he drove over to pick up his family and bring them to his house where they could stay warm.

"If the power goes out on them, it [won't be] good for the children," he said. One of his grandchildren is 3, and another is 1 year old. "Without heat and everything, anything can happen," said Clendenin.

Whitaker said power was restored by the end of the evening in most areas.

January 19, 2013

(2)

HINTON (WVVA) --- A pair was arrested in Hinton on Friday night after being caught in a stolen vehicle. Patrolman T. A. Withrow and Patrolman T. S. Adkins II of the Hinton Police Department were alerted of a sighting of a vehicle in the Avis area that had been involved in a gas drive off in Sandstone on the previous night.

HPD officer's located the vehicle and made a traffic stop on it. Inside was Alex Joseph Cline, 28 and Autumn Michelle Coy 24. Records check on the duo revealed Cline was revoked for DUI and his license were also suspended for multiple unpaid citations.

Coy was determined to be a fugitive on two felony warrants in the state of Florida. The vehicle the duo were in was also determined to have been stolen by the couple in South Carolina.

Cline was arrested and charged with multiple driving offenses as well as bringing stolen property into the state, a felony. Coy was arrested and charged with conspiracy to bring stolen property into the state, a felony.

Cline and Coy are currently in SRJ.

January 20, 2013

(2)

BLUEFIELD VA. (WVVA)--- A man who robbed a gas station with BB guns has been arrested by police in Virginia.

Bluefield Va. PD says that 35-year-old Fayette County native William Walker went into the Hometown Shell station in Bluefield and showed what appeared to be two guns and asked for money. The cashier complied and Walker fled. As he was fleeing the area, the cashier hit the panic button which led to police responding immediately. Bluefield PD caught up with Walker in the parking lot of Sam's Club about a mile away. Police say that the two weapons Walker had were BB guns and that the vehicle he was driving was stolen in Greenbrier County. Walker is being charged with armed robbery, grand larceny, and possession of a stolen vehicle.

January 21, 2013

(2)

ROANOKE, Va. - About 9,500 Appalachian Power customers in Virginia remain without electricity following last week's winter storm.

The company's website shows Grayson County has the largest number of outages at 2,359.

Appalachian Power says it expects to restore electricity to customers in Scott, Smyth and Washington counties by Monday night.

Electricity is expected to be restored to customers in Bland, Carroll, Floyd, Giles, Grayson, Montgomery, Pulaski and Wythe counties, and the city of Galax, by Tuesday night.

The first significant winter storm of the season arrived late last Thursday.

Appalachian Power serves about half a million customers in Virginia.

January 21, 2013

(2)

By Rachel Lucas

CHARLESTON, W.Va. - Residents in the two-Virginias could receive help with high energy costs this winter.

The Department of Health and Human Resources will start taking accept applications for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program this week.

People can apply for help with their home heating costs from Tuesday through Feb. 1.

Applications are available at local DHHR offices, community action agencies and senior centers operated by any Area Agency on Aging.

They're also available online at www.wvinroads.org. The application must be printed and mailed to the DHHR office located in the applicant's county of residence.

Sending the forms to the wrong place or to a utility company will delay approvals.

Eligibility is based on income and household size.

Income must be at or below 130 percent of federal poverty guidelines: That's \$2,498 per month for a family of four or \$3,356 for family of six.

January 21, 2013

(2)

By Rachel Lucas

PRINCETON, W.Va.- Mercer County truancy rates are down by more than 80 percent since the school and judicial systems formed a partnership last year to combat the problem.

Circuit Court Chief Judge Omar Aboulhosn says the truancy rate for sixth- to 12th-grade students is down by 85 percent. The rate for kindergarten through fifth-grade students has dropped by 86 percent.

Under the prevention program, the Board of Education files truancy petitions in court for students. In some cases, abuse and neglect petitions are filed against parents or guardians.

Students found to be chronically truant must either follow court-ordered improvement plans or be placed on probation.

Aboulhosn says keeping students in school now will keep them out of jail later.

January 21, 2013

(2)

By Caroline Bach

BECKLEY (WVVA) – With another round of winter weather on the way your health and could be at risk.

Dr. Ronald Rejzer, Chief Medical Officer at Raleigh General Hospital, warns that they see many cases of hypothermia and frost bite as temperatures plunge.

People experience hypothermia when their body temperatures dip below normal. Symptoms may include confusion or odd behavior. More serious cases can lead to a change in metabolism or even death.

"Patients at highest risk for hypothermia are generally the elderly, the chronically ill, infants and those exposed to the elements, such as hikers, hunters, workers and the outdoors. Additionally those people are exposed to frost bite," says Dr. Rejzer.

Frost bite occurs when parts of the body freeze or crystallize. To avoid frost bite and hypothermia, Dr. Rejzer says to wear warm layers, especially on your hands, feet and head.

January 22, 2013

(2)

BECKLEY (WVVA) - The Raleigh County Grand Jury has returned the following indictments for January 2013.

Arraignments will be held January 28, 2013 - in the Judicial Center, 222 Main Street, Beckley at the following times:

Judge Burnside's cases - 9:00 a.m.

Judge Kirkpatrick's cases- 11:00 a.m.

Judge Hutchison's cases - 1:30 p.m.

Inmates at the Southern Regional Jail will be arraigned at 9:00 a.m. by Judge Robert A. Burnside.

Each individual charged should appear with his/her attorney.

JANUARY 2013 Grand Jury List

The individuals listed below must report to the Raleigh County Judicial Annex, 222 Main Street, 3rd Floor (Courtroom 3) on Monday, January 28, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.

to answer indictments before the Honorable Robert A. Burnside, Jr. Each individual charged should appear with his/her attorney.

NAME	ADDRESS	CHARGE(S)	AGE
Bolen, Robert William	Robert William Bolen P.O. Box 54 Helen WV 25853	Attempt to Commit a Felony, to-wit: Grand Larceny/Conspiracy	56
Casillas, Tyler Orion	Tyler Orion Casillas P.O. Box 958 Rainelle WV 25962	Malicious Wounding/Battery on Health Care Worker/Destruction of Property	20
Crouch, Michael James	Michael James Crouch	Fraud With An Access Device/	26

	P.O. Box 1124 Sophia WV 25921	Misdemeanor Embezzlement	
Davis, Jim Edward	Jim Edward Davis Box 112 Glen White WV 25849	Malicious Wounding/Conspiracy	29
Evans, Mark Anthony	Mark Anthony Evans 132 Darnell Drive Beaver WV 25813	Fraud with an Access Device, 3cts/Forgery, 2cts/Uttering, 2cts	40
Farley, Kenneth Wayne, Jr.	Kenneth Wayne Farley, Jr. 109 Spanker Drive Fairdale WV Kenneth Farley, Jr. 440 Bailey Avenue Beckley WV 25801	Burglary/Grand Larceny, 2cts/ Breaking and Entering/Conspiracy	27
Farley, Kenneth, Sr.	Kenneth Farley, Sr. P.O. Box 508 Fairdale WV 25839	Misdemeanor False Information to Police Officer	50
Foley, Michael David II	Michael David Foley, II P.O. Box 361 Whitesville WV 25209	Grand Larceny, 3cts/Burglary, 2cts/Third Degree Arson/ Conspiracy	27
Frank, John Charles	John Charles Frank 732 Circle View Drive Beckley WV 25801	Burglary, 2cts/Grand Larceny/Conspiracy, 2cts	24
Goff, Michael John	Michael John Goff 200 Simpson Street Mabscott WV 25871	Malicious Wounding/Conspiracy	22
Griggs, Tara Rachelle	Tara Rachelle Griggs P.O. Box 426 Bolt WV 25817	Attempt to Commit a Felony, to-wit: Obtaining a Controlled Substance by Fraud/Conspiracy	26
Harmon, Marina Dawn	Marina Dawn Harmon P.O. Box 426 Bolt WV 25817	Attempt to Commit a Felony, to-wit: Obtaining a Controlled Substance by Fraud/Conspiracy	43
Hicks, Robert Eugene	Robert Eugene Hicks 624 Johnstown Road Apt 310 Beckley WV 25801	Domestic Battery-Third Offense/Second Degree Sexual Assault	44

Horton, Kenneth Cameron	Kenneth Cameron Horton P.O. Box 57 Lester WV 25865	First Degree Robbery/Fraud With An Access Device, 2cts	28
Hoskins, Larry Romaine	Larry Romaine Hoskins 105 ½ Mercer Street Beckley WV 25801	Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol – Third Offense	60
Jarrett, Christopher Dane	Christopher Dane Jarrett	Kidnapping/Attempted First Degree Sexual Assault	23
Lambert, Roy James	Roy James Lambert 386 Tolbert Farm Road Beckley WV 25801	Breaking and Entering, 2cts/Petit Larceny, 2cts	22
Lester, Lemuel Roosevelt, Jr.	Lemuel Roosevelt Lester, Jr. 114 Harper Road, Apt #27 Beckley WV 25801	First Degree Robbery, 2cts/Conspiracy	23
Lusk, Keith	Keith Lusk P.O. Box 163 Fairdale WV 25839	Grand Larceny/Breaking and Entering/Conspiracy	32
McClure, James Michael, Jr.	James Michael McClure, Jr. 377 Old Mill Road Beckley WV 25801	Burglary/First Degree Robbery/ Wanton Endangerment, 7cts/Felon in Possession of Firearm	41

Meador, Kenneth James	Kenneth James Meador Box 1510 Sophia WV 25921	Possession of a Controlled Substance With Intent to Deliver, to-wit-Marijuana/Possession of a Controlled Substance With Intent to Deliver, to-wit: Oxycodone/ Possession of a Controlled Substance With Intent to Deliver, to-wit: Lorazepam/Receiving Stolen Property/ Driving Revoked Due to DUI/Operating ATV on Roadway With Center Line	29	RAB
Mitchem, Kayla Nicole	Kayla Nicole Mitchem P.O. Box 698 Mabscott WV 25871	Uttering/Conspiracy	24	RAB

Swain, Shawn D.	Shawn D. Swain 304 Wildwood Avenue Beckley WV 25801	Delivery of a Controlled Substance, to-wit: Oxycodone, 2cts	40	RAB
Trail, Nikita Elaine	Nikita Elaine Trail 372 Mont Phillips Road Shady Spring WV 25918	First Degree Robbery/Conspiracy	23	RAB
Williams, Turner	Turner Williams 102 Northern Court Mt Hope WV 25880	Carry Deadly Weapon Without License or Authorization-Second Offense/Fleeing a Police Officer	21	RAB
Yearout, James Temple Lee Allen	James Temple Lee Allen Yearout 318 Spangler Mill Road Beckley WV 25801	First Degree Sexual Assault, 4cts/Sexual Abuse by Parent, Guardian, Custodian or Person in Position of Trust, 4cts	26	RAB

JANUARY 2013 Grand Jury List

The individuals listed below must report to the Raleigh County
Judicial Annex, 222 Main Street, 3rd Floor (Courtroom 3)
on Monday, January 28, 2013 at 11:00 a.m.

to answer indictments before the Honorable H.L. Kirkpatrick, III. Each
individual charged should appear with his/her attorney.

***NOTE: These are Judge Kirkpatrick's cases but arraignments will be held in Judge Burnside's
Courtroom***

NAME	ADDRESS	CHARGE(S)	AGE
Austin, Marion Royce, III	Marion Royce Austin, III 311 Russell Street Beckley WV 25801	Felony Destruction of Property/ Conspiracy	21
Austin, Phillip Andrew	Phillip Andrew Austin 510 Ewart Avenue, Apt 100 Beckley WV 25801	Felony Destruction of Property/ Conspiracy	21
Bailey, Ryan Amos	Ryan Amos Bailey 624 Johnstown Road, Apt 210 Beckley WV 25801	First Degree Robbery	24
Bowyer, Michael Lee	Michael Lee Bowyer 254 Clear Fork Road Beckley WV 25801	Operating or Attempt to Operate a Clandestine Drug Laboratory/ Cultivation of Marijuana	34
Bradley, Brenda Gay	Brenda Gay Bradley P.O. Box 1634 Beaver WV 25813	Grand Larceny /Forgery/Uttering	43

Bryant, Daniel Lee	Daniel Lee Bryant 204 William Street Beckley WV 25801 Daniel Lee Bryant 115 Fairlawn Avenue Beckley WV 25801	Burglary/Destruction of Property/ Grand Larceny	28
Buchanan, Rayburn Bragg, Jr.	Rayburn Bragg Buchanan, Jr. 106 Beckett Drive Beckley WV 25801	Shoplifting-Third Offense	37
Burgess, Randy	Randy Burgess 175 Shady Lake Drive Shady Spring WV 25918	Felony Child Abuse Resulting in Injury *Arraigned and Bond Conditions set on January 16, 2013	43
Cook, James Edward	James Edward Cook P.O. Box 202 Arnett WV 25007	Malicious Wounding/ Leaving the Scene of an Accident With Death	33
Duncan, Darwin Terrance, II	Darwin Terrance Duncan, II 904 Dry Hill Road Beckley WV 25801	Delivery of a Controlled Substance, to-wit: Oxycodone, 2cts/Conspiracy	33
Foley, Zachary Scott	Zachary Scott Foley 2485 Egeria Road Odd WV 25902	Nighttime Burglary/First Degree Robbery/ Impersonation of Law Enforcement Officers	23
Harvey, Timothy Edward	Timothy Edward Harvey 163 Hawaii Avenue Beckley WV 25801	Grand Larceny	37
Hines, Christian Brandon	Christian Brandon Hines P.O. Box 91 Mabscott WV 25801 Christian Brandon Hines 200 Chestnut Street Mabcott WV 25871	Burglary, 2cts/Grand Larceny, 2cts/ Second Degree Robbery, 2cts/ Kidnapping/Conspiracy	27
Hoskins, Larry Romaine	Larry Romaine Hoskins 105 ½ Mercer Street Beckley WV 25801	Failure to Register or Providing False Information as a Sex Offender-Second Offense	60
Kiblinger, Brandon Shane	Brandon Shane Kiblinger P.O. Box 197 MacArthur WV 25873	Wanton Endangerment	26
Moore, Calvin Wesley, III	Calvin Wesley Moore, III	Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol	34

	703 Hartley Avenue Beckley WV 25801	/Forgery, 3cts/Uttering, 3cts/Driving Revoked Due to DUI/ Obstructing a Police Officer/No Insurance	
Moore, George Allen	George Allen Moore 116 Lay Lane Bradley WV 25818	Delivery of a Controlled Substance, to- wit: Oxycodone, 2cts/ Conspiracy	25
Murphy, Theron Stuart	Theron Stuart Murphy 107 Westline Drive, Apt 10 Beckley WV 25801	Forgery, 4cts/Uttering, 4cts	29
Plumley, Vicki Ann	Vicki Ann Plumley 112 Mountain View Road Beckley WV 25801	Obtaining a Controlled Substance by Fraud/Delivery of a Controlled Substance, to-wit: Hydrocodone, 2cts	42
Saunders, Kevin Wayne	Kevin Wayne Saunders P.O. Box 748 Mabscott WV 25871	Burglary/Grand Larceny /Second Degree Robbery/Kidnapping/ Conspiracy	25
Stalans, Matthew Seth	Matthew Seth Stalans 127 South Westview Lane Odd WV 25907	Nighttime Burglary/First Degree Robbery/Impersonation of Law Enforcement	29
Ward, Ronald Keith II	Ronald Keith Ward, II 303 2nd Street Rainelle WV 25962	Failure to Register or Providing False Information as a Sex Offender, 8cts	28
Wickline, Charles Warren	Charles Warren Wickline P.O. Box 1351 Coal City WV 25823	Child Neglect Causing Death	46
Wright, Anthony Leon, II	Anthony Leon Wright, II 374 Wade Road Beckley WV 25801	Delivery of a Controlled Substance, to- wit: Heroin/Delivery of a Controlled Substance, to-wit: Cocaine/Conspiracy, 2cts	39
Yocum, Karen	Karen Yocum 291 Third Street Glen White WV 25849	Child Abuse With Bodily Injury	48

JANUARY 2013 Grand Jury List

The individuals listed below must report to the Raleigh County
Judicial Annex, 222 Main Street, 3rd Floor (Courtroom 2)
on Monday, January 28, 2013 at 1:30 p.m.

to answer indictments before the Honorable John A. Hutchison. Each

individual charged should appear with his/her attorney.

NAME	ADDRESS	CHARGE(S)	AGE	JUDGE
Adkins, Jonathan Gile	Jonathan Gile Adkins 325 Ridge Avenue Princewick WV 25908	Possession of a Controlled Substance With Intent to Deliver, to-wit Hydrocodone/Gross Child Neglect Creating a Risk of Serious Bodily Injury	30	JAH
Browning, Marty Lee, Jr.	Marty Browning Lee, Jr. P.O. Box 281 Eccles WV 25836	Felony Transferring Stolen Property/Conspiracy	27	JAH
Carr, Michael	Michael Carr 117 ½ Mercer Street Beckley WV 25801	Operating Clandestine Drug Laboratory/Conspiracy/Possession of a Controlled Substance With Intent to Deliver, to-wit: Methamphetamine/Felon in Possession of Firearm	30	JAH
Chennault, Michael Shane, Jr.	Michael Shane Chennault, Jr. 365 Sangamore Road Lizemore WV 25125	Grand Larceny	37	JAH
Cottrell, Kevin	Kevin Cottrell 123 Auburn Place Naoma WV 25140	Breaking and Entering/Conspiracy	21	JAH
Gillenwalters, Michael Andrew	Michael Andrew Gillenwalters P.O. Box 184 Lester WV 25865	Felony Receiving Stolen Property, 2cts	20	JAH
Hager, Thomas	Thomas Hager 113 Edgar Street St Albans WV 25177	Operating Clandestine Drug Laboratory/Conspiracy	41	JAH
Hannah, Diante Marcus	Diante Marcus Hannah 119 Sheppard Street Beckley WV 25801	Possession of a Controlled Substance With Intent to Deliver, to-wit: Marijuana/Fleeing on Foot/Carrying Deadly Weapon Without License or Authorization/Minor in Possession of Alcohol	20	JAH
Kincaid, Jimmie Thomas	Jimmie Thomas Kincaid 199 Irish Mountain Road Shady Spring WV 25918	Wanton Endangerment, 3cts/Obstructing Law Enforcement Officers	66	JAH

Mackey, Brittany	Brittany Mackey 117 ½ Mercer Street Beckley WV 25801	Operating Clandestine Drug Laboratory/Conspiracy	24	JAH
McGinnis, Rachel Mary	Rachel McGinnis P.O. Box 413 Glen Daniel WV 25844	Felony Receiving Stolen Property	19	JAH
Meadows, Dakota Dawn	Dakota Dawn Meadows 1875 Flat Top Road Cool Ridge WV 25825	Forgery, 4cts/Uttering, 4cts /Conspiracy	23	JAH
Moore, Donald Blane	Donald Blane Moore 966 Drews Creek Sundial WV 25189	First Degree Murder	46	JAH
Mullins, Misty	Misty Mullins 234 Conway Street Beckley WV 25801	Operating Clandestine Drug Laboratory/Conspiracy	32	JAH
Persinger, Michael Wayne	Michael Wayne Persinger P.O. Box 918 Bradley WV 25818	Felony Embezzlement	22	JAH
Skaggs, Jody Lee	Jody Lee Skaggs 336 Upperrock Creek Road Rock Creek WV 25174	Breaking and Entering, 3cts/Petit Larceny, 3cts	19	JAH
Tessaro, John Edward	John Edward Tessaro 106 Dishman Court Beckley WV 25801	Felony Transferring or Concealing Stolen Property/Driving Suspended- Administrative/Improper MVI/Improper Registration/ No Insurance	35	JAH
Tessaro, John Edward	John Edward Tessaro 141 Dishman Court Beckley WV 25801	Felony Transferring Stolen Property/Conspiracy/ Grand Larceny/Destruction of Property/Petit Larceny	35	JAH
Ulrey, Debra	Debra Dale Ulrey 109Quadal Canal Avenue Beckley WV 25801	Delivery of a Controlled Substance, to-wit: Morphine, 2cts/Conspiracy	46	JAH

Vines, Jeffrey	Jeffrey Vines 154 Church Street Rhodell WV 25915	Delivery of a Controlled Substance, to-wit: Oxycodone/ Delivery of a Controlled Substance, to-wit: Marijuana	36	JAH
Williams, David Eric	David Eric Williams P.O. Box 583 Glen Daniel WV 25844	Felony Transferring Stolen Property/Conspiracy	29	JAH
Williams, James Meccya	James Meccya Williams 2 East Walnut Street Richwood WV 26251	Bank Robbery/Grand Larceny	49	JAH
Williams, Olen Jeffrey	Olen Jeffrey Williams 406 McDowell Hollow Beckley WV 25801	Felony Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol With Death/Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol- Third Offense/Assault	33	JAH
Wyatt, James Michael	James Michael Wyatt P.O. Box 571 Crab Orchard WV 25827	Grand Larceny	37	JAH

January 22, 2013

(2)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- A study of West Virginia's inmate crowding crisis is proposing solutions that researchers say will save the state \$140 million.

Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin outlined recommendations Tuesday from the Justice Reinvestment project.

Researchers from the Justice Center at the nonpartisan Council of State Governments have spent months scrutinizing West Virginia's crowding crisis. Its prisons are at capacity, and its jails have hundreds more inmates than they were designed for.

The study proposes a science-based method for assessing the risk of offenders as they enter the criminal justice system. It says the state must ensure that no one is released from prison unsupervised.

But it also calls on the state to strengthen community supervision programs. That will include devoting more than \$25 million toward substance abuse and addiction treatment.

January 22, 2013

(2)

By Rachel Lucas

CHARLESTON, W.Va. - A hotly debated topic in West Virginia could see resolution.

A new study of West Virginia's inmate crowding crisis is proposing solutions that researchers say will save the state \$140 million.

Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin outlined recommendations Tuesday from the Justice Reinvestment project which is responsible for the study.

Researchers from the Justice Center at the nonpartisan Council of State Governments have spent months scrutinizing West Virginia's crowding crisis.

West Virginia prisons are at capacity. Officials say jails have hundreds more inmates than they were designed for.

The study proposes a science-based method for assessing the risk of offenders as they enter the criminal justice system. It says the state must ensure that no one is released from prison unsupervised. But it also calls on the state to strengthen community supervision programs. That will include devoting more than \$25 million toward substance abuse and addiction treatment.

January 22, 2013

(2)

By Stephanie Crace

TAZEWELL (WVVA) -- Tazewell County Sheriff Brian Hieatt was chosen to be part of a school safety task force created by Governor Bob McDonnell.

Hieatt has been attending meetings in Richmond with parents, teachers, students, school officials and other law enforcement across the state to come up with ways to better protect Virginia's 2,000 schools. Hieatt says one idea his group suggested is having resource officers in all schools and expanding their role. The officers will be armed and be trained to deal with people who may have a mental illness in a school setting.

January 22, 2013

(2)

By Kristen Conner

CLINTONVILLE, W. Va (WVVA)--A family's home is a total loss after a fire, said Clintonville fireman Mark Kelley.

The fire happened on Sinking Creek Road in Clintonville around 6 AM Tuesday.

Several crews responded to the blaze including the Clintonville, Lewisburg, Tri-County, Smoot, and Alderson fire departments and the Williamsburg Fire and Rescue Squad.

When they arrived, "the flames were already visible through the roof of the home," said Kelley.

Firefighters said the challenge with this fire was the cold temperature outside-- the water firemen were using to fight the blaze was frozen and conditions were icy on the scene. Because it was such a rural area, Kelley said they were attempting to use an outdoor water source but it was too cold. Instead, they brought in extra tankers of water to finish the job.

One medic was taken to the hospital after experiencing shortness of breath on the scene, but is said to be stable.

The home is a complete loss, but no one who lives there was injured and no firemen were injured on the scene.

The cause is still undetermined, said Kelley, although he suspects the fire may have begun in the chimney flue.

The incident is still under investigation.

January 22, 2013

(2)

By Rachel Lucas

GARDNER, WEST VIRGINIA (WVVA) - West Virginia State Police are investigating a male teacher at Pikeview High School for misconduct with a student.

The incident was first reported just weeks ago. Mercer County Prosecuting Attorney Scott Ash says the police are still early in the investigation.

"It is turning into a bigger investigation than what we first hoped," Ash said.

Sergeant Clemons with the West Virginia State Police is heading the investigation but would not comment on the case.

No charges have been filed and the name of the teacher is not being released.

Ash says more details will be released after the police report is complete.

The Mercer County Board of Education will not comment on the investigation, but released a notice regarding the matter on Tuesday.

" By order of Gregory Prudich, President, the public is hereby notified that the Mercer County Board of Education will meet in Special Session on the 29th day of January, 2013, at 7:00 PM in the Seminar Center at the Mercer County Technical Education, 1397 Stafford Drive, Princeton, WV for the following purpose: Employee Disciplinary Action."

WVVA will continue to follow this story and keep you updated with the latest.

January 23, 2013

(2)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) - A congressional watchdog agency is set to release a report on the ability of pipeline operators to respond to gas releases.

The U.S. Government Accountability Office is expected to issue the report on Wednesday.

It comes a month after a 20-inch line owned by NiSource subsidiary Columbia Gas Transmission ruptured in West Virginia, triggering a massive fire. The Dec. 11 inferno destroyed four homes, damaged several others and charred a section of Interstate 77. No one was seriously injured.

U.S. Sen. Jay Rockefeller has scheduled a hearing of the Senate Commerce Committee that he chairs to look into pipeline safety. The field hearing will be held Jan. 28.

January 23, 2013

(2)

TAZEWELL (WVVA) - Tazewell County has released the following indictments from the Grand Jury sitting of Jan. 8, 2013.

TAZEWELL COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

GRAND JURY DOCKET

JANUARY 8, 2013

Defendant : Anderson, Crystal Jane

DOB: 05-29-1982

BLUEFIELD, WV

Charges : 1 Embezzlement >\$200

2 Grand Larceny

Defendant : Bandy, William Thomas

DOB: 12-13-1956

BANDY, VA

Charges : 1 DUI - 3rd Conviction w/i 5 Years

2 Concealed Weapon

Defendant : Blankenship, Amy Gail

DOB: 09-25-1972

BLAND, VA

Charges : 1 Embezzlement >\$200

Defendant : Blankenship, Kristen Renee

DOB: 05-15-1987

PANTHER, WV

Charges : 1 Concealment >\$200

Defendant : Blankenship, Robert McKinley

DOB: 11-17-1963

DORAN, VA

Charges : 1 Rape (attempt)

2 Indecent Liberties Under 15 YOA

3 Assault and Battery

4 Contributing to Delinquency of a Minor
Defendant : Bowling, Crystal Dawn
DOB: 06-23-1979
BLUEFIELD, WV
Charges : 1 Conspiracy
2 Grand Larceny
3 Receive Stolen Property -\$200 or more
Defendant : Brooks, Michael Dewain
DOB: 04-05-1977
FALLS MILLS, VA
Charges : 1 Concealment >\$200
2 Concealment >\$200
Defendant : Combs, Vanessa Joy
DOB: 02-22-1970
BLUEFIELD, VA
Charges : 1 Forgery
2 Uttering a Forged Check
3 Obtain Money/Property By False Pretense
4 Use Identifying Information to Defraud
5 Forgery
6 Uttering a Forged Check
7 Obtaining Money By False Pretense
(Misdemeanor)
8 Obtain Identifying Info w/i to Defraud
Defendant : Cook, Nancy Lynn
DOB: 05-21-1966
CEDAR BLUFF, VA
Charges : 1 Possess Schedule I or II Drug
2 Marijuana Possession - 1st Offense
3 Possess Controlled
Paraphernalia/Hypodermic
Defendant : Cordle, Michael Lee
DOB: 01-07-1982
RICHLANDS, VA
Charges : 1 Grand Larceny
Defendant : Davis, Brenda Webb
DOB: 12-08-1944
RAVEN, VA
Charges : 1 Forgery
Defendant : Dollinger, Lisa Carol
DOB: 07-07-1975
BLUEFIELD, WV
Charges : 1 Forgery
2 Uttering a Forged Check
3 Obtaining Money By False Pretense
(Misdemeanor)
4 Obtain Identifying Info w/i to Defraud
Defendant : Dudleson, Melissa Mae
DOB: 08-06-1974

BLUEFIELD, VA

Charges : 1 Possess Schedule I or II Drug

Defendant : Dye, Samuel Matthew

DOB: 11-01-1985

CEDAR BLUFF, VA

Charges : 1 Abduction
2 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
Assault/Battery
3 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
Assault/Battery
4 Enter Home of Person With Protective
Order
5 Grand Larceny - Motor Vehicle
6 Petit Larceny
7 Damage Telephone Line, etc. to Prevent
Summoning Law Enforcement
8 Assault and Battery Against a Family
Member
9 Assault and Battery
10 Assault and Battery
11 Destruction of Property < \$1000
(Misdemeanor)

Defendant : Eckert, Austin Scott

DOB: 04-03-1993

TAZEWELL, VA

Charges : 1 Assault/Battery of Law Enforcement
Officer

Defendant : Eldridge, Rebecca Gordon

DOB: 08-22-1964

BLUEFIELD, WV

Charges : 1 Petit Larceny (3rd or Subsequent offense)

Defendant : Green, Winston Lacy

DOB: 03-12-1965

POCAHONTAS, VA

Charges : 1 Possess Schedule I or II Drug
2 Possess Controlled
Paraphernalia/Hypodermic

Defendant : Grizzle, Jessee Ray

DOB: 04-19-1991

RICHLANDS, VA

Charges : 1 Grand Larceny - Motor Vehicle

Defendant : Hall, Larry

DOB: 12-24-1954

BLUEFIELD, VA

Charges : 1 Assault/Battery of Law Enforcement
Officer
2 Assault/Battery of Law Enforcement
Officer
3 Assault and Battery

Defendant : Hampton, Jennifer Lynn

DOB: 03-30-1979

POUNDING MILL, VA

Charges: 1 Conspiracy
2 Grand Larceny
3 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
property
4 Sell, Possess w/ Intent of Stolen Property
> \$200

Defendant : Harman, Jami Rene

DOB: 01-20-1978

BLUEFIELD, VA

Charges: 1 Conspiracy
2 Concealment >\$200
3 Conspiracy
4 Concealment >\$200

Defendant: Harris, Mckyle Edward

DOB: 01-20-1978

TAZEWELL, VA

Charges: 1 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
Assault/Battery
2 Grand Larceny
3 Enter Vehicle with intent to Commit
Mischief

Defendant: Hubbard, Donald Lee

DOB: 11-11-1978

RICHLANDS, VA

Charges: 1 Concealment - 3rd offense
2 Failure to Appear

Defendant: Jackson, Marshall Aaron

DOB: 05-27-1977

DORAN, VA

Charges: 1 Concealment - 3rd offense

Defendant: Johnson, Debbie Lynn

DOB: 05-07-1963

NORTH TAZEWELL, VA

Charges : 1 Conspiracy
2 Statutory Burglary of Building w/i Larceny
3 Grand Larceny

Defendant : Johnson, Lancaster

DOB: 01-02-1966

NORTH TAZEWELL, VA

Charge : 1 Conspiracy
2 & nbsp; Statutory Burglary of Building w/i Larceny
3 Grand Larceny

Defendant: Johnson, Lancaster

DOB: 01-02-1966

NORTH TAZEWELL, VA

Charges: 1 Fail To Register as Sex Offender (Violent)

Defendant: Lester, Sidney Keith

DOB: 02-16-1972

GRUNDY, VA

- Charges :**
- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Concealment - 3rd offense |
| 2 | Forgery of a Public Record |
| 3 | Obstruction of Justice/False Statement |
| 4 | Use Identification Documents or
Information to Avoid Arrest |

Defendant: Lockhart, Ronnie Lee

DOB: 03-02-1964

BLUEFIELD, WV

- Charges :**
- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Possess Schedule I or II Drug |
|---|-------------------------------|

Defendant: Martin, Cassandra Elaine

DOB: 09-19-1988

NORTH TAZEWELL, VA

- Charges:**
- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Conspiracy |
| 2 | Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
Assault/Battery |
| 3 | Grand Larceny |
| 4 | Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
property |
| 5 | Conspiracy |
| 6 | Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
Assault/Battery |
| 7 | Grand Larceny |
| 8 | Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
property |
| 9 | Conspiracy |
| 10 | Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
Assault/Battery |
| 11 | Grand Larceny |
| 12 | Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
property |
| 13 | Conspiracy |
| 14 | Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
Assault/Battery |
| 15 | Grand Larceny |
| 16 | Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
property |
| 17 | Conspiracy |
| 18 | Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
Assault/Battery |
| 19 | Grand Larceny |
| 20 | Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
property |
| 21 | Conspiracy |
| 22 | Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
Assault/Battery |
| 23 | Grand Larceny |
| 24 | Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen |

25 property
 Conspiracy
 26 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 27 Conspiracy
 28 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 29 Grand Larceny
 30 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property
 31 Conspiracy
 32 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 33 Grand Larceny
 34 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property
 35 Conspiracy
 36 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 37 Destruction of Property < \$1000
 (Misdemeanor)
 38 Conspiracy
 39 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 40 Conspiracy
 41 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 42 Grand Larceny
 43 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property
 44 Conspiracy
 45 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 46 Grand Larceny
 47 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property
 48 Conspiracy
 49 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 50 Grand Larceny
 51 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
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 52 Conspiracy
 53 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 54 Conspiracy
 55 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 56 Grand Larceny
 57 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen

property
 58 Conspiracy
 59 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 60 Grand Larceny
 61 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property

Defendant: Martin, Merry Christina

DOB: 12-14-1965

NORTH TAZEWELL, VA

Charges: 1 Conspiracy
 2 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 3 Grand Larceny
 4 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property
 5 Conspiracy
 6 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 7 Grand Larceny
 8 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property
 9 Conspiracy
 10 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 11 Grand Larceny
 12 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property
 13 Conspiracy
 14 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 15 Grand Larceny
 16 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property
 17 Conspiracy
 18 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 19 Grand Larceny
 20 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property
 21 Conspiracy
 22 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 23 Grand Larceny
 24 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property
 25 Conspiracy
 26 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 28 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery

29 Grand Larceny
 30 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property
 31 Conspiracy
 32 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 33 Grand Larceny
 34 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
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 35 Conspiracy
 36 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
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 42 Grand Larceny
 43 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
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 44 Conspiracy
 45 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 46 Grand Larceny
 47 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property
 48 Conspiracy
 49 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 50 Grand Larceny
 51 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property
 52 Conspiracy
 53 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 54 Conspiracy
 55 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 56 Grand Larceny
 57 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property
 58 Conspiracy
 59 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 60 Grand Larceny
 61 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property

Defendant : Martin, Nicholas James

DOB: 07-08-1985

BLUEFIELD, VA

Charges: 1 Possess Schedule I or II Drug
2 Break/Cut/Damage any Part of Facility to

Defendant: May, Justin Timothy

DOB: 08-05-1989

BLUEFIELD, WV

Charges: 1 Uttering Of Counterfeit Currency
2 Uttering Of Counterfeit Currency

Defendant: Mikolic, David Michael

DOB: 01-07-1957

TAZEWELL, VA

Charges: 1 Firearm - Possess/Transport/Conceal -
Convicted Felon - Violent Felon

Defendant: Mikolic, David Michael

DOB: 01-07-1957

TAZEWELL, VA

Charges : 1 Threatening to Burn or Bomb
2 Assault and Battery
3 Disorderly Conduct
4 Resisting Lawful Arrest
5 Violate Condition of Release

Defendant : Mikolic, David Michael

DOB: 01-07-1957

TAZEWELL, VA

Charges: 1 Convicted Felon Possess Other Weapon,
Ammunition or Explosive
2 Possess Other Weapon, Ammunition or
Explosive by Convicted Felon
3 Impersonating Law Enforcement Officer
4 Assault and Battery

Defendant: Neal, Alicia Kate

DOB: 04-07-1984

BLUEFIELD, WV

Charges: 1 Possession of Marijuana by Inmate

Defendant: Quillen, Michelle Rose

DOB: 12-22-1977

PRINCETON, WV

Charges: 1 Concealment >\$200
2 Concealment >\$200
3 Failure to Appear

Defendant: Remines, Gaye Anna

DOB: 04-26-1979

TAZEWELL, VA

Charges: 1 Possess Schedule I or II Drug
2 Possess Schedule I or II Drug

Defendant: Remines, Timothy Edward

DOB: 06-17-1990

TAZEWELL, VA

- Charges:** 1 Cruelty/Injury to Children
2 Assault and Battery Against a Family Member
3 Assault and Battery Against a Family Member

Defendant: Scarberry, Gregory Keith

DOB: 08-04-1952

AFTON, TN

- Charges:** 1 Eluding Police - Endangerment
2 DUI
3 Refusal of Blood/Breath Test-1st Offense
4 Passing on Solid Yellow Lines
5 Drive too fast for highway conditions - accident
6 Drinking While Driving - Open Container in Vehicle
7 No Operators License/Registration In Possession

Defendant: Scobey, Jeremy Lee

DOB: 07-04-1982

NORTH TAZEWELL, VA

- Charges:** 1 Conspiracy
2 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
Assault/Battery
3 Grand Larceny
4 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen property
5 Conspiracy
6 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
Assault/Battery
7 Grand Larceny
8 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen property
9 Conspiracy
10 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
Assault/Battery
11 Grand Larceny
12 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen property
13 Conspiracy
14 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
Assault/Battery
15 Grand Larceny
16 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen property
17 Conspiracy
18 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
Assault/Battery
19 Grand Larceny

20 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property
 21 Conspiracy
 22 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 23 Grand Larceny
 24 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 &, nbsp; property
 25 Conspiracy
 26 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 27 Conspiracy
 28 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 29 Grand Larceny
 30 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property
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 Assault/Battery
 40 Conspiracy
 41 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 42 Grand Larceny
 43 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property
 44 Conspiracy
 45 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 46 Grand Larceny
 47 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property
 48 Conspiracy
 49 Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/
 Assault/Battery
 50 Grand Larceny
 51 Larceny with Intent to sell/dist stolen
 property
 52 Conspiracy

4	Obtain Identifying Info w/i to Defraud
5	Forgery
6	Uttering a Forged Check
7	Obtain Money/Property By False Pretense
8	Use Identifying Information to Defraud
9	Forgery
10	Uttering a Forged Check
11	Obtain Money/Property By False Pretense
12	Use Identifying Information to Defraud
13	Forgery
14	Uttering a Forged Check
15	Obtain Money/Property By False Pretense
16	Use Identifying Information to Defraud
17	Forgery
18	Uttering a Forged Check
19	Obtain Money/Property By False Pretense
20	Use Identifying Information to Defraud
21	Forgery
22	Uttering a Forged Check
23	Obtaining Money By False Pretense (Misdemeanor)
24	Obtain Identifying Info w/i to Defraud
25	Forgery
26	Uttering a Forged Check
27	Obtain Money/Property By False Pretense
28	Use Identifying Information to Defraud
29	Money Laundering Conduct Financial Trans Proceeds from Felony Activity
30	Possess Schedule IV Drug

Defendant: Stollings, Jesie Keith

DOB: 11-15-1982

GRUNDY, VA

Charges:	1	Concealment >\$200
	2	Concealment >\$200
	3	Concealment - 3rd offense

Defendant: Stollings, Rebecca Nicole

DOB: 05-08-1985

GRUNDY, VA

Charges:	1	Concealment >\$200
	2	Concealment >\$200
	3	Concealment - 3rd offense

Defendant: Viney, Jules Jamal

DOB: 05-29-1989

TAZEWELL, VA

Charges:	1	Statutory Burglary of Dwelling w/i Larceny/ Assault/Battery
	2	Grand Larceny
	3	Enter Vehicle with intent to Commit Mischief

Defendant: Yost, Lisa Kelly

DOB: 04-13-1972
BLUEFIELD, WV
Charges: 1 Embezzlement >\$200

January 23, 2013

(2)

By Stephanie Crace

PRINCETON (WVVA)-- No bond was set for a man extradited from North Carolina charged with first-degree murder.

41-year-old Mitchell Antonio Watts was arraigned Tuesday in Mercer County Circuit Court before Judge Derek Swope. Watts is charged in the shooting death of 23-year-old Derek Tabor of Montcalm. Tabor was shot and killed at a home on Fourth Street in Bluefield on August 20, 2012.

Watts was in jail on unrelated charges in Union County, North Carolina. He is currently being held in the Southern Regional Jail in Beaver.

January 23, 2013

(2)

LEWISBURG, W. Va (WVVA)-- David Howard, a former Lewisburg Policeman, appeared in Greenbrier County magistrate court Wednesday morning.

Howard is no longer on the force.

His Wednesday hearing involved charges of violating a protective order.

Court documents show Howard was charged with stalking an ex-girlfriend in December 2012. He was also ordered to keep off the property where she works.

West Virginia State police said Howard went onto that property Tuesday, and was taken into custody and charged with violating a protective order.

In court Wednesday, Howard's bond his bond revocation hearing was continued. His counsel requested to be taken off the case, citing a conflict of interest. Jody Wooten is handling the case.

January 23, 2013

(2)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) - The state Public Service Commission has ordered electric utilities operating in West Virginia to submit plans to trim vegetation along distribution and transmission lines. The PSC said Wednesday the plans must be submitted within six months.

The companies will be required to submit proposed rate recoveries for the increase costs associated with the trimming program.

The order was in response to a PSC investigation into utility practices following the June 29 derecho and subsequent storms that left more than 680,000 customers without electricity across the state.

January 23, 2013

(2)

By Rachel Lucas

LEWISBURG, W.Va. - A Charleston man has pleaded guilty to charges stemming from the theft of a printer he used to make fake passes to last year's Greenbrier Classic PGA golf tournament.

24-year-old Steven Vanhorn pleaded guilty in Greenbrier County Circuit Court on Tuesday to grand larceny and fraudulent schemes.

An indictment says Vanhorn stole a printer from a storage building at the White Sulphur Springs resort then printed 31 fake passes for the July tournament.

Vanhorn faces up to 20 years in prison. Sentencing has been set for April 9.

January 23, 2013

(2)

LEWISBURG, W.Va. (AP) -- A Charleston man has pleaded guilty to charges stemming from the theft of a printer he used to make fake passes to last year's Greenbrier Classic PGA golf tournament. The Charleston Daily Mail reports 24-year-old Steven Vanhorn pleaded guilty in Greenbrier County Circuit Court on Tuesday to grand larceny and fraudulent schemes.

An indictment says Vanhorn stole a printer from a storage building at the White Sulphur Springs resort, then printed 31 fake passes for the July tournament.

Vanhorn faces up to 20 years in prison. Sentencing has been set for April 9.

January 24, 2013

(2)

By Rachel Lucas

TAZEWELL (WVVA) - Although there are strict ordinances preventing tall structures -- a new bill could re-ignite the issue of wind turbines in Tazewell County.

The new bill would allow renewable energy projects over 4 megawatts to bypass those regulations -- meaning wind farms could be allowed on East River Mountain in Tazewell County -- whether locals like it or not.

Senator Saslaw from Fairfax County introduced the bill -- which now sets in a subcommittee -- awaiting introduction to the House.

Follow the bill's progress: <http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?131+sum+SB1341>

January 24, 2013

(2)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- The number of unionized workers in West Virginia dropped by about 9,000 last year and is nearing its lowest level in three decades.

A report this week by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics shows about 84,000 union members had jobs in the state in 2012. That's about 12 percent of the work force.

But that's slightly better than the national rate.

The bureau says that nationally, membership dropped last year from 11.8 percent to 11.3 percent of the work force.

That's the lowest level since the 1930s. The decline happened as cash-strapped state and local governments shed workers and unions faced challenges organizing new members.

The Charleston Daily Mail says West Virginia's number is the second-lowest since 1983. According to unionstats.com, there were 83,000 union members in 1998.

January 29, 2013

(9)

By Janna Brown-Chief Meteorologist

BLUEFIELD (WVVA) - From heavy rains and wind to flooding -- and now snow -- the Two Virginias have seen a little of everything Mother Nature has to offer this week.

Schools across the region were closed Friday a several inches of snow fell overnight. This comes on top of flooding that plagued several communities -- from Richlands to Ronceverte -- on Thursday.

A spring-like storm system crossed the Two Virginias Wednesday and brought several hours of heavy rain and strong winds. Flooding was reported across most counties in West Virginia and southwestern to central Virginia.

Many streams across the region were swollen or had left their banks Wednesday night. The National Weather Service in Blacksburg issued a Flood Warning for the Greenbrier River at Alderson from Thursday afternoon to Friday evening.

The river was expected to crest Friday morning at close to 17 feet. Flood stage is at 14 feet and was expected to be met early Thursday afternoon.

Motorists were advised to travel with caution -- especially after nightfall -- due to high standing water in several roadways.

[View list of secondary road closures](#)

Flooding on the Clinch River affected residents and businesses in the Richlands area of Tazewell County, forcing some evacuations and closures of several streets.

[More on Richlands flooding](#)

Drivers are strongly urged not to travel through standing water in roadways.

In Princeton, a vehicle had to be pulled from a rising creek at the Athens Crossroads after it crashed into the water.

[WATCH: Dramatic video of woman rescued from stream in Princeton](#)

Eyewitness video given to WVVA News shows rescuers pulling woman from the submerged vehicle. Problems were also reported on Stafford Drive, where the roadway frequently floods during heavy rain. Rainfall changed over to snow in the early morning hours Thursday.

So far in the month of January, rainfall is above average and due to recent snows and melting snows, the ground is already very saturated. Rainfall amounts of 1 to 4 inches fell Wednesday afternoon and evening, which may prompted flooding around creeks and streams and poor drainage areas.

A few areas reported wind damage from thunderstorm winds in the afternoon Wednesday. Winds will stay a big concern overnight and Thursday, with strong gusts having the capability of causing power outages across the area. Ridge tops and higher elevations will see the strongest winds with gusts as high as 60 mph. Wind advisories are out for Buchanan, McDowell, Wyoming, Fayette, Raleigh, Greenbrier, Summers, Monroe, and Giles counties. High Wind Warnings are out for Mercer, Tazewell, Bland, Wythe, and Pocahontas Counties.

[View the latest Weather Alerts](#)

[View the Live Precision Doppler Radar](#)

Be sure to stay with wvva.com for flooding and upcoming snow information. Updates to the forecast are also available on the WVVA Weather App, Twitter and Facebook.

[Visit the WVVA Weather Facebook page](#)

[Visit the WVVA Twitter Page](#)

January 30, 2013

(2)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- Nearly half of West Virginians have almost no savings to carry them through crises such as the loss of a job or a serious health problem.

That's the conclusion of a new report by the Corporation for Enterprise Development.

It says 47 percent of residents have no financial cushion, including a majority of residents who live below the federal poverty level of \$23,050 for a family of four.

It calls people who can't pay basic living expenses for just three months "liquid asset poor."

The report says a family of four needs more than \$5,762 in savings to meet basic needs for three months.

The Charleston Gazette says the report ranks West Virginia 23rd among the states and the District of Columbia for overall financial stability.

January 30, 2013

(8)

TAZEWELL (WVVA) - A bill that could have trumped local ordinances to potentially bring wind turbines to East River Mountain has officially been shot down.

Senate Bill 1341 was unanimously voted down by its 14-member committee this week. The bill was largely opposed by local government, the Virginia Municipal League and the majority of Virginia State Senators.

The bill would have allowed renewable energy projects over 4 megawatts to bypass local regulations.

January 30, 2013

(2)

PRINCETON (WVVA) - A man charged in first-degree murder was back in court Wednesday. Lorenzo Barnes, 22, is charged with first-degree murder and first-degree robbery in the 2012 shooting death of 30-year-old Jason Hicks of Princeton.

Police say Barnes fatally shot Hicks in the parking lot of a church on North Wickham Avenue, near Hicks' home.

The court heard from several witnesses Wednesday in preparation for the Feb. 26 trial.

Barnes is originally from the St. Louis area.

January 30, 2013

(2)

By Stephanie Crace

PRINCETON (WVVA)-- Judges in West Virginia are looking at ways to keep their courtrooms safer. Mercer County Judge William Sadler attended a conference in Charleston which looked at ways to tighten security and also focused on how the judges can stay safe if an altercation should ever happen in their courtroom.

Sadler says in addition to an armed bailiff, the Mercer County courtrooms have several doors so judges can easily escape. They also have a panic button to alert police.

The Mercer County Courthouse has tightened their security by only allowing the public to enter through the main entrance. Everyone must pass through a metal detector and all personal items have to be scanned by x-ray technology.

January 30, 2013

(1)

By Rachel Lucas

BLUEFIELD (WVVA) - Credit cards have been the preferred method of payment for customers for the past decade, and the fee for using them is nothing new to retailers.

"These credit card swipe fees have been in place for years and years and years," business owner Michael Dye said.

According to the National Retail Federation, Visa and Mastercard rake in \$30 billion dollars from these charges a year.

While this is nothing sup rising to retailers here, there is news for credit card customers. Shoppers who use plastic could now be responsible for these "swipe fees" charged to retailers.

Starting this week, retailers can charge you a fee when you use your credit card to buy goods; up to four percent of your purchase cost. This practice is banned in ten states, but unfortunately the two-Virginias isn't among that list.

The added "checkout fee" tacked on to your bill may be one you don't notice.

While the law now states that this practice is okay for local retailers, the good news is it's not mandatory. Whether or not the business passes those fees is completely up to the retailer.

Michael Dye says he advises against charging customers, and says his business, Corner Stone Gifts in Bluefield will not ever charge their customers.

"Any retail outlet that tries to impose a fee on credit card usage is committing suicide in the business industry," Dye said.

Retailers who choose to charge customers the fee must post signs on their business.

Dye says because of strong local ties, most small retailers will choose not to charge their customers.

"Because a small business is truly face to face with that customer everyday, they are not going to put another burden on that customer," Dye said.

According to the Electronic Payments Coalition, retailers can only charge a fee equal to what they pay to accept the card. Typically this is between 1.5 percent and 3 percent of the entire purchase. The law states that charges cannot go above four percent.

The coalition advises customers to express their views to retailers. They say knowing your rights is important.

Retailers cannot apply the fee to debit and pre-paid purchases.

January 30, 2013

(2)

BLUEFIELD, W.Va. – U.S. Attorney Booth Goodwin announced that a Mercer County man pleaded guilty on Jan. 29 in federal court to distribution of hydromorphone. Trusby Hubbard also known as "Red," 34, of Bluefield, Mercer County, W.Va., admitted that on August 16, 2012, he sold two hydromorphone pills to a person cooperating with law enforcement authorities. Hubbard also admitted that during the illegal transaction, he possessed an additional 15 hydromorphone pills. The illegal pill transaction took place at the defendant's Bluefield residence.

The defendant also admitted that he was responsible for distributing a total of no more than 17 hydromorphone pills.

Hubbard faces up to 20 years in prison and a \$1 million fine when he is sentenced on April 26, 2013 by United States District Senior Judge David A. Faber.

The Southern Regional Drug and Violent Crime Task Force handled the investigation. Assistant United States Attorney John File is in charge of the prosecution.

The case is being brought as part of the Bluefield Pill Initiative. The Bluefield Pill Initiative is a collaborative, multi-agency regional law enforcement effort designed to halt prescription drug trafficking in Mercer, McDowell, and Wyoming Counties. The Bluefield Pill Initiative is led by the Southern Regional Drug and Violent Crime Task Force, which includes the West Virginia State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigation; the Mercer, McDowell and Wyoming County Sheriff's Departments, and the Bluefield and Princeton Police Departments.

January 30, 2013

(2)

By Greg Carter

NEWS RELEASE: BLUEFIELD, W.Va. – U.S. Attorney Booth Goodwin announced that a Columbus man was sentenced on Jan. 29 to one year in federal prison for distributing a quantity of crack cocaine.

Thomas Jennings, 53, admitted that on June 28, 2012, he sold a quantity of crack cocaine to a person cooperating with law enforcement authorities. The illegal transaction took place at a residence in Maybeury, McDowell County, W.Va. Jennings also admitted that on June 27, 2012, he sold a quantity of crack cocaine and two morphine pills. The defendant further admitted to selling a quantity of crack cocaine on July 2, 2012.

The West Virginia State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigation and the Southern Regional Drug and Violent Crime Task Force handled the investigation. Assistant United States Attorney John File handled the prosecution. The sentence was imposed by United States District Senior Judge David A. Faber.

The case was brought as part of the Bluefield Pill Initiative. The Bluefield Pill Initiative is a collaborative, multi-agency regional law enforcement effort designed to halt prescription drug trafficking in Mercer, McDowell, and Wyoming Counties.

The Bluefield Pill Initiative is led by the Southern Regional Drug and Violent Crime Task Force, which includes the West Virginia State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigation; the Mercer, McDowell and Wyoming County Sheriff's Departments, and the Bluefield and Princeton Police Departments.

January 30, 2013

(8)

By Josh Frketic

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- A rule that could toughen rules on methane gas levels in West Virginia coal mines remains stalled.

The State Journal says Tuesday's meeting of the state Board of Coal Mine Health and Safety failed to reach a quorum because three members were out of town.

The United Mine Workers of America says the representatives were in St. Louis for a protest related to the bankruptcy of Patriot Coal.

But board administrator Joel Watts says work on the new rule may not have been finished even if they'd been present.

Federal rules require mining equipment to shut down at methane concentrations of 2 percent or more.

Proposed state regulations would cut that to 1.25 percent if the levels are sustained.

But Watts says the definition of "sustained" remains in discussion.

January 30, 2013

(1)

By Josh Frketic

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- An architect says moving the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and Blind to another location could cost nearly \$100 million.

That's about \$18 million more than it would cost to renovate or replace the existing facilities in Romney. David Ferguson with ZMM Architects and Engineers of Charleston tells the Charleston Daily Mail that his financial recommendation would be to keep the schools Romney.

ZMM Architects developed the schools' master plan. Superintendent Lyn Boyer asked Ferguson to research a potential move after the proposal came up at the state Board of Education's January meeting.

The schools have been in Romney since 1870 and some of the 19 buildings are original structures. None of the buildings are less than 20 years old.

January 30, 2013

(2)

By Greg Carter

NEWS RELEASE: BLUEFIELD, W.Va. – U.S. Attorney Booth Goodwin announced that a Mercer County man pleaded guilty on Jan. 29 in federal court to distribution of hydromorphone. Trusby Hubbard also known as "Red," 34, of Bluefield, Mercer County, W.Va., admitted that on August 16, 2012, he sold two hydromorphone pills to a person cooperating with law enforcement authorities.

Hubbard also admitted that during the illegal transaction, he possessed an additional 15 hydromorphone pills. The illegal pill transaction took place at the defendant's Bluefield residence.

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January 31, 2013

(2)

By Kristen Connor

RONCEVERTE, W. Va (WVVA)-- Water levels rose along the Greenbrier River Thursday.

Along with parts of Alderson and Route 3 into Summers County, some roads in Ronceverte were also closed.

For those who live along the river, flooding comes with the territory. But communities work together to prepare for the worst when the waters rise.

Paul Studidant said, "It's a group effort. If somebody needs help, we stop what we're doing and help them move the important things up higher."

Ann Boone said she and her family have a preparedness routine they've perfected while living at the water's edge.

"We've got things in plastic bins so we can move important things quickly. And we just move them upstairs. We just are prepared at all times for it to go up."

Greenbrier County has an emergency alert system to let residents know what to expect when flooding is a possibility. You can choose to be notified about changing current conditions by email, text, and voice messages.

"Keep an eye out at all times. If water starts rising, go to higher ground," said Al Whitaker of Greenbrier County Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

He also said if you can't see pavement due to flooded roadways, do not try to drive through it.

"We are recommending not to drive through any water at all," he said. "A foot of water can lift a vehicle... A lot of times what happens is the water gets in the engine compartment and stalls the vehicle, and [you] get stranded."

Residents said Thursday; they know the water has to come back down eventually.

"We have seen it come up and we have seen it come down," said Boone. "I can't imagine living anywhere else."

February 1, 2013

(2, 8)

By Rachel Lucas

RICHMOND, VA. (WVVA) - New proposed legislation is looking to crack down on texting and driving.

State Delegate Benjamin Cline pre-filed HB 1360 which would allow for reckless driving prosecution of distracted drivers.

Del. Scott Surovell, D-Mount Vernon, reportedly is prepping similar legislation which focuses on reckless driving.

These bills are coming up for a vote in a Senate committee next week.

The Courts of Justice Committee is scheduled to consider the legislation Friday as the General Assembly faces a Tuesday deadline for each chamber to act on its own bills.

Texting while driving is already punishable by a \$20 fine, but it's a secondary offense. That means police can only write a ticket if they stopped the motorist for another violation.

One of the bills would increase the fine to \$250 and make it a primary offense, allowing police to stop and ticket anyone they spot texting behind the wheel. Others would make texting while driving punishable as reckless driving, which can result in up to a year in jail.

February 1, 2013

(1, 8)

By Rachel Lucas

RICHMOND, VA. (WVVA) - Business in rural Virginia counties are now a primary focus.

A council created by Governor. Bob McDonnell is continuing efforts to focus on creating jobs in Virginia's rural communities.

McDonnell named state lawmakers, as well as leaders in the business, manufacturing, agriculture and health care industries as members of the Rural Jobs Council. Lt. Governor. Bill Bolling will chair the council, and Secretary of Commerce and Trade Jim Cheng and Agriculture Secretary Todd Haymore will serve as co-vice chairs.

Officials say the group will make recommendations to address the challenges to economic growth in rural Virginia and develop a statewide rural infrastructure plan that addresses transportation, education, and community development.

It will build upon the work done by the governor's Commission on Job Creation and Economic Development.

February 1, 2013

(2)

By Rachel Lucas

BLUEFIELD (WVVA) - Heart disease remains the number one killer of women nationwide, causing 1 in 3 deaths each year, at an average rate of one death per minute.

Heart disease strikes more women than men and is more deadly than all forms of cancer combined.

Partners with the American Heart Association are battling these chilling statistics.

February 1st marks the 10th year the American Heart Association's Go Red For Women movement.

This year Bluefield Regional Medical Center decided to take part in raising awareness throughout their staff and in the community.

"We are encouraging all employees to wear red on Friday, February 1st to promote awareness of women's heart health."

Employees were happy to oblige.

A reception was held at the hospital which featured free blood pressure screenings, heart healthy meals and recipes and a wealth of information on how women can improve their heart health.

The hospital debuted two new board certified interventional cardiologists to the medical staff, Dr. Javed Abdullah and Dr. Mohammed Bisharat who were available for a meet and greet with those wishing to learn more about heart health.

According to Doctor Abdullah, women display different symptoms of heart attack than men. He says those include:

- Chest pain or discomfort
- Unusual upper body discomfort
- Shortness of breath
- Breaking out in a cold sweat
- Unusual or unexplained fatigue
- Lightheadedness or sudden dizziness
- Nausea

Doctor Mohammed Bisharat says that some factors that contribute to heart disease are determined by unpreventable factors such as genetics. He recommends women receive regular cholesterol, blood pressure, blood glucose and body mass index tests with their primary care physician.

While some risks are unpreventable, some factors can be changed.

Both physicians warned against smoking and physical inactivity. Other factors that increase cardiovascular risk include stress and alcohol consumption.

For more information on these risks visit www.heart.org.

February 1, 2013

(8)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- West Virginia tax collections are again struggling, just as Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin prepares to propose a new state budget to the Legislature.

January's general tax revenues totaled more than \$394 million, but were projected to exceed \$406 million.

That means revenues so far this budget year have missed their mark by nearly \$8 million. That's less than 1 percent of the \$2.3 billion in general revenues collected to date. But officials now fear that revenues will be in the red when the budget year ends June 30.

Officials cite a weak energy sector, particularly coal, for the shortfall.

Tomblin has already warned of tough budgetary times ahead. He previously asked most state agencies to trim spending by 7.5 percent.

The governor will submit his budget proposal Feb. 13.

February 1, 2013

(2)

GLEN LYN (WVVA) - The mayor of Glen Lyn in Giles County has been arrested on multiple charges including a weapons violation.

According to the Virginia Department of Corrections, Thomas 'Rick' Ould was arrested earlier this week for brandishing a gun and assault on a family member.

Further details surrounding the arrest are unclear.

February 2, 2013

(1, 3)

By Josh Frketic

TAZEWELL (WVVA) --- An open house was held Saturday afternoon for community members to check out the progress of the new Tazewell High School athletic facility.

The James C. Ramey, Sr. athletic training facility is nearing its completion but Chad Murray of the Tazewell Athletic Fund says they are in need of more funds.

"We are still behind the 8-ball with some finances but we are working that out and the community has really been working hard to help us with that," says Murray.

If you would like to help with funds you can e-mail tazewellathleticfoundation@yahoo.com or check out their website www.letsgodogs.com.

February 4, 2013

(2)

WARRIORMINE (WVVA) - Two individuals were arrested following a drug bust in McDowell County. The McDowell County Sheriff's Office -- in conjunction with the Southern Regional Drug and Violent Task Force -- conducted a search warrant at a residence in the Warriormine area of War.

Authorities seized prescription drugs and an undisclosed amount of cash during the search.

Police charged both Joseph Morefield and Debra Walker Morefield with possession with the intent to distribute a Schedule 3 controlled substance, possession with intent to distribute a Schedule 4 controlled substance and felony conspiracy.

Both suspects were being held in the McDowell County holding unit.

The case remains under investigation.

February 4, 2013

(2)

By Rachel Lucas

PEARISBURG VA (WVVA) - Volunteers are no longer being accepted at the Giles County Animal Shelter after alleged "problems" arise from several members of a non-profit organization.

Giles County Animal Control Officer Melvin Dalton says that this new policy is only temporary.

"We will probably be using volunteers in the future but they will be screened and coordinated by animal control."

Dalton would not comment on specific problems the shelter has seen in the past from volunteers. He says they do plan on working with the non-profit group Hope Alliance in the future.

"The shelter is still operating under normal hours," Dalton said. The shelter is open on Saturday and Sunday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. "The only change for now is that an employee of the county will now be handling the adoptions and the care of the animals."

Dalton did say that many positive changes are in the works for the shelter. The county is currently working on a county facilitated web site which will offer frequent updates about the shelter animals. Beginning March 1st, the shelter will be open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. This more than doubles the shelters hours of operations.

Dalton did say that the shelter is still properly caring for its animals and taking in stray animals as needed.

If you would like to adopt an animal contact animal control directly at 540-921-3842.

February 4, 2013

(3)

HENRICO, Va. (AP) -- Henrico County police say a second-grader brandished a loaded handgun on a school bus bound for a local elementary school.

Media outlets report that the 7-year-old boy from Ratcliffe Elementary School made a threatening statement after taking out the gun on Monday morning.

School officials say they found the gun in the student's possession and notified police. No one was injured in the incident.

The student was released to a guardian and school officials say that there will be a disciplinary review.

Police haven't said whether the child will face charges.

The incident comes less than a week after school officials held a public forum on school safety and security.

February 5, 2013

(2)

CHARLESTON (NEWS RELEASE) – U.S. Attorney Booth Goodwin announced Monday that a Fayette County man was sentenced to five years in federal prison for distribution of oxycodone. Kenneth James Taylor, 32, Page, Fayette County, W.Va., previously pleaded guilty in November 2012. Taylor admitted that on March 21, 2012, he sold three 30-milligram oxycodone pills to an individual cooperating with law enforcement authorities. Taylor further admitted that the illegal pill transaction took place at his Fayette County residence. He also admitted further involvement in drug trafficking.

The West Virginia State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigations conducted the investigation. Assistant United States Attorney John File handled the prosecution. The sentence was imposed by United States District Judge John T. Copenhaver, Jr.

This case is being prosecuted as part of an ongoing effort led by the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of West Virginia to combat the illicit sale and misuse of prescription drugs. The U.S. Attorney's Office, joined by federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, is committed to aggressively pursuing and shutting down illegal pill trafficking, eliminating open air drug markets, and curtailing the spread of opiate painkillers in communities across the Southern District.

February 5, 2013

(2)

POUNDING MILL (WVVA) - The Tazewell County Sheriff's Office is seeking information on the identities of two men wanted in a shoplifting investigation.

The men can be seen on surveillance video taken from the Pounding Mill Walmart on Jan. 31.

If you have any information on the men pictured, contact the Tazewell County Sheriff's Office at 276-988-5966.

February 5, 2013

(2)

BECKLEY (WVVA) - Police in Raleigh County are seeking the public's help in identifying a suspect in a recent breaking and entering at a pawn shop.

The incident took place on the night of Jan. 18 at the J and S Pawn Shop in Beckley.

Police said the suspect captured on surveillance video appears to be a tuxedo or uniform of some type.

Police say various electronics and a paintball gun were taken from the store.

February 5, 2013

(2)

By Rachel Lucas

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – United States Attorney Booth Goodwin announced today that six individuals were indicted by a federal grand jury sitting in Charleston on illegal firearm possession charges.

According to an indictment filed today, Sterlyn Avery Hewlett, 29, of Huntington, W.Va., allegedly possessed a firearm on May 17, 2012. At the time Hewlett allegedly possessed the firearm, he had been previously convicted in the United States District Court of the Southern District of West Virginia of distribution of a controlled substance.

According to a separate indictment filed today, Terry Tomblin, 42, of Mt. Gay, W.Va., allegedly possessed a firearm on December 31, 2012. At the time Tomblin allegedly possessed the firearm, he had been convicted in the United States District Court of the Southern District of West Virginia of possession of hydrocodone by misrepresentation, fraud, forgery, deception and subterfuge.

According to a separate indictment filed today, Shaun Michael Linko, 25, of Parkersburg, W.Va., allegedly possessed a firearm on September 19, 2012, near Parkersburg, W.Va. Linko was previously convicted in March 2010 in the Circuit Court of Wood County, West Virginia of conspiracy to deliver a controlled substance and did not have his rights to possess a firearm restored.

According to a separate two-count indictment filed today, Cody Fuller, 26, of Charleston, W.Va., was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm and possession of stolen firearms. The two-count indictment alleges that on November 27, 2012, Fuller possessed two stolen firearms near Charleston. Fuller was convicted in April 2007 in the Circuit Court of Kanawha County, West Virginia of carrying a concealed weapon without a state license or other lawful authorization.

According to a separate two-count indictment filed today, Robert Starcher, 29, of Spencer, W.Va., was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm and possession of stolen firearms. The two-count indictment alleges that on January 1, 2012, Starcher possessed six firearms near Walton, Roane County, W.Va. Starcher was previously convicted in September 2007 in the Circuit Court of Ritchie County, West Virginia of transferring stolen goods. Starcher was also previously convicted in January 2007 in the Circuit Court of Calhoun County, West Virginia of grand larceny. Additionally, Starcher was previously convicted in December 2006 in the Circuit Court of Gilmer County, West Virginia of obtaining property under false pretenses and in March 2006 in the Circuit Court of Braxton County, West Virginia of uttering.

According to a separate indictment filed today, Ernest Robert Ulbrich, 49, of Danville, W.Va., was charged with being a person who has been adjudicated as a mental defective in possession of firearms. Ulbrich allegedly possessed four firearms on November 6, 2011, near Danville, Boone County, W.Va.

Hewlett, Tomblin, Fuller and Ulbrich face up to 10 years in prison if convicted.

Linko and Starcher face up to 20 years in prison if convicted.

The investigations were conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), the Parkersburg Police Department and the Charleston Police Department. Assistant United States Attorneys Steven I. Loew, Joshua Hanks, William King and Blaire Malkin are in charge of the prosecutions.

The matters are being prosecuted as part of Project Safe Neighborhoods. Project Safe Neighborhoods is a nationwide commitment to reduce gun crime in the United States by networking existing local programs targeting gun crime.

February 5, 2013

(8)

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. (AP) -- The West Virginia Supreme Court says federal mine inspectors can be held liable and sued when a negligent inspection results in the wrongful death of a coal miner.

The ruling issued Tuesday afternoon says inspectors owe "a duty of care" to workers.

It's a victory for the widows of two men killed in a 2006 fire at Massey Energy's Aracoma Coal Alma No. 1 mine.

Attorney Bruce Stanley says it's another step toward their continuing fight to bring those responsible for the tragedy to justice. He says companies may put safety ahead of profits, but that shouldn't and can't excuse regulators from their duties.

Stanley hopes the threat of lawsuits will discourage inspectors from shirking their duties.

The federal Mine Safety and Health Administration didn't immediately comment on the ruling.

February 5, 2013

(2)

SPRINGVILLE (WVVA) - Police have busted a privately-run animal shelter after inspectors found 17 dogs living in a warehouse with no electricity or running water.

Authorities have contacted WVVA stating that foster families have been found for all the animals.

The owner of the shelter is charged with 17 counts of inadequate shelter.

Authorities say she has had run-ins with police before today's bust, when police received complaints of unsanitary living conditions.

Investigators said that they have been working this case since July. On Tuesday they were joined by state officials inspecting the shelter and, despite prior warnings, it still wasn't up to code.

Officials said the dogs were found to be well fed, but living in filth in makeshift pens that were held up by wire -- some with crates leaned against them, holding them up for reinforcement.

Police said that when they entered the building for inspection, it was a cold 38 degrees.

The warehouse is located in Springville, just off of Route 460.

Major Harold Heatley with the Tazewell County Sheriff's Department says the woman charged meant well, and was caring for the animals to prevent them from being taken to a kill shelter.

If a proper facility is found for her, and she keeps conditions up to code, she may be able to remain open.

If you are interested in adopting any of these animals contact the Tazewell County Sheriff's Department.

February 6, 2013

(1, 2)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- Gas prices have jumped 16 cents in the past week across West Virginia.

AAA East Central says the price for a gallon of regular, unleaded gasoline averaged \$3.67 this week.

Prices range from \$3.63 in Charleston and Parkersburg to \$3.72 in Martinsburg.

A year ago, prices in West Virginia averaged \$3.60.

Nationally, average prices rose 17 cents per gallon this week to \$3.53. AAA says recent increases are due to higher oil prices, refinery issues and preparations for switching to summer-blend gasoline.

February 6, 2013

(2)

A woman is arrested for possessing and distributing synthetic marijuana. Agents from the Tazewell County Narcotics Task Force arrested Jennifer Ann Sullivan Tuesday. Authorities say she took part in the possession and distribution of over \$35,000 worth of synthetic marijuana in July of 2012. That's when agents recovered over \$35,000 in cash inside Sullivan's home.

The items seized were sent to the forensics lab in Roanoke, Va and confirmed to be synthetic marijuana. Sullivan turned herself in with her attorney. Agents believes there are a number of individuals involved in the ring and additional arrests are expected. Sullivan was released on a \$2,500 unsecured bond.

February 6, 2013

(2)

By Josh Frketic

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- West Virginia lost more than 1,200 coal mining jobs in the last quarter of 2012, nearly two-thirds of them in strip mining.

Federal Mine Safety and Health Administration data show the number of jobs dropped to 21,400. The Charleston Gazette (<http://bit.ly/VVhWJV>) says that's based on disclosures that operators file with MSHA.

Production from strip mining was down to 8.1 million tons, half of what it was at the end of 2008.

Analysts say the trend will likely continue because of competition from natural gas and surface mines in Wyoming's Powder River Basin.

The industry often complains about anti-coal environmental regulations.

But the data show employment levels remain as high as they were when the Obama administration began a series of regulatory actions to minimize the environmental harm that coal causes.

February 6, 2013

(1)

By Josh Frketic

OAKVALE (WVVA)--- Shentel informs Oakvale customers they will no longer be providing service to the area.

William Pirtle, VP of sales and marketing, stated "After we did the detailed engineering, we determined that the cost to improve the signal, the cost to make the system compliant with construction requirements and zoning requirements and franchising requirements was just too high to justify the expense of building a new network."

OAKVALE (WVVA) --- Shentel has informed their Oakvale customers that starting April 10th, they will no longer be providing video services to the area.

Oakvale resident and Shentel customer Larry Pelayo says that the letter was sent to him Wednesday. "My heart dropped when I read that letter," says Pelayo.

He believes that they are dropping service because of improperly installed cable lines that are going through a water pipe under U.S. 460.

Shentel did not respond to phone calls to WVVA's Josh Frketic.

It is unknown if any other provider will step up to provide cable video service to the area.

"We just heard about this today so we need to look into it further," says Michael Kelemen the Director of Government Relations for nearby provider Suddenlink.

"I would certainly feel not confident to speculate on what we may or may not do."

February 7, 2013

(1, 8)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- State regulators have revised a proposed rule that would increase fines for mine safety and health violations.

The original proposal would have raised the civil penalties across the board. The revised rule filed Tuesday with the Secretary of State's office would limit the increases to fines of \$500 or more.

Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin's general counsel, Peter Markham, tells the Charleston Gazette that the intent was to increase penalties for more serious violations, instead of those that are less serious.

The Legislature increased the maximum fine to \$5,000 from \$3,000 last year.

West Virginia Coal Association vice president Chris Hamilton told state officials that the legislation wasn't intended to raise fines across the board.

February 7, 2013

(2, 8)

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- West Virginia is warning working-age residents that abusing drugs will keep them unemployed.

Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin said the state is launching a "Get High, Don't Get Hired" campaign next week. The public awareness effort targets the damage to West Virginia's employment picture blamed on substance abuse.

Officials have long recounted anecdotes from state employers who say they want to hire but that applicants can't pass a drug test.

Concerns about drug abuse prompted Tomblin to order drug testing for most publicly funded workforce training programs last year.

Tomblin addressed reporters and editors Thursday at The Associated Press' annual Legislative Look ahead forum.

February 7, 2013

(2)

FAYETTE COUNTY (WVVA) - Fayette County denies any wrongdoing in a federal lawsuit against four members of the sheriff's department.

County Attorney Carl Harris says the case will be handled by a law firm in Charleston, where the federal suit was filed.

In the complaint, Patricia Cole of Ansted alleges four sheriff's deputies struck her son in the face, head, legs and chest for no reason.

Her son was at his cousin's house when deputies responded to a domestic call in December 2010.

The Coles are seeking damages.

February 7, 2013

(2)

BECKLEY (WVVA) - Police have arrested a Beckley man after shots were fired at a home.

22-year old Anthony Johnson of Beckley was arrested Thursday on three counts of wanton endangerment with a firearm and one count of a convicted felon in possession of a firearm.

The incident occurred in the 200-block of Church Street. Police say Johnson knew the people who live in the house he shot at.

Johnson is on probation for robbery and is a suspect for shots fired at a Beckley apartment complex off Ewart Avenue a few weeks ago.

Police say he is also wanted for possession of a firearm during a traffic stop last year. During the traffic stop, the suspect in an Oak Hill murder, Terreque Grey, was riding in the passenger seat.

February 7, 2013

(3)

By Josh Frketic

PRINCETON (WVVA) --- A special board meeting Thursday night voiced concern over the possibility of redistricting the Melrose School.

The Mercer County School Board heard concern from parents about the issue of the overcrowded Melrose Elementary School.

"It is something we need to look at solving in the future based upon population increasing in that particular area," said Dr. Deborah Akers, Mercer County Schools Superintendent.

The Board says that past attempts to receive money from the School Building Authority for the Melrose School have failed and that there are other schools in worse physical condition in the county that need the money.

As of now it appears that no redistricting will happen for the next school year. It is also possible that redistricting will not be needed.

"I am open to anything that will work, that we can make work that will help the situation," says Gregory Prudich a Mercer County School Board Member.

Dr. Akers will give her recommendation to the board who will then vote on the recommendation at an upcoming board meeting.

February 7, 2013

(2)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- All the members of a panel on prison overcrowding agree that building a new prison in West Virginia is a last resort, but none ruled it out as a potential solution.

West Virginia Corrections Commissioner Jim Rubinstein said Thursday that West Virginia is at a crisis state when it comes to prison overcrowding. Every bed is filled, and there are 1,700 to 1,800 prisoners being housed in regional jails that are meant for shorter term prisoners and lesser crimes.

Senate Judiciary Chairman Corey Palumbo endorsed a recent study's proposal that would release prisoners six months early with supervision. Kanawha County Delegate Patrick Lane agreed with supervised release but was hesitant about shortened sentences.

The panel members spoke at The Associated Press' annual Legislative Lookahead at Marshall University's graduate campus.

February 8, 2013

(2)

By Kristen Connor

LEWISBURG, W. Va (WVVA) -- 23-year-old Nicholas White appeared in court for sentencing Friday. He was charged alongside David White and three others in the alleged arson of the Rainelle State Police barracks.

Nicholas White took a plea agreement from the state and pled guilty to four counts of arson in the case. The judge said he was impressed with White's conduct, especially in testifying against David White in his trial earlier this week.

White's counsel emphasized David White's control over Nicholas at the time the alleged crime was committed, and stressed his lack of criminal history prior to the December 2011 arson.

The judge ordered Nicholas White to 6-24 months in a youthful offender program at the Anthony Correctional Center in White Sulphur Springs. If White does not complete the program, he faces 12 consecutive years in prison.

February 9, 2013

(2)

By Stephanie Crace and Josh Frketic

BECKLEY (WVVA) -- Police have arrested two people in connection with the death of a 2-year-old child in Raleigh County.

State Police have charged 23-year-old James Green with first-degree murder and 27-year-old Brandy Smallwood with child neglect resulting in death.

According to a news release, two troopers from the Beckley detachment responded to the Fairdale area of Raleigh County at approximately 9:23 p.m. Friday for a 911 call in the Fairdale area that a child had fallen from the window of a mobile home.

When troopers arrived, the child had been carried to a neighbor's house by the child's stepfather, 23-year-old James Green. Green apparently told neighbors he was going to commit suicide and was later found unresponsive from an apparent drug overdose back at his residence.

The child was transported to Charleston Area Medical Center where the toddler died early Saturday. An initial release from the State Police suggested the child may have been the victim of a 'shaken baby' incident, but police later said the child showed signs of being beaten over an extended period of time. The baby had a twin that is now with Child Protective Services.

Both Green and Smallwood are being held at Southern Regional Jail.

ORIGINAL REPORT:

BECKLEY (WVVA) -- West Virginia State Police are investigating the death of a 2-year-old child in Fairdale.

According to a news release, two troopers from the Beckley detachment responded Friday night to a 911 call that the child had fallen from the window of a mobile home.

When troopers arrived, the child had been carried to a neighbor's house by the child's stepfather, 23-year-old James Green. Green was later found unresponsive from an apparent drug overdose back at his residence.

The child was transported to Charleston Area Medical Center where the toddler died early Saturday. A preliminary investigation indicates the child died from shaking, not from a fall from the window.

No arrest has been made.

Green was also hospitalized.

February 10, 2013

(1, 8)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- Legislative auditors have finished their investigation into West Virginia's purchase of more than 1,100 expensive routers for connecting to the Internet.

A report scheduled for Sunday release is expected to examine the \$24 million deal.

State officials in 2010 arranged to buy the high-capacity Cisco routers with federal stimulus funds. The deal aimed to help expand Internet access throughout the state by creating high-speed hubs at schools, libraries and other community institutions.

But questions about the cost and type of router have since dogged the contract. The U.S. Commerce Department's inspector general criticized West Virginia officials last month for their handling of the stimulus spending.

State officials argue the routers allow for a long-lasting, high-capacity broadband network to serve the entire state while also boosting communications for first responders.

February 11, 2013

(2)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- West Virginia may be better off building a new public hospital in Raleigh County than repairing the existing building.

That's the conclusion Sunday from a legislative review of the Jackie Withrow Hospital.

The hospital is one of four state-run long-term care facilities. The audit presented to the Legislature estimates that the necessary repairs and upgrades would approach \$27 million. That's more than the total cost of similarly overhauling its three sister facilities.

A new hospital, meanwhile, would cost \$20 million. The report also said that operating the existing facility costs up to \$2 million more annually when compared to the other hospitals.

Auditors showed lawmakers photos of corroded plumbing and crumbling walls and ceilings at the 1930s-era hospital. They also recommended better preventive maintenance for all state-run hospitals.

February 11, 2013

(2)

By Kristin Connor

LEWISBURG, W. VA (WVVA)-- 52 year old Thomas Tait of Waynesboro, VA pleaded guilty Monday morning to killing his wife, Karen Tait.

Police said the crime happened between August 2002 and September 2002.

Karen was found dead in the Greenbrier State Forest back in September 2002. She had been missing for years, but was not reported so until 2011. She was a native of the Philippines.

Thomas Tait told investigators when initially questioned about her disappearance that he had presumed she had returned to the Philippines to be with family.

He was charged with her murder in November 2012.

[View WVVA.com's previous reports on this case](#)

Tait pleaded guilty Monday to killing his wife, and he was immediately sentenced to 30 years in a Virginia prison.

He has another case pending back in Virginia over 20 counts of possession of child pornography. He was convicted in July 2012 is awaiting sentencing there.

Police shared some new details on this case with WVVA.

Lieutenant V. Deeds, who has been an investigator in the case since Karen Tait's body was discovered in 2002, told WVVA Monday that Thomas Tait suffocated Karen. Although his motive can not be clear, Deeds revealed it was a domestic incident.

The Tait's had no connection to Greenbrier County, where Karen's body was found-- counties away from Waynesboro, Virginia where the family lived.

"He wanted to find the best place where he could dispose of the body, that wasn't going to easily link [the crime] back to him," said Deeds. "Greenbrier County was easy for him to get to and far enough away that he did a good job of hiding it for a while."

West Virginia police worked through state lines, with Virginia police and other agencies, to investigate the crime.

"This case was difficult because we had different jurisdictions," he said.

Deeds added that for law enforcement as well as Karen Tait's family, the case has wrapped up favorably.

"It's come to a good conclusion," said Deeds. "It's fair. He took Mrs. Tait's life and we gave the family some closure and at least they can feel there's been some justice done."

Police were first led to Thomas Tait when they attempted to contact Karen for another case they were working on. When they were unable to find any trace of her, they became suspicious.

February 11, 2013

(2)

BLAND (WVVA) – A Mercer County burglary suspect has been arrested in Bland County.

Bland County deputies arrested 31 year old Jacoby Harold on fugitive charges over the weekend.

Harold is wanted in West Virginia on burglary charges.

Sgt. Lorin Hanshew of the Bland County Sheriff's Department says deputies had received a tip that Harold may be in their area.

A deputy saw Harold's vehicle heading South on I-77, pulled the vehicle over and arrested Harold without incident.

Investigators believe Harold may be part of an apparent two-state burglary ring. He is currently in jail waiting for an extradition hearing.

February 18, 2013

(2)

BLUEFIELD (WVVA) - The flu season appears to have peaked in the Two Virginias.

A spokesperson with the West Virginia Bureau for Public Health says that every region in the state has reported fewer flu cases.

In Virginia, the latest flu surveillance report shows less than four percent of outpatient visits were for flu-like illness -- down from seven to 10 percent approximately six weeks ago.

While cases may have declined, officials advise that the flu bug is still out there -- along with other viral illnesses.

February 18, 2013

(2)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- West Virginia lawmakers would get a sense of the potential economic effects of pending legislation through a measure introduced this session.

Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin has proposed that the state Development Office compile a jobs impact statement upon request.

That office coordinates the state's various economic development efforts. Friday's bill would allow it to enlist other state agencies or outside groups to aid its research.

Agencies already routinely estimate what legislation would do to government spending and revenues. Tomblin's bill says only the governor, the House speaker or the Senate president could request a statement. The Development Office would have 20 days to provide one. The statement would then be shared with all legislators and the public.

Environmentalists have previously raised concerns about similar measures they say targeted anti-pollution regulations.

February 18, 2013

(2)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- Legislation to hike salaries for West Virginia magistrates and top court staff is testing the newfound muscle of House Republicans.

GOP delegates tried without success Monday to derail a proposal to equalize pay for county magistrates, their assistants and top court clerks. That pay now varies and is based on a county's population.

The 43-52 party line vote came after the House Judiciary committee advanced the bill last week. It's scheduled for a Wednesday vote on passage to the Senate.

Republicans now hold 46 of the House's 100 seats following November election gains. They question why this bill has advanced without a review by the House Finance Committee. They're challenging the need for the measure, when improving public school appears a higher priority.

Democratic leaders blasted the GOP gambit.

February 18, 2013

(2)

By Kristen Connor

UPDATE:

RAINELLE, W. Va (WVVA)-- WVVA attended a public meeting held at the Rainelle Town Hall Monday night to address the town water concerns.

People came to the meeting to voice their problems before the water department, as well as the mayor and an engineer working on the project.

"It's not good," said a concerned citizen at the meeting. "I've only been living here since July and I'm fed up already. I wouldn't renew my lease and stay here any longer with these conditions."

Engineer Stacy Fowler with Stafford Consultants told the crowd gathered that the project to fix the water problems was already underway.

The process is currently in the early stages. Fowler said they are acquiring proper permits, working on the drawings, and doing the behind-the-scenes work before they can move forward.

"From there, we will begin the bidding process and hire a contractor. We expect to do that sometime this summer," he said.

The fix will involve new filters at the water plant, replacing between 5 and 10% of the existing water lines, and re-connecting many of the "dead-end" lines to the others to create what Fowler calls "circles." That way, standing water at the end of water lines would be eliminated.

The goal is to make the brown water, as well as the sediment in it, clear, said Mayor Pendleton. "It just takes time," she added.

Fowler said the conditions would likely get worse during construction of new water lines, but would improve quickly.

The town is paying for the plan with a \$2.6 million dollar loan that will be paid off over a period of 40 years. It is not yet known the exact cost to Rainelle taxpayers, but Mayor Pendleton said she expects them to be very minimal.

March 1, 2013

(2)

BLUEFIELD (WVVA) - Police need your help locating a suspect wanted in connection with a credit card theft in Mercer County.

West Virginia State Police Sgt. M.S. Haynes says two cards were taken from a man's vehicle sometime in late January.

The cards were then used on Jan. 28 at various stores in Mercer County. Among the purchases made were a television and iPads at Walmart in Princeton, and clothing from JCPenney, Foot Locker and Aeropostale in the Mercer Mall.

The suspect was captured on surveillance cameras in a Chevrolet S-10 pickup truck with a bed cover.

If you have any information on the suspect, contact Sgt. Haynes at the Princeton detachment of the State Police.

March 1, 2013

(2)

OAK HILL (WVVA) - A Florida man is in critical condition after an ATV flipped on him in Fayette County.

The accident occurred on a hillside close to the Oak Hill Main Street exit on Route 19 in Oak Hill Friday afternoon.

The man -- identified as a JJJ Communication employee -- was pulling fiber cable up the hill when the ATV overturned.

The man was taken to Plateau Medical Center with serious injuries.

The Oak Hill Police Department is handling the investigation.

March 4, 2013

(8)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- West Virginia state government tax revenues have again missed their monthly target, this time by nearly \$27 million.

Officials had expected more than \$227 million from general taxes in February. After a poor showing in January, general revenues are down for the budget year by nearly \$35 million.

That's about 1.3 percent below the estimate for this point since the budget year began July 1. The state has collected \$2.5 billion so far, and is counting on a total of \$4.1 billion by June 30.

All major revenue sources fell below their February projections, including the taxes on sales and personal and corporate net income. Those are all indicators of state economic activity.

Severance taxes on such extracted natural resources as coal were also down, reflecting continuing mining sector weakness.

March 4, 2013

(2)

NEW YORK (AP) -- The United Way of New York City is distributing \$5 million in aid to communities affected by Superstorm Sandy.

The funds will go to organizations including child-care centers, soup kitchens and a volunteer fire association.

The funds collected from donors after Sandy struck on Oct. 29 will go to communities in seven states -- Connecticut, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and West Virginia.

A total of \$9.6 million will be distributed in three phases. The first \$5 million was announced Monday.

United Way of New York City CEO Sheena Wright said that four months after Sandy struck, the organization's focus is shifting from near-term to long-term needs.

She said funds will go to non-profit organizations such as soup kitchens and mental health agencies that provide services to people who were already struggling before the storm.

March 5, 2013

(2)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- A state investigator is urging West Virginians to install smoke detectors in their homes following two fire fatalities in two days.

State Fire Marshal's Office investigator Jason Baltic says both homes where the deadly fires occurred didn't have smoke detectors.

A fire at a mobile home in Boone County on Sunday killed 18-year-old Rocky Steele.

A 65-year-old woman was killed Monday in a fire at her home near Charles Town in the Eastern Panhandle. State police identified her as Jeanne Thomas.

Baltic tells the Charleston Daily Mail that fires can happen at any time. He says anyone who doesn't have a smoke detector in their home should get one.

March 5, 2013

(2, 8)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- Got an idea about how to control West Virginia's prescription drug abuse problem? Sen. Jay Rockefeller wants to hear it.

He's launched a social media project to tackle a problem he says requires everyone to work together.

Rockefeller wants to hear from people on Facebook and Twitter, using the hash tag

#StopRxDrugAbuseWV.

He's also taking suggestions through his website and encourages people to watch his new YouTube video.

Rockefeller is pushing two bills driven by the state's drug epidemic.

The Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act would cut the number of opioid and methadone-related deaths through new training requirements for providers, more consumer education and more federal support for state drug-monitoring programs.

The Excellence in Mental Health Act would improve access by funding construction of more behavioral health centers.

March 5, 2013

(2)

BECKLEY (WVVA) - Police looking for marijuana at a Raleigh County home ended up finding materials typically used in the manufacture of methamphetamine.

Mark Anthony Lyons, 44, was taken into custody around midnight Tuesday morning. Police initially visited Lyons' home at 1204 Fayette Street regarding an investigation related to marijuana. Upon arrival, police say they found paint thinner, acetone and hydrogen peroxide -- materials commonly used in homemade meth labs.

Lyons is currently charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm and child neglect -- a 6-month old child was also living in the home.

Charges related to the suspected meth lab are pending.

Lyons' wife -- also a resident of the home -- has not been charged at this time.

Police say Lyons is originally from the Florida area.

The EPA is assisting in the investigation.

March 5, 2013

(8)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- West Virginia Senate President Jeffrey Kessler expects to introduce a bill by the end of the week that would prohibit firing or evicting anyone on the basis of their sexual orientation.

Speaking at a Tuesday rally put on by a gay and lesbian civil rights organization, Kessler promoted non-discrimination against gays and lesbians as an economic issue. He asked why a state with an aging population and a dwindling work force would tell a group of people that they're not welcome. His bill would add sexual orientation to the state Human Rights Act.

Secretary of State Natalie Tennant announced that her agency will adopt a full non-discrimination policy for hiring and office relations. She said the policy was already in place in practice, but this would put it in writing.

March 5, 2013

(2)

CHARLESTON (WVVA) - A total of 67 people were arrested for driving impaired during the West Virginia State Police's latest DUI blitz.

The campaign was conducted from March 1-3. The blitz was made possible by federal grant money received through the Governor's Highway Safety Program.

The following activity was reported:

- Actual Traffic Citations Issued: 352
- Warning Traffic Citations Issued: 1767
- DUI Arrests: 67
- Misdemeanor Arrests: 91
- Felony Arrests: 54
- Arrests for Driving on a Revoked License for DUI: 23
- Citations Issued for Driving Suspended: 53
- Fugitives Arrested: 2

March 5, 2013

(8)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- West Virginia would void local and county-wide gun laws under a measure endorsed by the House Judiciary Committee.

The bill advanced Tuesday by a non-unanimous voice vote would make clear that only the Legislature can regulate firearms and ammunition.

The measure strikes down any ordinances inconsistent with state law, including several enacted by Charleston in the 1990s. Those set a 72-hour waiting period for a handgun purchase and then limit purchases to one per month.

The Legislature had previously blocked local and county ordinances, but exempted those already enacted. Tuesday's bill would repeal that exception.

The measure advances to the full House for a vote.

Supporters include the West Virginia Citizens Defense League. That group had tried to sue Charleston and other municipalities over their ordinances.

March 5, 2013

(8)

By Rachel Lucas

CHARLESTON, W.Va. - Some senators are skeptical about the changes concerning parole violations in West Virginia Governor. Earl Ray Tomblin's prison reform bill.

The Senate Judiciary Committee discussed the bill Tuesday.

Republican Sen. Bill Cole of Mercer worried that more lenient punishments for parole violations would lead to reoffending.

The bill tells judges not to revoke parole for minor, non-criminal violations. Instead it imposes a series of increasing punishments that would lead to revocation on the third violation.

Sen. Samuel Cann of Harrison had similar concerns but deferred to Sen. Donald Cookman, a fellow Democrat from Hampshire who is a former circuit judge.

Cookman said that when he started as a judge he told probation officers to have no leniency for violations, but after 20 years he thinks the graduated punishments are better.

March 6, 2013

(2)

HINTON (WVVA) - Fire crews across the region responded to a pair of structure fires Wednesday morning.

In Hinton, firefighters responded to the third house fire in two weeks. The fire broke out in a single-family home in the 400 block of 17th Avenue.

Everyone inside made it out of the home unharmed.

Another fire occurred in Crater Hollow -- in the Falls Mills area of Tazewell County. No one was inside the home at the time of the fire.

WVVA News will provide additional details on both incidents as it is made available.

March 6, 2013

(8)

WASHINGTON, D.C. (NEWS RELEASE) – Senator Jay Rockefeller today announced that he reintroduced a bipartisan bill to help combat diabetes by making more West Virginians eligible for preventive care. The bill will save the federal Medicare program billions of dollars by allowing millions of beneficiaries to take part in a proven diabetes prevention program.

"Reducing diabetes in West Virginia is imperative," said Rockefeller. "This bill would use a proven diabetes prevention program to help reduce the prevalence of this disease, and in many cases, help West Virginians avoid it altogether. It also saves billions of dollars as we try to reduce the federal deficit, and it creates jobs by training more workers in the state to implement this program."

Rockefeller's bill would provide Medicare beneficiaries with access to the National Diabetes Prevention Program (NDPP), a structured, 16-session program focusing on healthy eating and physical activity that has been shown to reduce the onset of type 2 diabetes in seniors at risk for the disease by 71 percent.

Additionally, Rockefeller was recognized by the YMCA for his leadership to prevent diabetes for seniors and low income families, including his work on this bill, and was named a "YMCA Congressional Champion." Click [here](#) to see a photo of Rockefeller receiving the award.

"By aggressively working to prevent chronic disease, as this bill would do, we can save lives and save more money in our health care system," added Rockefeller. "This bill would help us make these wishes possible for so many families and I will fight to pass it. Additionally, the YMCA has made a concerted effort to combat this disease and I appreciate its work and the organization's support of my bill."

West Virginia has some of the highest diabetes rates in the nation. In 2009, approximately 174,000 adults – 11 percent of West Virginia adults – had diabetes. According to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as many as 50 percent of the nearly 380,000 people with Medicare in West Virginia may be at risk of developing diabetes. If current trends continue, one in three children born in West Virginia after the year 2000 will develop diabetes within his or her lifetime.

Last fall, Rockefeller encouraged the West Virginia Bureau of Public Health and the Appalachian Regional Commission to convene a roundtable discussion in Charleston with people from across West Virginia to talk about the state's diabetes prevention efforts. Dr. Ann Albright, a diabetes expert from the CDC, lent her expertise. Key groups and advocates from the public and private sectors shared ideas and questions about ways to combat this disease. The discussion built on many other efforts that have taken place in the state and nationwide.

March 6, 2013

(2)

By Kristen Conner

RENICK, W. Va (WVVA)--The winter storm brought power outages to many across the Two Virginias Wednesday.

The day began with around 2,000 customers affected in Greenbrier County.

The northern end of the county was the main area where the outages took place.

Crews could be seen clearing fallen trees from roads as power companies worked to restore electricity.

Many residents relied on wood stoves and gas heaters to warm their homes while they waited for the lights to come back on.

Peggy Hollandsworth-Lewis from Renick said, "We're having to get wood and [keep] wood in the stove. I've got a Home Comfort cookstove that we use, so we had that as backup heat."

She said with her stove ready to use during times like this, she can have somewhat of a normal morning routine.

"I cooked eggs and fried potatoes and coffee on it [this morning]," she said.

As of 5 PM Wednesday night, only about a thousand outages remained in Greenbrier County.

March 7, 2013

(7, 8)

WASHINGTON (WVVA) - Members of West Virginia's congressional delegation have introduced a bill to help protect the pensions and health care benefits of coal miners.

Sen. Jay Rockefeller says he heard heartbreaking stories at a public hearing that he and representative Nick Rahall held in Beckley for families affected by Patriot Coal corporation's bankruptcy.

Patriot argues the legacy costs it inherited are "unsustainable."

But the United Mine Workers of America says 10,000 retirees and another 10,000 dependents could suffer -- mostly in West Virginia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio.

Following is the news release from Rep. Rahall's office:

Washington, DC – Washington, DC – As part of his longtime effort to strengthen and improve the quality of life for coal miners in retirement, U.S. Rep. Nick J. Rahall (D-W.Va.) today introduced the Coalfield Accountability and Retired Employee Act (CARE Act), legislation that strengthens the legal

protections and funding for the health care and pension benefits promised to retired coal workers and their families.

"Every effort must be made to preserve health care benefits for our retired coal miners who worked so hard to produce the coal that powered this Nation," said Rahall. "This legislation that Senator Rockefeller and I are introducing today keeps faith with the federal commitment that has been made to our coal miners. It ensures that those who participated in the noble but dangerous job of working underground to provide our energy security are secure in the retirement."

Thousands of retired coal miners across the country, including nearly 40,000 in West Virginia, are now facing the loss of or a significant reduction in the health care and retirement benefits they earned. At present, there are only about 10,000 active mineworkers supporting pension payments for nearly 95,000 retirees. This severe underfunding of the UMWA's 1974 pension plan coupled with the stress the fund is experiencing as a result of the recent financial crisis has placed it on a path to insolvency.

Many retired miners and their dependents are also facing the possibility that Patriot Coal, which was spun-off from Peabody Energy and Arch Coal, will shed its so-called "legacy costs" in bankruptcy, which could result in an additional 12,000 retired miners, including nearly 7,000 West Virginians and their family members losing health benefits while further destabilizing the 1974 Pension Plan.

The *Coalfield Accountability and Retired Employee Act* (CARE Act) would relieve the pressure that are now being placed on retiree pensions and protect the pension and health benefits of retired miners. It honors the promise of lifetime health care and pensions made by the U.S. Government and coal operators nearly 70 years ago.

Specifically, the CARE Act would:

- Amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act to transfer funds in excess of the amounts needed to meet existing obligations under the Abandoned Mine Land fund to the UMWA 1974 Pension Plan to prevent its insolvency;
- Make any retiree who loses benefits following the bankruptcy or insolvency of his or her employer eligible for the 1992 Benefit Plan, which was established under the Coal Act and provides health benefits to retired or disabled miners and their families, and;
- Provide that employer contributions are not unfairly penalized by the tax code and receive the same tax-exempt treatment as contributions to other pension plans, allowing the full value of employer cash contributions to go to the retirees who earned them.

"This legislation is about standing up for coal miners, their widows, and our coalfield communities. After a lifetime of labor, they have earned the right to retire and live in dignity and I refuse to stand idly by as our miners see the benefits they earned over a lifetime eroded by forces beyond their control. It's not fair. It's not right. And our miners deserve better," said Rahall.

Senator Jay Rockefeller is today introducing companion legislation in the U.S. Senate. Last month, Rockefeller and Rahall held a roundtable with retired coal miners and UMWA President Cecil Roberts in Beckley, West Virginia, to receive input on the bill as it was being crafted.

Following is the news release from Rockefeller's office:

WASHINGTON, DC – On the heels of hearing gripping accounts last week in Beckley from retired coal miners who were promised lifetime pension and health care benefits for themselves and their families, Senator Jay Rockefeller today introduced legislation that would protect those benefits for thousands of retired miners whose livelihoods are in jeopardy. Senator Joe Manchin cosponsored the bill.

The *Coalfield Accountability and Retired Employee Act* seeks to provide certainty and peace of mind to retirees and their families while holding employers accountable for the commitments they make to their workers. The bill builds on and strengthens similar legislation Rockefeller and U.S. Rep Nick Rahall introduced last Congress. The new measure comes soon after a roundtable discussion Rockefeller held in Beckley with retired coal miners in which he re-affirmed his commitment to preserving their promised benefits. Rahall and United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) President Cecil Roberts also joined the discussion. Rahall today introduced companion legislation in the House, just as he did last Congress.

"Last month, I heard stories that absolutely broke my heart," Rockefeller said. "One woman—Shirley Inman, who lives in Boone County—left a good-paying job in Chicago to come home to West Virginia to work in the mines. She did it because of the pension and health care benefits she was promised. And now, after years of on-the-job injuries and a bout with cancer, that promise was broken. That's more than unfair. It's shameful. And I won't stand for it."

"A strong mining industry begins with a strong commitment to our miners," Senator Manchin said. "Our coal miners are some of the hardest working people in America, and they are proud to do the heavy lifting that keeps this country strong. They are the backbone behinds decades of lighting our cities and heating our homes, and deserve nothing less than the best possible benefits and care. This bill makes sure our brave coal miners receive the benefits they've been promised."

Some retirees are facing uncertainty because the UMWA's 1974 pension plan is severely underfunded and on the road to insolvency because of the 2008 financial crisis. The 1974 plan covers more than 100,000 mineworkers, including more than 35,000 West Virginians. If the plan becomes insolvent, retirees could see reductions in their monthly pension checks.

In addition, Patriot Coal, which was spun-off from Peabody Energy and Arch Coal, has filed for bankruptcy and could shed its obligations to retirees. This means more than 12,000 retired miners and dependants, including nearly 7,000 West Virginians – the vast majority of whom actually worked for Peabody and Arch – would lose health benefits, and the 1974 pension plan would be further destabilized. The *Coalfield Accountability and Retired Employee Act* would:

- **Amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act** to transfer funds in excess of the amounts needed to meet existing obligations under the Abandoned Mine Land fund to the UMWA 1974 Pension Plan to prevent its insolvency.
- **Make Patriot's union retirees and other union retirees who lose health care benefits following the bankruptcy or insolvency of his or her employer eligible for the 1992 Benefit Plan, which was established under the Coal Act of 1992 to provide health benefits to retired or disabled miners and their families.** Companies that originally promised these benefits would be held accountable for the costs and, if needed, additional funding from the Abandoned Mine Land fund would be available.
- **Provide that employer contributions under the UMWA Retiree Bonus Trust are not unfairly penalized by the tax code and receive the same tax-exempt treatment as contributions to other pension plans, allowing the full value of employer cash contributions to go to the retirees who earned them.** This Retiree Bonus Trust provides modest supplemental pension payments to retired miners.

Rockefeller's efforts through the *Coalfield Accountability and Retired Employee Act* build upon a longstanding record of steadfastly pursuing fairness for miners and their loved ones. He engineered passage of the 1992 Coal Act, which preserved health benefits for more than 100,000 retired miners and their widows who had been promised these benefits by both the federal government and their companies, after several companies unfairly stopped providing these benefits. Rockefeller again fought in 2006 to protect the UMWA health care plans by providing them with Abandoned Mine Land funds.

"I was so incredibly motivated by the retirees I heard from in Beckley and so many others who have reached out to me," Rockefeller said. "Our coal miners work their entire lives, at risk of life and limb, to provide for their families and fuel our nation. We owe them nothing less than to make sure the pledge of lifetime benefits is preserved. It's so simple: make a promise, keep your promise. That's what I'm fighting for."

March 7, 2013

(2, 8)

By Bailey Gillespie

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. (AP) -- Two West Virginia University researchers say laws and education efforts dealing with cell phone use while driving aren't having much effect.

Jeffrey Coben and Motao Zhu report their conclusions in the latest issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association. Coben is interim dean of the WVU School of Public Health.

In the report entitled "Keeping an Eye on Distracted Driving," the researchers say the number of injuries and fatalities caused by cell phone use while driving has increased by 22 percent between 2005 and 2009. They say the problem is expected to worsen despite efforts to curtail distracted driving.

The researchers say new technology solutions are needed. For example, Coben says systems could be built into cars to disable hand-held devices when the vehicle is in motion.

March 7, 2013

(2)

By Greg Carter

Police arrest a man after finding more than \$40,000 worth of marijuana plants growing in a home. The bust happened around 4pm this afternoon in McDowell County at 234 Carswell Hollow Road near Kimball. The sheriff's office and the Southern Regional Drug and Violent Crime Task Force conducted a search and found 17 marijuana plants with a street value of \$2500 each. Richard Allen Rushbrook was arrested and charged in the case which is still under investigation.

March 8, 2013

(1, 7)

By Caroline Bach

(WVVA) -- A local mining company is in a lot of trouble -- more than \$120 million dollars of trouble. Frasure Creek's parent company, Trinity Coal, was forced into chapter 11 bankruptcy, which could put the company in jeopardy.

According to federal court documents, Trinity Coal owes six companies money. Through chapter 11, they'll have to reorganize, so creditors can get their money back.

Local business owners like Tom Louisos say, when this happens to people in the area, they feel the burn too.

"When they don't have the money to buy breakfast or whatever, what about the gasoline for the cars, utilities, and other things that people buy? It affects everyone. The dollar circulates and goes all the way around. When they have money, we have money," says Louisos, a long time restaurant owner in Oak Hill.

In an effort to contact Frasure Creek mine, they said they had no comment about the issue.

March 11, 2013

(8)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- The West Virginia Legislature is taking a major step toward abolishing a handful of local government firearm ordinances.

The House of Delegates expects to vote Monday on a measure that makes clear that all such laws must be enacted at the state level.

Supporters say the goal is a uniform set of regulations for the entire state. They also see the measure as affirming the 2nd Amendment.

Ordinances that would be struck down include several enacted by Charleston in the 1990s. These limit handgun purchases to one per month, and require the buyer to wait 72 hours before receiving the weapon.

Charleston officials say their ordinances targeted people who buy multiple guns on behalf of somebody else. The guns then command high prices in areas with strict gun laws.

March 11, 2013

(2, 8)

BECKLEY, W.Va. (WVVA)- West Virginia lawmakers are working to combat child poverty across the state.

The first road hearing will be conducted by the legislative committee studying child poverty in southern West Virginia.

The Senate's Select Committee on Children and Poverty has scheduled hearings Wednesday in Oak Hill and March 20 in Beckley.

The committee's chairman, Senate Majority Leader John Unger says that education reforms won't succeed if child poverty isn't addressed.

The Berkeley County Democrat says if a child is hungry or worried about what they're going home to, they won't perform in the classroom.

March 11, 2013

(2)

By Kristen Conner

RUPERT, W. Va (WVVA)-- A man is behind bars after police discovered a meth lab in his home Friday.

Cpl. DJ Hinkley of the Greenbrier County Sheriff Office said in a report that he stopped a vehicle in Rupert for failing to give a signal before turning.

He noticed when he approached the driver that both he and the passenger were nervous.

Hinkley said he discovered several pills and Aleve-D, a possible ingredient in methamphetamine, in the car.

The passenger, 24-year-old Ralph Ray, confessed to making methamphetamine in his mobile home.

Police searched the home and found a meth lab. According to the report, police determined Ray was using plastic bottles to make the drug. He said he learned how to do it online.

Ray is charged with manufacturing narcotics and is in southern regional jail on \$15,000 bond.

March 12, 2013

(3, 8)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- Groups representing West Virginia teachers and school workers continue to press lawmakers to change Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin's education proposal.

Several dozen people picketed outside the state Capitol early Tuesday on behalf of these groups. They oppose changes to the school calendar and to teacher hiring and transfers sought by Tomblin's bill.

The Senate Education Committee heard from both these groups and others who support the bill last week. The committee is scheduled to meet Tuesday to discuss possible amendments to Tomblin's legislation.

The governor's proposal responds to an audit that contrasted West Virginia's poor student achievement scores with hefty education spending and bureaucracy. Tomblin's bill also seeks to ensure that all third-graders are reading at grade level, and that high school seniors are college- or career-ready.

March 12, 2013

(3)

CHARLESTON (WVVA) - Two southern West Virginia county school systems are asking the School Building Authority for money.

Wyoming County met Monday with the board, asking for additional funds for a new Huff Consolidated Elementary School.

Executive Director Mark Manchin says that project is already funded, but adds the board is expected to let the project go out for bid to see how much money is actually needed for the building.

Mercer County is scheduled to meet with the board on Tuesday to request \$8 million for a new elementary school that would consolidate Ceres and Brushfork schools to create a new Green Valley Elementary.

The board will make their funding decisions on April 22.

March 12, 2013

(2)

NEW HAVEN (WVVA) - A Fayette County man was arrested Monday after leading police on an 8-mile chase.

Eugene Victor Jones, 42, of Meadow Bridge was charged with Fleeing in a Vehicle with Reckless Disregard for Public Safety following the pursuit.

Sheriff's deputies attempted to pull over a blue Oldsmobile Cutlass 88 driven by Jones for improper registration, according to a news release from the sheriff's department.

Police say the driver of the vehicle refused to pull over, leading police on an 8-mile pursuit across Backus Mountain Road in the Meadow Bridge area.

The vehicle eventually stopped on Goddard Cemetery Road. The driver then fled on foot into a wooded area where he was eventually apprehended.

Jones is being held at Southern Regional Jail.

Following is the full news release from the Fayette County Sheriff's Department:

A Fayette County man has been arrested following a pursuit with Sheriff's Deputies in the New Haven area of Fayette County. Sheriff Steve W. Kessler released the following information regarding this incident.

On Monday March 11th 2013, Deputy Sheriffs of the Fayette County Sheriff's Department were conducting a saturation patrol detail in the Town of Meadow Bridge. While conducting this patrol, Deputies encountered a blue Oldsmobile Cutlass 88 that was improperly registered. When the Deputies attempted to execute a traffic stop on this vehicle, it attempted to flee the officers.

This vehicle led Deputies on an approximately 8 mile pursuit across Backus Mountain Road in Meadow Bridge. The vehicle then turned onto Goddard Cemetery Road before coming to a stop against a wood line. The driver of the vehicle then exited the vehicle and led the Deputy Sheriff on a foot pursuit through the woods for approximately one quarter of a mile where he was finally apprehended.

The driver of this vehicle, Eugene Victor Jones (age 42 of Meadow Bridge) was arrested on a Felony count of Fleeing in a Vehicle with Reckless Disregard for Public Safety. Jones was processed and transported to Southern Regional Jail to await arraignment. No person was injured, nor was any property damaged during the commission of this pursuit.

This incident remains under investigation by Deputy S.G. Milam and Sgt. S.M. Gray of the Fayette County Sheriff's Department.

March 12, 2013

(2)

Three Kanawha County subjects have been arrested on drug charges in Fayette County. Sheriff Steve W. Kessler released the following information regarding this incident.

On Monday March 11th 2013, a Sheriff's Deputy of the Fayette County Sheriff's Department conducted a traffic stop on a 2014 Cadillac Escalade on U.S. Route 60 in the Boomer area near the Post Office.

This vehicle was occupied by subjects from Kanawha County. Further investigations led to a quantity of a controlled pain medication (Roxycodone 30mg) which was illegally possessed within the vehicle. Also located was a large sum of money possessed by one of the vehicle's occupants. All three occupants of the vehicle were arrested at the time of the stop.

Jason D. Payne (age 31 of Marmet, Kanawha County) was arrested on a Felony count of Possession with the Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance and a Felony count of Conspiracy to Commit a Felony.

Amanda K. Payne (age 32 of Marmet, Kanawha County) was arrested on a Felony count of Possession

with the Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance and a Felony count of Conspiracy to Commit a Felony. Brittany L. Ramsey (age 25 of Cedar Grove, Kanawha County) was arrested on one count of Possession of a Controlled Substance and one Felony count of Conspiracy to Commit a Felony. All three subjects were transported to the Southern Regional Jail to await arraignment.

During this particular incident, investigative information led the Sheriff's Deputies to a nearby residence that is allegedly related to the illegal sales of narcotics. A search warrant was obtained and executed on this residence belonging to Macon Fragale. During the execution of this search warrant, a substantial sum of cash money was located and seized which is allegedly related to drug sales.

These two incidents remain under investigation by Sgt. T.N. Mooney, Cpl. S.R. Morris and Deputy P.J. Pack of the Fayette County Sheriff's Department.

March 12, 2013

(3)

BLUEFIELD, W. Va (WVVA)- Today, WVVA hosted its "Getting to Know Your Smartphone" workshop.

The workshop, which was held at Bluefield State College, was lead by our very own Internet director Allen Robers.

Many topics were covered, including the basics of operating a smartphone, the difference between mobile websites and "apps", where to find and how to download "apps", and WVVA's various text alert services.

March 13, 2013

(2)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – U.S. Attorney Booth Goodwin announced today that a Fayette County couple was sentenced to federal prison for selling oxycodone. Gary Stover, 34, of Kincaid, Fayette County, W.Va., was sentenced to three years and one month in federal prison. Stover previously pleaded guilty in November 2012 to distribution of oxycodone. Stover admitted that on March 21, 2012, he sold three 30-milligram oxycodone pills to an individual cooperating with law enforcement authorities. Stover further admitted that he is responsible for distributing a total of approximately 1000 30-milligram pills. Stover's co-defendant, Jamie L. Foster, 26, was sentenced today to three months in federal prison followed by nine months of home confinement for aiding and abetting the distribution of oxycodone. Foster previously pleaded guilty in October 2012. Foster admitted that on April 16, 2012, she sold two 30-milligram oxycodone pills to an individual cooperating with law enforcement authorities. Foster and Stover shared a residence near Kincaid, Fayette County, at the time the illegal pill transactions occurred. Stover and Foster are the latest defendants to be sentenced this year in connection with an ongoing drug investigation in Fayette County, W.Va. Earlier this month, Kenneth James Taylor, 32, Page, Fayette County, W.Va., was sentenced to five years in federal prison for distribution of oxycodone. In January, Gerald Wayne Hopkins, 52, of Fayetteville, W.Va., was sentenced to three years' probation for cocaine distribution. Also in January, Michael Terry Coleman, 48, of Page, Fayette County, W.Va., was sentenced to two years in federal prison for selling oxycodone.

The West Virginia State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigation conducted the investigations. Assistant United States Attorney John File handled the prosecutions. The sentences were imposed by United States District Judge John T. Copenhaver, Jr.

The cases were prosecuted as part of an ongoing effort led by the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of West Virginia to combat the illicit sale and misuse of prescription drugs. The U.S. Attorney's Office, joined by federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, is committed to aggressively pursuing and shutting down illegal pill trafficking, eliminating open air drug markets, and curtailing the spread of opiate painkillers in communities across the Southern District.

March 20, 2013

(2)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP and WVVA) -- A study says McDowell County is the unhealthiest county in West Virginia, and southern counties continue to lag behind their northern counterparts. The report was released Wednesday by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and University of Wisconsin researchers. It ranks counties by several health factors such as smoking, drinking, obesity, and premature deaths, and other areas including education, access to health care and unemployment. Monongalia County was deemed the healthiest county by the report. It had the lowest number of premature deaths, and for at least the fourth straight year had the lowest rates of unhealthy behaviors. Monongalia overtook Pendleton County, which had been No. 1 the past three years. The highest-ranking county in the WVVA viewing area is Greenbrier at No. 35. This is the fourth-straight year McDowell County has ranked last.

Following is the full list of rankings:

1. Monongalia
2. Pendleton
3. Doddridge
4. Jefferson
5. Hampshire
6. Tucker
7. Pleasants
8. Upshur
9. Putnam
10. Hardy
11. Ritchie
12. Ohio
13. Roane
14. Berkeley
15. Marshall
16. Hancock
17. Tyler
18. Preston
19. Mineral
20. Marion
21. Grant
22. Wirt

23. Brooke
24. Gilmer
25. Barbour
26. Calhoun
27. Jackson
28. Randolph
29. Wetzel
30. Taylor
31. Braxton
32. Wood
33. Morgan
34. Harrison
35. Greenbrier
36. Monroe
37. Kanawha
38. Pocahontas
39. Clay
40. Webster
41. Cabell
42. Mason
43. Lewis
44. Nicholas
45. Raleigh
46. Summers
47. Fayette
48. Lincoln
49. Wayne
50. Mercer
51. Boone

- 52. Logan
- 53. Mingo
- 54. Wyoming
- 55. McDowell

In Virginia, counties in Southwest Virginia were listed in the bottom half of the rankings. Giles was the highest at No. 74 of 133. Bland was 100, Wythe was 106, Buchanan was 131 and Tazewell County was 132 of 133.

[View the full report on West Virginia](#)

[View the full report on Virginia](#)

March 20, 2013

(2)

By Gil McClanahan

Pineville -

Wyoming county authorities bust up a weekend cock-fight. Sheriff Randall Aliff says they received a tip that the fight was taking place last Sunday at a home in the Indian Creek area of the county. 20 citations were issued on the charge of attending a cock fight. The home owner was also cited. Sheriff Aliff says this was an apparent weekly activity at the residence. Investigators confiscated the spurs used to put on the roosters. The incident is still under investigation and additional charges are pending.

March 21, 2013

(8)

Washington, D.C. (NEWS RELEASE) - U.S. Representative Nick J. Rahall, D-WV, today joined Rep. George Miller, D-CA, in introducing the Robert C. Byrd Mine Safety Protection Act of 2013, legislation aimed at bolstering the national effort to protect the health and safety of miners. "Less than a year ago, we dedicated a memorial to the 29 lives that were lost in the Upper Big Branch Mine disaster, and as we approach the third anniversary of that terrible tragedy we rededicate ourselves preventing such a catastrophe from occurring again," said Rahall. "While no piece of legislation can remove all of the dangers inherent in coal mining, we have a responsibility to advance sensible improvements in our national mine health and safety program that we know can save lives." The Robert C. Byrd Mine Safety Protection Act of 2013 builds upon similar legislation introduced by Rahall and Miller in the last Congress to strengthen the Mine Act and close loopholes in existing mine safety laws. New provisions in the legislation being introduced today would require mine operators to record and maintain records of rock dust purchases so that the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) can verify steps taken by operators to prevent the build-up of explosive coal dust, a key factor at UBB. Civil penalties for targeted violations that are known to have contributed to previous mining tragedies are increased, and protections are expanded for whistleblowers who report safety violations to MSHA. The bill also ensures strong and reliable enforcement of mine safety laws by directing MSHA to develop a staffing succession plan to ensure that MSHA retains sufficient numbers of trained personnel to help keep miners safe. Additionally, the bill provides that immediate family members of mine disaster victims can designate a representative to closely monitor and participate in a subsequent accident investigation. In calling for action on the bill, Rahall noted that five lives have already been lost in coal mining accidents in West Virginia in 2013 and that the families of the victims of UBB are still waiting for Federal improvements to mine safety laws. "Tragedy has already visited our coalfield communities far too many times this year," said Rahall. "We must not wait for further loss of life from a preventable tragedy to act

to bolster our mine safety laws that we know are inadequate. This legislation is an important step in making good on an obligation we have to health and safety of our courageous miners and their families."

Other provisions in the Robert C. Byrd Mine Safety Act of 2013 would:

- Expand subpoena powers for MSHA, so that the agency, like the State of West Virginia could more thoroughly conduct investigations into mine accidents.
- Strengthen penalties against those who would give advance notice of mine safety inspections.
- Increase the amount of rock dusting to 80% of total incombustible content in all working areas.
- Provides for establishment of a NIOSH-appointed independent investigation panel, with subpoena power, for any accident involving 3 or more deaths. Such an investigation would include recommendations for improvements of regulation, inspections, and enforcement systems.

March 21, 2013

(3, 8)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- West Virginia's House of Delegates has rejected adding charter schools and other Republican-proposed changes to Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin's education bill. Five GOP amendments failed Thursday. Of the others, one offered \$1,000 bonuses to teachers who accept an alternative evaluation process. Another sought deeper Department of Education cuts. Republicans also proposed an electronic textbook pilot program, and to restore the state schools superintendent's \$175,000 salary cap. The GOP holds 46 of 100 House seats following last year's election. Not all of Thursday's votes were along party lines. The bill from Tomblin, a Democrat, includes revised educator hiring and transfers and giving counties more freedom over school calendars. Spokeswoman Amy Shuler Goodwin said the governor supports the bill as-is. Delegates are scheduled to vote Friday on whether to pass the legislation.

March 21, 2013

(8)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin's second major piece of legislation has passed the West Virginia Senate. Tomblin's prison reform bill passed the Senate Thursday on a 33-0 vote. Unlike his education bill, which passed only after significant changes, the prison bill passed without major amendments. The bill would ensure that all prisoners are under supervision immediately following their release. Non-violent offenders would be released six months early into supervised programs. The bill would no longer revoke probation or parole for minor violations, but would have lesser penalties. The bill provides \$25 million over five years for increased supervision and drug and alcohol treatment. It is projected to save \$116 million over that time by halting the growth of the prison population. Overcrowding in the state's prisons is at a crisis level.

March 22, 2013

(3, 8)

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- West Virginia Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin is awaiting final action on the biggest item from his legislative agenda this session. The House of Delegates expects to vote Friday on his proposal changing teacher hiring, the school calendar and other parts of the state education system. The Senate unanimously passed the bill Monday with several amendments. Those addressed concerns raised by teacher and school worker groups. Friday's vote follows unsuccessful attempts by House Republicans to add such items as charter schools and alternative teacher evaluations to the bill. Tomblin and lawmakers have focused on public schools in the wake of an audit that contrasted hefty

taxpayer spending with poor student achievement. The governor is also pursuing an education overhaul through executive orders and by enlisting the state school board.

March 22, 2013

(2)

WAR (WVVA) - Two men were arrested Thursday night when police found an active meth lab inside an abandoned trailer in McDowell County. Timothy Harrison Stone, 51, and Donald Martin Simpkins, 31, both of War, were arrested and charged with operating a clandestine lab and felony conspiracy after being apprehended by authorities at the trailer. Authorities were acting on a tip when they discovered the meth lab in the William Pokey Hill area of War. A member of the Southern West Virginia Drug and Violent Crimes Task Force equipped with special gear to protect them from the hazardous chemicals used in meth-making first entered the trailer, Sheriff Martin West said. When it was discovered that two suspects were inside, four sheriff's deputies who were not wearing the proper equipment also entered the home. Those deputies were overcome with the toxic fumes and had to be treated at the scene, West said. One deputy was later treated at Welch Community Hospital. A total of nine sheriff's deputies were on scene. This is the second time Stone has been arrested for operating a meth lab within the year. He was currently out on bond. This marks the fourth meth bust in McDowell County in 2013. With the epidemic seemingly growing in the county, West said funding for his department to be properly equipped to combat the increase is crucial.

March 28, 2013

(8)

By Bailey Gillespie

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- The House of Delegates wants drivers to be pulled over in West Virginia for not wearing a seat belt.

A 55-44 vote Thursday narrowly passed a bill making that violation a primary offense.

Thirty-one states now treat failure to wear a seat belt as a primary offense that triggers a traffic stop.

Not wearing a seat belt in West Virginia is now secondary offense. That means a driver must be pulled over for some other violation to be cited.

The House Judiciary Committee endorsed the bill earlier this month, but only by 13-11.

Thursday's vote followed an emotional debate. Both sides invoked lost loved ones.

Opponents argued seat belt use is a matter of personal responsibility. Supporters said it would help save lives and avoid family tragedies.

March 28, 2013

(2)

By Caroline Bach

BECKLEY (WVVA) -- A Wyoming County group traveled to Raleigh County Thursday to demonstrate how to eat healthy on a budget.

The Diabetes Support and Healthy Lifestyle Coalition teamed up with Food Lion and other local sponsors, treating grocery shoppers to healthy shopping trip, all while staying in a \$25 budget.

Organizers say they want to do their part to fight obesity and diabetes by providing this hands on experience. "The food that we're eating is playing a big part of [health problems.] Obesity in Wyoming County... we're there at the bottom, the state of West Virginia is at the bottom with obesity, and that is causing a lot of the chronic illnesses that we have. So what we're eating and putting in our bodies is important," says Charlene Cook, with the Diabetes Support and Healthy Lifestyle Coalition.

West Virginia ranks in the bottom five nationwide in health statistics.

Forty people came out to the Beckley Food Lion for the shopping excursion, including a group of student volunteers at the University of Illinois at Chicago on their alternative spring break.

Network Programming



In addition to our locally produced programming specifically designed to respond to the problems and needs of our viewing area, network programs often cover issues relating to our local problems and needs. The following are selected episodes of regular problems and specials, which, in our judgment, contribute to serving the problems and needs of our community. Highlights of topics and issues televised this quarter are detailed.

TODAY SHOW

Monday-Friday	7:00-11:00 am (240 minutes)
Saturday	7:00-9:00 am (120 minutes)
Sunday	8:00-9:00 am (60 minutes)

January 2, 2013

(8)

NBC's political director, Chuck Todd, weighs in on the current Congress and the decision to pass the fiscal cliff bill, calling it a "debacle" for the GOP. Unless they unify on their aims, Todd says, "they are not going to be an effective force."

January 2, 2013

(8)

President Obama will sign the "fiscal cliff" legislation approved by a divided House of Representative, preventing middle class tax hikes and huge spending cuts that many feared could have pushed the economy into a new recession. NBC'S Kelly O'Donnell reports.

January 10, 2013

(2)

NBC'S chief medical editor, Dr. Nancy Snyderman, urges parents to take their children to get flu shots if they haven't already done so, and says that before going to the emergency room for flu symptoms, you should call your doctor. Also, the Today anchors will roll up their sleeves to get their own flu shots.

January 11, 2013

(2)

With over 40 states reporting cases of the flu, Americans are in the midst of a long and tough flu season. Dr. Nancy Snyderman reports on what is now being called an epidemic, offering tips on how to avoid getting sick.

January 12, 2013

(2)

A new study suggested a staggering 97% of students admit to sometimes texting while driving, even when they know the risks. What is the primal explanation for why we still do it, and does the punishment fit the crime? NBC News' Kate Snow reports.

January 28, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): The first CIA agent to face prison for a leak. Cissy Houston talks about her book *Remembering Whitney*. The new maternity test. Cruise deals.

(9-10 a.m.): New food guidelines for kids. Reinvent your closet. Power tools that empower women. Today's cooking.

(10-11 a.m.): Patrick Duffy and Linda Gray talk about *Dallas*. How to be comfy but look good. Working mom special. Get your game on with Kathie Lee and Hoda.

January 29, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Melissa McCarthy talks about her movie *Identity Theft*. Today gives hope. Emeli Sande performs in studio.

(9-10 a.m.): Discovery Channel's Raising Sextuplets. Today's quest for the best Today Show jingle. 7 habits for a healthier heart.

(10-11 a.m.): Are you your best friend's worst enemy? The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills. Emeli Sande performs. Get your game on with Kathie Lee and Hoda.

January 30, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Best puppy breeds of the year. Cabaret reunion with Liza Minnelli, Joel Grey, Michael York and Marisa Berenson. Celebrity homes. Michael Bolton talks about his book *The Soul of It All: My Music, My Life*. Today's Kitchen with Mark Bittman.

(9-10 a.m.): Steals and deals. Steven Pasquale on Today. Modern day digital etiquette. When is it okay to?

(10-11 a.m.): Cabaret reunion with Liza Minnelli, Joel Grey, Michael York and Marisa Berenson. Enjoy dropping the pounds. Michael Bolton on Today.

January 31, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Christopher Walken talks about *Stand Up Guys*. Jason Bateman talks about his movie *Identity Theft*. Ed Sheeran performs.

(9-10 a.m.): Today's Professionals. What real estate you can get for your money. Linda Stasi talks about her book *The Sixth Station*. Super Bowl party décor.

(10-11 a.m.): Ambush makeovers. Valentine's Day tech. Healthy home. Ed Sheeran performs.

February 1, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Kevin Spacey and Robin Wright talk about *House of Cards*. Wing cook-off. Healthy heart week.

(9-10 a.m.): Today's Take 3. Valentine's Day gifts outside the box! Holiday skin.

(10-11 a.m.): Woman and heart disease. Super Bowl cook-off. Heart health.

February 4, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Jenny McCarthy on Today. Today takes action. Roots reunion. Architectural Digest celebrity homes.

(9-10 a.m.): Super Bowl commercials. Valentine's Day personalized crafts. Breaking through diet barriers.

(10-11 a.m.): Jenny McCarthy talks about *The Jenny McCarthy Project*. Joy Fit Club.

February 5, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Today takes action. *SMASH'S* Katharine McPhee. One year to the Winter Olympic Games.

(9-10 a.m.): The Grio 100. Best value colleges for 2013. Animals live in studio. One year to the Winter Olympic Games.

(10-11 a.m.): *SMASH'S* Katharine McPhee. Nick Savoy talks about his book *It's Your Move: How to Play the Game and Win the Man You Want*. Julie Andrews and Emma Walton Hamilton talk about their book *The Very Fairy Princess*.

February 6, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Today takes action. One year to the Winter Olympic Games.

(9-10 a.m.): Scott Hamilton previews figure skating. Technology that helps seniors stay at home. Today's Kitchen.

(10-11 a.m.): Enjoy dropping the pounds. 5 ingredient Valentine's Day treats and fun. Today test drives.

February 7, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): The best things to buy in February. Martha Stewart on Today. The Grio 100.

(9-10 a.m.): Today's professionals. Grocery store tricks. What real estate you can get for your money. The melting pot.

(10-11 a.m.): Toni Braxton on Today. Ambush makeovers. Everyone Has A Story.

February 8, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Famous fridges. 2013's best bang for your buck improvements. *The Normal Bar*.

(9-10 a.m.): Everything cheaper in 2013.

(10-11 a.m.): Valentine's Day getaway. Do-it-yourself Valentine's Day with kids.]

February 18, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Steve Harvey on Today. Stories of Progress: Education. Keri Russell talks about *The Americans* and *Dark Skies*. Steve's diet detox.

(9-10 a.m.): Meet the Jeopardy winner. Today's Relationships: When to say, enough is enough. Mapped out meals.

(10-11 a.m.): Kathie Lee and Hoda at Universal Studios Hollywood. Sunglasses for your face. Toys to keep your kids busy. Piloxing.

February 19, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): What he can expect when you're expecting. Social Q's. Majestic Ice Castle. Oscar film getaways.

(9-10 a.m.): Melissa and Joan Rivers on Today. Buying in bulk. Double duty beauty products. Cooking with Chloe Coscarelli.

(10-11 a.m.): Kathie Lee and Hoda in Los Angeles. Flo Rida on Today. Hollywood makeup secrets. The art of schmoozing: how to get what you want. Sara's backlot tour. Burger cook-off.

February 20, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): The Professionals. Celebrity homes with Barbara Corcoran. Meet the Fixer. Martha Stewart on Today: Oscar Party Ideas.

(9-10 a.m.): Jill Martin's must-haves. Breaking through diet barriers. When is it okay to...?

(10-11 a.m.): Kathie Lee and Hoda in Los Angeles. Kathie Lee takes Howie's house tour. Amusement Park makeovers. Sara in Santa Barbara.

February 21, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): The National Geography photographer. Medical Miracle: A baby's new heart saves her life. Shop like a pro. Animals on Today.

(9-10 a.m.): Gadgets for winter. Stories of Progress: Veteran. Today's Melting Pot.

(10-11 a.m.): Kathie Lee and Hoda in Los Angeles. What your money will buy you if you want to live in LA. How to score the perfect tan. Sara makes wine.

February 22, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Today's Friday Field Trip: Miami. South Beach Food & Wine Festival with Giada de Laurentiis.

(9-10 a.m.): What real estate you can get for your money. Frugal Friday. South Beach Food & Wine Festival with Paula Deen and her sons.

Today at the Rink: Kurt Browning.

(10-11 a.m.): LMFAO's Redfoo on Today. Top Chef Masters on Today. Oscar fashion predictions. Throwing an Oscar party with Nathan Turner.

February 25, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Michael Phelps on Today. Google it Today. Get the most out of your contractor. Mapped out meals.

(9-10 a.m.): Gift trends. Friendly advice. Designer collaborations under \$100.

(10-11 a.m.): Oscar fashion. La La Anthony on Today. Kids birthday gifts under \$20. Cooking with Melissa D'Arabian.

February 26, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): The professionals. Family and friends series. Megan Hilty talks about Smash. Kids cooking with cancer. Jason Aldean performs on Today.

(9-10 a.m.): Randy Fenoli of Say Yes to the Dress on Today. Beauty breakthroughs. Cooking with the Scotto family.

(10-11 a.m.): Megan Hilty talks about Smash. Sara in the City: Kids of courage. One hour photo. Jason Aldean performs on Today.

Wednesday, February 27 (7-9 a.m.): Giada de Laurentiis on Today. A look at Star Jones's 28-Day Challenge. Donald and Ivanka Trump on Today.

(9-10 a.m.): Jill's Steals and Deals. Dule Hill talks about Psych. Affordable weekend getaways. Cooking with Richard Blais.

(10-11 a.m.): Donnie Wahlberg talks about his new show, Boston's Finest. Enjoy getting fit. How to hire a contractor. 4 ingredients, 1 pot, 1 bowl.

February 28, 2013

(1, 2)

(7-9 a.m.): Family and friends series. The board game is back! How to save on everything. The new twist on potluck.

(9-10 a.m.): Dirty beauty awards. Cold and flu: What you need to know. Mom-trepreneurs. Today's Melting Pot.

(10-11 a.m.): Mark Burnett and Roma Downey on Today. Ambush makeovers. Weekend chatter. Answering viewers' money questions.

March 1, 2013

(1, 2)

(7-9 a.m.): Home of 300 cats. Cooking with Mark Bittman. TBD.

(9-10 a.m.): What real estate you can get for your money. Shape's Shoe Awards. Why Mr. Right is not real? Today's 5 facts about fat.

(10-11 a.m.): The things he should lie to you about. Reel moms. Cooking with Antoine Sicotte.

March 11, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Kerry's Excellent Antarctic Adventure: Penguins. An interview with Valerie Harper. Google's hot searches. Mapped out weekly meals.

(9-10 a.m.): The Duggar family on Today. Family vacation 101. Eat this, cure that.

(10-11 a.m.): Celeb looks for less. Why parents need to let their kids fail. Housewares show: Kitchen ideas. In the kitchen with "The Fish Guys."

March 12, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): The professionals. Jenna Bush Hager sits down with her grandfather. Snooki on Today. Money survey for women.

(9-10 a.m.): Diet, drugstore, or doctor. Today's friendly advice. Today's Kitchen: 12-year-old chef.

(10-11 a.m.): How to find the perfect pair of jeans. Jillian Michaels on Today. Roadtrip gadgets. Better your bake sale items.

March 13, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Today Investigates: Jamaican scams. The life of Tom Beers. Celebrity homes.

(9-10 a.m.): Jill Martin's Must-Haves. The Perfect Home Bar: What you need, how to use it. The fixer.

(10-11 a.m.): Enjoy getting fit. 5 things women learned in school that will fail them at work. Update your paint.

March 14, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Caffeination Nation: Lab tests. Gowns on the cheap. My budget vacation.

(9-10 a.m.): Look 5 years younger instantly. Today's Melting Pot: Irish. Do-it-yourself everything green.

(10-11 a.m.): Ambush makeovers. Weekend chatter. Spring break getaways. Colon Cancer Awareness month. St. Patrick's Day cooking with Rachel Allen.

March 15, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Caffeination Nation: Making the perfect cup of coffee. Today's starts of tomorrow.

(9-10 a.m.): How to find money around your house. Dealing with acne. Today at The Rink with The Haydenettes.

(10-11 a.m.): Dealing with change. Spring break safety. Home fixin: bathroom tiles. Celtic Thunder perform on Today.

March 18, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Today's Baby Bump with Jenna Bush Hager. Alison Sweeny talks about "The Biggest Loser" finale. Nicolas Cage talks about his movie *The Croods*. Mapped out meals with Bobby Flay.

(9-10 a.m.): Vera Farmiga talks about *Bates Motel*. Toure talks about his book *I Would Die 4 U: Why Prince Became an Icon*. Tricky trends. Nutrition labels 101.

(10-11 a.m.): Julia Stiles talks about her web series *Blue*. Spring cleaning. Joy Fit Club.

March 19, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): The professionals. Today's Relationship. La Toya Jackson talks about *Celebrity Apprentice*. The winner of *The Biggest Loser*.

(9-10 a.m.): Beauty tricks of the trade. Today's Kitchen with Giada DeLaurentiis. Kacey Musgraves performs.

(10-11 a.m.): La Toya Jackson on Today. Entrepreneurs. Easter fashion. Best Passover and Easter wines under \$15.

March 20, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Spring fashion trends. Today's Kitchen with Giada DeLaurentiis.

(9-10 a.m.): Jill Martin's Steals & Deals. Frisbee dogs. Breakthrough diet barriers. Lawn games.

(10-11 a.m.): Enjoy getting fit. Who knew? Quick fix beauty and fashion.

March 21, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Today's Relationships. David Cassidy auction. Ask the vet. Martha Stewart on Today.

(9-10 a.m.): Wild Animals. The ultimate anti-agers. Easter crafts. Today's melting pot.

(10-11 a.m.): Ambush makeovers. Easter basket ideas. Matzo ball soup for Passover.

March 22, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Spring Fling. Creative wedding registries. Teens jobs. Big girls in a skinny world.

(9-10 a.m.): Paying for our pets. Easter baskets full of treats, not sweets. Online decorating community.

(10-11 a.m.): National Wildlife Week. Wedding splurges/steals. JIF's most creative sandwich competition. Cirque Du Soleil performance.

March 25, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Usher on Today. Jill Martin talks about *The Weekend Makeover*. Billy Burke talks about *Revolution*. Social Q's. Magic Monday with David Copperfield.

(9-10 a.m.): Carson Daly on Today. Products with a purpose. High-low décor. Creative Easter baskets. "The Voice" trivia.

(10-11 a.m.): Usher on Today. Billy Burke talks about *Revolution*. Frazzled to Focused: House. Jill Martin talks about *The Weekend Makeover*.

March 26, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): The Professionals. Al at Yankees Spring Training. Bobbi Brown on empowering real women. Bob Dotson talks about *American Story: A Lifetime Search for Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things*. Blake Shelton performs live on Today.

(9-10 a.m.): Carson Daly on Today. Today's quest for the best party idea. Lucy Danziger on her book, *The Drop 10 Diet Cookbook*. Prepping your home for allergy season. Easter crafts for the family.

(10-11 a.m.): Karolina Kurkova talks about *The Face*. How to sound smarter. Bob Dotson talks about *American Story: A Lifetime Search for Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things*. Frazzled to Focused: Love life. Easter ham & lamb.

March 27, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Cate Edwards one-on-one with Savannah Guthrie. Stories of progress: Medical social media. Dirty Beauty Awards: Beauty problems and solutions. Spring break for grown-ups. Your Life Calling with Jane Pauley.

(9-10 a.m.): DIY medical kits. Truth about man-scaping. Today's Kitchen: Siri-ously delicious "cake mix desserts."

(10-11 a.m.): Hair makeovers with Louis Licari. Frazzled to Focused: Kids. Last minute Easter appetizers.

March 28, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Today's Baby Bump: Pregnancy Superstitions. Checking in with the Nike ad kid. Spotlight on the 3-D printer. Bow-to-wow.

(9-10 a.m.): Jill Martin talks about *The Weekend Makeover*. DIY Easter décor. Lucinda Scala Quinn on *Mad Hungry Cravings*.

(10-11 a.m.): Ambush Makeovers. Easter cooking with the Moms. Frazzled to Focused: Work Life. Easter table top.

March 29, 2013

(1)

(7-9 a.m.): Celebrity audition tape auction. Andy Cohen on Today. Spanning the world.

(9-10 a.m.): Upgrade your man's style. Coach me if you can. Easter entertaining.

(10-11 a.m.): Get appy with Sara Haines. Cleanest packaged foods. Easter games for kids. How to drop 10 lbs by memorial day. Icona Pop performs live.

Nightly News

Monday-Friday

6:30-7:00 pm (30 minutes)

January 9, 2013

(2)

Researchers have developed a test similar to the pap smear that identifies cancerous cells in the cervical fluid. In the initial experiment involving 46 women, the test uncovered ovarian cancer 40% of the time and uterine cancer 100% of the time. NBC'S Robert Bazell reports.

January 10, 2013

(2)

It's already a tough economy, and new workers are concerned about taking sick time (especially if it's unpaid). Businesses who can't afford to lose people to the flu are sanitizing common areas, and in some cases, offering flu shots on the premises. NBC'S Kevin Tibbles reports.

February 10, 2013

(2)

A new strain of whooping cough recently discovered In the US may not be protected by today's vaccine. NBC'S Nancy Snyderman reports.

February 17, 2013

(2)

NBC'S Robert Bazell reports that folic acid can help lead to a healthy pregnancy, even for women who take it before they become pregnant.

March 8, 2013

(1, 7)

The housing market is continuing to improve, with 48,000 new jobs added in construction, even Hollywood added new positions. But, despite the positive news, it's concerning that more Americans gave up looking for jobs in February. NBC's Tom Costello reports.

March 9, 2013

(8)

In Washington, widespread automatic spending cuts hit home Saturday when White House tours were cancelled until further notice.

March 13, 2013

(5)

The New Pope is Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio from Argentina. Bergoglio has taken the name Francis I and was introduced to the world in Latin from the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica.

DATELINE

Friday

9:00-9:30 (60 minutes)

January 25, 2013

(2)

A woman is found murdered in the back of her comic book store, but the crime goes unsolved for years. When new evidence is discovered, the case heads in surprising directions.

For a preview of the story go to:

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/3032600/vp/50513282#50513282>

January 29, 2013

(2)

When [college student](#) Mickey Shunick vanished last summer, her sister became the tip of the spear in a multinational search effort. She opens up to "Dateline" about the case and the night her sister went missing. Josh Mankiewicz reports.

February 1, 2013

(2)

When 18-year-old Hannah Hill goes missing, the path to justice takes many surprising turns.

February 8, 2013

(2)

When a pastor loses two wives in suspicious accidents, authorities wonder: was it terrible luck ... or murder? Dennis Murphy reports.

For a preview of the story go to:

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/3032600/vp/50699108#50699108>

February 10, 2013

(2)

The best of "The Hansen Files": Chris Hansen's most intriguing hidden camera investigations.

February 15, 2013

(2)

A love triangle involving a beauty queen, a devoted wife and a guitar hero leads to murder, and an investigation that stretches across the country and takes years to unfold. Josh Mankiewicz reports.

February 15, 2013

(2)

A love triangle involving a beauty queen, a devoted wife and a guitar hero leads to murder, and an investigation that stretches across the country and takes years to unfold. Josh Mankiewicz reports.

February 17, 2013

(2)

Once a hometown hero in Coldwater, Michigan, Tom Foley is shocked to find himself the lead suspect in the case of his wife Darlene's murder. Josh Mankiewicz reports.

February 22, 2013

(2)

When a young beauty queen is murdered in her apartment, the investigation leads to two different defendants and results in three criminal trials. Keith Morrison reports. (NEW)

Carol Lubahn suddenly vanishes, leaving behind her husband and two young children. But why would she leave them? Authorities open a decades-old cold case and with the help of Facebook and social media, they search for an answer. Keith Morrison reports. (NEW)

March 24, 2013

(2)

The smoke alarm in your home could mean the difference between life and death.

But did you know that some alarms may not work fast enough in certain fires to get you to safety?

What is really in your everyday household products like shampoo and toothpaste?

Have you ever stopped to think about just how much information about you is available online?

Dateline investigates and the answers are shocking.

Dateline's Chris Hansen reports on a world-wide FBI manhunt for a most unlikely Top Ten Most Wanted Fugitive, Jason Derek Brown.

A one-time Eagle Scout and Mormon missionary, Brown is the primary suspect in a 2004 Phoenix murder.

MEET THE PRESS

Sunday 11:00-12:00 (60 minutes)

January 23, 2013

(8)

EXCLUSIVE: PAUL RYAN ON "MEET THE PRESS"

This Sunday on "Meet the Press," the former Republican Vice Presidential nominee Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI) sits down exclusively with David Gregory for his first live interview since the election. He'll weigh in on the upcoming spending battles, where he'll be an influential voice as chairman of the House Budget Committee. Plus: His take on the future of the Republican party as President Obama begins his second term.

January 24, 2013

(8)

"MEET THE PRESS"

WEEKEND LISTINGS (1/27/13)

Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI)

Chairman, House Budget Committee

2012 Republican Vice Presidential Nominee

Fmr. Sen. Jim DeMint (R-SC)

Incoming President, Heritage Foundation

Ben Jealous

President and CEO, NAACP

Bob Woodward

Associate Editor, The Washington Post

Andrea Mitchell

Chief Foreign Affairs Correspondent, NBC News

This Sunday: former Republican Vice Presidential nominee Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI) sits down exclusively with David Gregory for his first live interview since the election. He'll weigh in on the upcoming spending battles, where he'll be an influential voice as chairman of the House Budget Committee. Plus: his take on the future of the Republican party as President Obama begins his second term.

Then: President Obama called for action in his inaugural address, but how much of his agenda will get through a politically-charged Washington? How will the upcoming budget fights affect his second term? Plus, after a facing tough questions on Capitol Hill about what happened in Benghazi, what lies ahead for Hillary Clinton as she departs? Our roundtable weighs in: incoming President of the Heritage Foundation, former Senator Jim DeMint (R-SC); NAACP President and CEO Ben Jealous; Washington Post Associate Editor Bob Woodward; and NBC News Chief Foreign Affairs Correspondent Andrea Mitchell.

David Gregory is the moderator of "Meet the Press." Betsy Fischer Martin is the executive producer, Adam Verdugo is the senior producer, Chris Donovan and Ilana Marcus Drimmer are producers.

"Meet the Press" is seen on the NBC Television Network from 9-10 a.m. ET in most markets. In New York City and Washington D.C., the broadcast is seen from 10:30-11:30 a.m. ET.

The program re-airs on MSNBC Sunday afternoons at 2 p.m. ET/11 a.m. PT and again at 2 a.m. ET/11 p.m. PT and 4 a.m. ET/1 a.m. PT Monday. At these times, "Meet The Press" will also air on SIRIUS channel 90 and XM channel 120.

February 7, 2013

(8)

Rep. Eric Cantor (R-VA)

House Majority Leader

Sen. Dick Durbin (D-IL)

Assistant Senate Majority Leader

Gavin Newsom

Lieutenant Governor of California

Author, “Citizenville: How to Take the Town Square Digital and Reinvent Government”

Peggy Noonan

Columnist, *The Wall Street Journal*

Kasim Reed

Mayor of Atlanta, GA

Mike Murphy

Republican Strategist

Michael Isikoff

National Investigative Correspondent, NBC News

This Sunday: House Majority Leader **Eric Cantor** (R-VA) sits down with David Gregory as Washington prepares for some big political battles in the coming months. Plus, we’ll get his thoughts about the direction of Republican Party as they reshape their message to voters.

Then: One of the White House’s top Senate allies, Assistant Democratic Leader **Dick Durbin** (D-IL) joins us as the administration faces questions about its drone policy. Should there be more transparency and what is the president’s authority when it comes to using drones against U.S. citizens? Also, can Democrats and Republicans work together as big budget deadlines approach?

Also Sunday: Our political roundtable previews the president’s State of the Union address and breaks down the politics behind the budget battle. Joining us, California Lieutenant Governor **Gavin Newsom**, the *Wall Street Journal*’s **Peggy Noonan**, Democratic Mayor of Atlanta **Kasim Reed**, and GOP strategist **Mike Murphy**. Plus, the debate over drones: NBC’s **Michael Isikoff** also joins the roundtable after breaking the NBC News exclusive this week uncovering confidential Justice Department documents making the case for the ability to use drones against American citizens.

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February 14, 2013

(8)

Denis McDonough

White House Chief of Staff

Sen. John McCain (R-AZ)

Senate Armed Services Committee

Capt. Mark Kelly (Ret.)

Co-Founder, Americans for Responsible Solutions

Gavin Newsom

Lieutenant Governor of California

Author, “Citizenville: How to Take the Town Square Digital and Reinvent Government”

Carly Fiorina

Vice Chair, National Republican Senatorial Committee

Former CEO, Hewlett Packard

Alex Castellanos

Republican Strategist

Chris Matthews

Host, MSNBC’s “Hardball”

This Sunday: David sits down with new White House Chief of Staff **Denis McDonough**, who steps in to the job as President Obama attempts to tackle an aggressive second term legislative agenda. What is the president's plan to deliver? Plus, as Republicans hold up Chuck Hagel's nomination to be the next Defense Secretary, we'll get reaction from the president's right-hand man and hear from one of the GOP Senators leading the charge against Hagel – **Senator John McCain** (R-AZ).

Then: Just over two years since his wife, then-Rep. Gabrielle Giffords (D-AZ), was shot in Tucson, Retired Space Shuttle Commander **Mark Kelly** is speaking out about the need for tougher gun laws in our country. This week, guns took center stage as the president delivered an emotional plea during his State of Union address. Kelly joins us exclusively to discuss what has become a very personal mission. Also Sunday: After laying out his vision for the next four years, President Obama hit the road to sell his ambitious agenda for the next four years. How did the State of the Union address set the tone? Plus, a reality check: Which of his proposals are likely to become law? Our roundtable weighs in: Lt. Governor of California **Gavin Newsom** (D); former CEO of HP **Carly Fiorina**; Republican strategist **Alex Castellanos**; and host of MSNBC's Hardball, **Chris Matthews**.

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March 24, 2013

(8)

Michael Bloomberg

Mayor of New York City

Wayne LaPierre

CEO and Executive Vice President, National Rifle Association

David Boies

Chairman, Boies, Schiller & Flexner

Attorney Arguing Against CA's Prop 8 Before Supreme Court

Richard Engel

Chief Foreign Correspondent, NBC News

Ralph Reed

Chairman, Faith and Freedom Coalition

Hilary Rosen

Democratic Strategist

E.J. Dionne

Columnist, *The Washington Post*

David Brooks

Columnist, *The New York Times*

This Sunday: As we approach 100 days since the tragedy in Newtown, Connecticut, we'll look at the gun control debate in America. What is the proper balance between keeping public safety and personal freedom? Will the new legislation proposed in Congress make a difference in curbing gun violence in America? Two key voices on both sides of the issue join us exclusively this Sunday: New York City's Independent Mayor **Michael Bloomberg** and the CEO and Executive Vice President of the National Rifle Association **Wayne LaPierre**. Plus: Bloomberg's bans – the NYC Mayor responds to charges of government overreach.

Then: Is the tide turning for support of same-sex marriage in America? The Supreme Court will hear oral arguments next week on the legality of California's Proposition 8 and we'll talk exclusively with **David**

Boies, one of the lawyers arguing for law's repeal before the Court next week.

Also Sunday: What did the president accomplish during his trip to the Israel and the West Bank? Are we any closer to peace in the Middle East? NBC News Chief Foreign Correspondent **Richard Engel**, who just returned from the region, joins us for a live report.

And: Our roundtable will feature a special discussion on the role of government in daily life. From guns to gay marriage, the political debate has been centered on personal freedom. Is the answer more, or less government? We'll have insights and analysis from our roundtable: Chairman of the Faith and Freedom Coalition **Ralph Reed**, Democratic strategist **Hilary Rosen**, *Washington Post* columnist **E.J. Dionne**, and the *New York Times*' **David Brooks**.

March 31, 2013

(8)

"MEET THE PRESS"

WEEKEND LISTINGS (3/31/13)

Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-NY)

Chairman, Democratic Policy Committee

Senate Judiciary Committee

Sen. Jeff Flake (R-AZ)

Senate Judiciary Committee

David Axelrod

Former White House Senior Adviser and Obama Campaign Strategist

NBC News Senior Political Analyst

Fmr. Rep. Tom Davis (R-VA)

Eugene Robinson

Columnist, The Washington Post

Peggy Noonan

Columnist, The Wall Street Journal

Rob Reiner

Actor and Advocate Against Proposition 8

Brian Brown

President, National Organization for Marriage

Rev. Al Sharpton

President, National Action Network

Host, MSNBC's "PoliticsNation"

Pete Williams

NBC News Justice Correspondent

This Sunday: We'll talk with two influential members of the Gang of 8, a bipartisan group of Senators working to reform the country's immigration system. Is the group the best hope for reaching a consensus in Congress? We'll discuss with Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Sen. Jeff Flake (R-AZ) on Sunday as well as the debate over same-sex marriage and gun control.

Then: An impassioned plea from President Obama this week set the stage as he hopes to regain momentum on gun control legislation in Congress next month. But what is likely to pass Congress? Did Washington miss the chance to pass legislation following the tragedy in Newtown? Plus, both sides seem to be willing to work together on comprehensive immigration reform, but can it get done this year? Our roundtable weighs in: former top adviser to President Obama, David Axelrod; Former Rep. Tom Davis (R-VA); the Washington Post's Eugene Robinson and the Wall Street Journal's Peggy Noonan.

Also Sunday: It was a historic week at the Supreme Court as it heard oral arguments on two cases regarding the rights of same-sex couples. But as the political winds seem to be changing, will the increased public support translate to the result at the Supreme Court? This Sunday, we'll have a special conversation about the politics of same-sex marriage and the implications from this week's Supreme

Court hearings. Joining us: Actor Rob Reiner, who was a vocal critic of California's Proposition 8 and attended the hearings this week; President of the National Organization for Marriage Brian Brown; the Wall Street Journal's Peggy Noonan; founder and President of the National Action Network, MSNBC's Rev. Al Sharpton; and NBC News Justice Correspondent Pete Williams.

NBC News political director and chief White House correspondent Chuck Todd will fill in for David Gregory, who is off this Sunday.

David Gregory is the moderator of "Meet the Press." Betsy Fischer Martin is the executive producer, Adam Verdugo is the senior producer, Chris Donovan and Ilana Marcus Drimmer are producers.

THE DOCTORS

Monday-Friday 4:00-5:00 pm (60 minutes)

January 1, 2013

(2)

Is your body trying to tell you something? The Doctors reveal subtle signs that, if unnoticed, could cost you your life. Plus, one disease is afflicting 65 million Americans, and most people don't know they have it. Find out if it's affecting you.

January 2, 2013

(2)

The Doctors debunk common health myths. Do dairy products really produce mucus? And how often should you really have a bowel movement? Plus, what actress Anne Heche wants you to know about sun protection. And, how robots are assisting weight loss.

January 3, 2013

(2)

Did one woman's dental fillings trigger her MS? Plus, how BPAs in foods could speed up your child's development. Then, The Doctors help a family stage an intervention to try and save their heroin-addicted daughter.

January 4, 2013

Learn simple tasks that stimulate brain power, Indian food preventing prostate cancer, and why winter workouts are good for you. Plus, why ponytails could prevent allergies and new ways to stop muscle aches.

January 7, 2013

(2)

Actress Jamie Lee Curtis offers tips for digestive health, and singer Jordin Sparks helps you manage migraines. Plus, 10 fat-fighting foods. Then, The Doctors answer the health questions you searched for via Yahoo! the most in 2012.

January 9, 2013

(2)

Learn your health numbers. Which ones are too high and which ones are too low? What you can eat to slash bad cholesterol and four ways to lower your blood pressure. How much protein is too much? Plus, three foods that may increase your sex drive.

January 11, 2013

(2)

The Doctors reveal the best way to get rid of your child's excess mucus. Plus, at-home cures for canker sores, warts and stomachaches. And why surgery might be the answer for droopy eyelids and chubby cheeks.

January 14, 2013

(2)

Learn the dangers of assuming symptoms like fatigue, coughs, stiff neck or fever mean the FLU; they COULD be caused by something else entirely! Plus, is your child contagious? When to keep your kid home from school.

January 15, 2013

(2)

Can a mole be removed without leaving a scar? What's the best treatment for chronic bladder infections? Can rosacea be cured? Plus, what you can learn about your health from some of the most beautiful male doctors in America!

January 16, 2013

(2)

America's worst flu outbreak in a decade is crisscrossing the nation. Get vital information on how to protect you and your family! And, will the flu shot really help?

January 18, 2013

(2)

Avoid a wintertime beauty meltdown. Get treatments for red noses, dry hands and chapped lips. Then, skiing on roller skates? A massage in the sauna? The Doctors test out new ways to shape up this winter. Plus, a healthy hot chocolate recipe!

January 21, 2013

(2)

Lose weight in eight seconds, minutes, days or weeks! Top signs you're an emotional eater and how to stop. Simple kitchen swaps to slash calories. And delicious 100-calorie snacks. Plus, taking pictures of your food may help you lose weight.

January 22, 2013

(2)

Health questions from viewers of all ages: Can you eat too much fruit? Why do you take some medications with food? And are "lefties" more at risk for heart problems? Plus 47 more questions answered!

January 23, 2013

(2)

Life-saving questions you must ask before tests, treatments and surgeries. Plus. tips for picking the right physician and hospital. And, find out the important difference between a cosmetic and a plastic surgeon.
January 24, 2013

How to tell when back pain is more than just stress. Then, how one woman could actually HEAR her organs working inside her body. Plus, five foods to prevent nerve pain.

January 28, 2013

(2)

Ready, set, lose weight! Richard Simmons gets you motivated and moving. Plus, see real-life weight loss success stories and get tips from the people who've "been there, lost that." Plus, give peas a chance with a pea protein shake.

January 30, 2013

(2)

The Doctors tackle your biggest fears about the flu. Anti-viral or anti-bacterial medicines: What's the difference? Plus, new health gadgets: track calories burned from your wrist, listen to music through your cheekbones and more!

January 31, 2013

(2)

Eat yourself healthy! Get the superfoods that soothe cold sores, sinus pain, heartburn and more. Plus, surprising snacks to boost your mood, get glowing skin and spice up your sex life. Then, how sugary soft drinks may be wreaking havoc on your brain!

February 4, 2013

(2)

Constipation? Flatulence? Bleaching back there? The Doctors take on your biggest backside questions. Plus, top booty tips from Real Housewife Phaedra Parks. And, CNN's Dr. Sanjay Gupta reports on a new shock treatment that may make you smarter.

February 5, 2013

(2)

The Doctors exclusive: After an electrical fire burned Dallas' face, doctors said he'd never eat, walk or talk again. Today, Dallas shares his incredible story as the first American ever to receive a full-face transplant. Plus, meet a 6-year-old hero.

February 7, 2013

(2)

A mother hears her son's voice for the very first time. See the cutting-edge procedure that restored her hearing after 15 years of silence. Then, should your child take a break from ADHD medicines? Plus, are you over-treating your skin and hair?

February 11, 2013

(2)

Sickle cell disease is more common than you may think. Is someone you love at risk? Then, Jeff is a high school teacher whose son was born with Joubert syndrome. See how raising a child with special needs is helping him teach the biggest lesson of all.

February 12, 2013

(2)

The Doctors investigate: How safe is your child's sleeping environment? And, see a cutting-edge procedure that gives a blind young man his vision back. Plus, actress Tia Mowry gets answers about being a new mom!

February 20, 2013

(2)

Chaz Bono's weight loss journey: See how much he's lost in just three months. Then, irritable? Sluggish? Low sex drive? Your fast food habit might be to blame. Plus, how to overcome your cravings. And, tips for whiter teeth.

February 27, 2013

(2)

Eating healthy but still packing on the pounds? You could be stuck in a food trap! The Doctors reveal the truth about foods you THINK are healthy. Then, why you shouldn't drink OJ when you have the flu! And, four items NO kitchen should be without.

February 28, 2013

(2)

Doctors are treating leukemia with the HIV virus. Could it change cancer treatment forever? Then, 28-year-old reality star Diem Brown won't let ovarian cancer stop her from trying to have a child. And, a baby girl born with her heart outside her chest.

March 1, 2013

(2)

Leeza Gibbons opens up about her mother's Alzheimer's diagnosis. Then, rock band Foster the People issued Andy a weight loss challenge. See his transformation! And *The Doctors'* Family Fitness Challenge: How one family lost 40 pounds in four weeks.

March 4, 2013

(2)

Fight the flu WITHOUT getting a flu shot! Then, go behind the scenes of *Body of Proof* with actress Dana Delany. See how the hit show recreates actual autopsies. Is it true to real life? And, why the kind of car you drive could take years off your life!

March 7, 2013

(2)

Boost your mood, increase your energy and improve your health. Lifestyle expert Moll Anderson reveals top decorating tricks to revitalize your wellbeing. Then, Jessica Alba's seizure scare. And, a cutting-edge cure for migraines. Could it work for you?

March 8, 2013

(2)

Good news for getting older! Studies say 72 is the new 30. Learn why! Then, LA's tuberculosis outbreak. Are you at risk? Plus, see a new, high-tech colon cancer test that could save your life. And, The Docs celebrate Dr. Travis' birthday. Join the party!

March 13, 2013

(2)

Say NO to high-in-pesticide produce! Actress Kelly Preston takes The Doctors on a tour of her organic garden. Learn how to grow your own! Plus, foods that raise your good cholesterol, how cayenne pepper can jump-start your metabolism and more.

DR. PHIL

Monday-Friday

3:00-4:00 pm (60 minutes)

January 1, 2013

(2)

Do you consider yourself smart, yet continue to make bad choices? This New Year, stop setting yourself up for pain and problems, and put all the drama and bad choices in the rearview mirror!

January 4, 2013

(2)

Katie says she's at the end of her rope with her husband, John's, lies and if he doesn't start telling the truth, she'll leave him. She admits that she knew John was a liar during the 10 years that they dated — so why did she marry him and have his baby?

January 8, 2013

(2)

Mike says his sister, Shelley, conned their elderly parents out of \$100,000, which Shelley denies. And, Mattie says her 86-year-old mother was abused at her nursing home. Learn how to keep your elderly loved ones safe!

January 9, 2013

(2)

Phyllis and Barry say they're desperate to calm their violent 15-year-old son, Brandon, and turn to Dr. Phil for help. Their requests for Brandon to perform simple tasks such as brushing his teeth or bathing cause him to go into a rage, breaking things and punching holes in walls, and even chasing Phyllis with scissors. Barry says they walk on eggshells, waiting for Brandon's next violent outburst and that every day he leaves the house worried that his wife may not be alive when he returns. What is at the root of Brandon's anger? Dr. Phil spends some one-on-one time with the young man to determine what's driving his behavior. And, find out what Phyllis recently found in Brandon's room that shocked her to her core.

January 11, 2013

(2)

Dr. Phil goes behind the stigma of mental illness to show how it's affecting two families. Amanda, 24, is a mother of two who says she's bipolar, and that during manic episodes, she becomes violent and screams, yells and shakes. Amanda says that despite her illness, her sister, Rianne, and mom, Lori, are insensitive and mean to her — but they say they believe Amanda may be taking advantage of her diagnosis. Rianne says Amanda acts out and uses her illness as an excuse — including an incident in which Rianne claims Amanda punched her in the face and lied to police about it. Then, Jenny is a 53-year-old mother of three who says she suffers from dissociative identity disorder, formally known as multiple personality disorder. She says she has 22 “alters,” whom she calls “parts of me.” Jenny reveals the traumatic childhood experiences that she believes caused her to take on multiple personalities. And, Jenny's son, Robert, 30, shares what life was like growing up with Jenny. Then, Jenny's biographer, Judy, a retired therapist who wrote *Twenty-Two Faces*, based on Jenny's journals and their sessions together, joins the show to defend herself against accusations that she may be exploiting Jenny.

January 16, 2013

(2)

Laurie and Patrick say their 25-year-old son, Stephen's, rage is so out of control that they're afraid he'll kill them if something doesn't change. And, Jessica says her fiancé, Justin, becomes violent and abusive when he drinks, and their relationship is on the brink of disaster. Are these men ready to get help?

January 17, 2013

(2)

It's a case that has grabbed national headlines and rattled a tight-knit Ohio community: Two high school football players are accused of raping a 16-year-old girl while partying last August, and many community members are calling the investigation a cover-up.

January 23, 2013

(2)

There are people who look in the mirror, and despite what others say, see a hideous person. April, 21, and Meghan, 15, say they are obsessed with their self-perceived physical imperfections and are stuck in a cycle of anxiety and self-hatred.

January 28, 2013

(2)

Paula says her 19-year-old daughter, Kylie is on a path of self-destruction, but Kylie says Paula is at fault for being a bad role model. Who is telling the truth?

February 19, 2013

(2)

Single dad John says that raising his three boys — a 14-year-old and 12-year-old twins — on his own, makes him “one in a million.” But is John really in over his head? Hear from the boys and John's ex-wife, Laurie, and decide for yourself: Is this a case of clueless parenting — or unruly kids?

February 20, 2013

(2)

Angie says she's madly in love with her attractive, dashing, overseas boyfriend, Danny, whom she's been dating for more than a year but has never met. Angie confesses that she's sent Danny at least \$175,000 — some of which she admittedly stole from family members. She says she would like to not only prove to Dr. Phil and his viewers that Danny is a real person, she would also like Dr. Phil's help in getting \$6 million that Danny sent her from an offshore bank account in the Cayman Islands. Angie's 20-year-old son, Brandon, says his mother is in deep denial and can't even see that she's being scammed. Is Danny who he says he is, or is Angie being duped by an online imposter or catfish? Dr. Phil does some digging and finds answers. Is Angie ready to accept the truth? Plus, get exciting updates on former show guests Craig and Dawn!

February 21, 2013

(2)

Amy says she's a “psycho over-protective mom” of five children, ages 4 to 20, and worries that her behavior could be crippling her kids' development. She admits to flossing her 20-year-old daughter's teeth, trimming her 15-year-old's toe nails and doing her children's homework for them. Amy says she's just trying to prevent her kids from being hurt or disappointed — but is she really just setting them up for failure? Amy's son, Robert, 15, says he's suffering in school because his mom won't let him do his own homework, and he doesn't even know what he's good at, because she does everything for him. Can Amy learn to take a step back and allow her kids to become independent?

February 25, 2013

(2)

Terri says she trusted and thought she knew her 15-year-old daughter, Sierra — who she believed was a popular teen, earning good grades — until Sierra disappeared and was discovered by police, days later, after witnessing a murder. Terri says she then learned that Sierra had been living a very different life — experimenting with drugs, meeting men online and having sexual relationships with them — many of

whom were twice her age. Can Dr. Phil get to the root of Sierra's behavior? And, what warning signs did Terri miss? If you're a parent, you can't afford to miss this show! *This program contains strong sexual content. Viewer discretion advised.*

March 1, 2013

(2)

Tracy says her daughter, Ashley, 22, and Ashley's boyfriend, Andrew, 23, are freeloaders who are living rent-free in her home, while she pays all of their expenses — a claim the couple denies. And, Lorrie and Todd say their 13-year-old daughter is spoiled and entitled, but they can't say no to her.

March 6, 2013

(2)

Two moms say their 13-year-old daughters are completely out of control and turn to Dr. Phil for help. Can they learn to rein in their troubled teens? And, what's at the source of the girls' violent outbursts? *This program contains strong language. Viewer discretion is advised.*

Short Form Programming



Short Form Programming provides an opportunity to local organizations to get their message out to the community. We produced ten to thirty second commercials for anything from job fairs, to tips for a healthier life, even finding the right doctor for you in our area. We also support our local foundations that raise awareness for childhood cancer, breast cancer, babies born premature, and any health concerns affecting our local area. WVVA also organizes its own events, like urging people in our community to work towards a healthier lifestyle, while producing segments that help take fugitives of the streets, and recognizing veterans and active military personnel that have fought or are fighting for our country.

Special Services Provided for Community



CLOSED CAPTIONING

During the quarter, WVVA-TV Closed Captioning regularly scheduled newscasts per day Monday-Friday 5:30 am, Monday-Friday 7:25 am, 7:55 am, 8:25 am, 8:55 am; Mon.-Fri. 6:00 pm; Mon.-Sun. 11:00 pm. This allows hearing-impaired viewers, with the proper decoding devices, the opportunity to read, in printed text form, on the bottom of their television screen, the information presented on the audio portion of the news broadcast. WVVA-TV offers this area's only closed Captioning local news programming.