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# Gr. County DWC Honors Baldwin

By WV Daily News | WVDN MAY 05, 2021



In tribute to Ronceverte resident, Sen. Stephen Baldwin, the Greenbrier County Democratic Women's Club partnered with the Friends of Ronceverte (FOR) to raise money for their many initiatives. The club also participated in Ronceverte's Make it Shine day on May 1. We joined Sen. Baldwin and others to beautify downtown Ronceverte, working alongside other community members and organizations to Make Ronceverte Shine.

Our club wanted to find a fitting way to thank and honor Sen. Baldwin for his hard work during the legislative session. "Partnering with the Friends of Ronceverte was a positive way to show our appreciation," stated Diane Browning, Women's Club vice president.

According to Heather Masters, FOR President, over \$1,700 has been donated in Sen. Baldwin's honor, which will be used for future projects including painting and beautifying Island Park and adding benches and flower planters in various areas. The Friends of Ronceverte will also be providing scholarships to resident students.

Sen. Baldwin stated "Thanks to the Friends of Ronceverte for their leadership and to the Democratic Women's Club for raising money. It's so exciting to see all the positive energy in our town. When communities work together nothing is impossible."

# The Muse Of Doctor News – Darn Murphy's Law

By scot refsland ph.d. publisher | WVDN MAY 05, 2021

Darn Murphy's Law

By Scot Refsland, Ph.D.

Murphy's Law states that the best way to get the right answer on the internet is to post the wrong answer.

Did you stop me and blurt out the correct answer? Bravo! If you're still scratching your head, I'll reveal my shenanigans towards the end of the column.

Speaking of laws, while Moore's law is another one of my favorites, I'm coming to see the inverse in a very different light. Commonly found in the tech world, Moore's law says: as the speed of something doubles (like a computer) about every two years, the cost of producing it halves. Well, I can tell you for a fact, Dr. Smarty-pants Moore definitely did not have children, as any parent knows that the more speed a kid needs, the expense seems to double. And even more so when their Dad likes to have a second childhood along with them. I mean, when I was a 7-year-old kid, there wasn't such a thing as a 'four wheeler' or a 'hoverboard.' God help my wife when my boys want cars and trucks.

While I was contemplating whether I'm young enough, or stupid enough to ride a hoverboard, I stumbled upon an article that proposed that your inner voice didn't know age. In other words, the voice you have at your current age is the same voice as you had when you were five years old. For instance, I remember how serious I was about my bike at seven years old, and it's the same voice as the one I have now. So the question is if you remove the context of physical life and the experiences you've had over your lifetime, can you tell the age of your voice, and if so, does it age? Maybe we should ask a Robot that question as a Turing test.

Speaking of kids, I've been thinking heavily about cryptocurrency lately and the GameStop stock massacre, where millennials grouped together and put some hurt on the hedge fund folks who shorted GameStop stock, then tried to manipulate its demise. Millennials, who grew up on GameStop, got wind of this greed, banded together and drove the price so high that it triggered all the hedge fund's margin calls. Wowzie, there were some new millionaires and used-to-be millionaires that day.

Yet more to the point, this means there's a new monetary world and a new power shift emerging here that's super interesting. Like crypto exchanges that run 24/7, so you can't manipulate it after hours in one's favor like stockbrokers can with the Nasdaq. Or like Elon Musk tweeting out, "dogecoin to the moon!" and making that crypto coin go from \$.04 cents to \$.40 in 24 hours. Several new millionaires were minted on that ride and it's not over yet. It just hit \$0.53, headed towards \$1.00.

Alrighty! If you stayed with me until the end, the first sentence is actually Cunningham's Law, named after the father of Wiki. Yet even though the statement is incorrect, it's actually right. It proves Cunningham's law perfectly, as hopefully, you interrupted me with your inner voice, "Well wang-a-dang Dr. News! Don't you know Murphy's Law is what can go wrong will go wrong?"

Kudos this week for "those who make the world a little better" goes to our readers who donated to our Greenbrier Humane Society drive. Our offices are stacked with food, bedding, toys, cleaning supplies and more. We smell like a veterinary office! If you see any folks from the Greenbrier Humane Society around town, please thank them for their service. Heck go big and adopt a super cute cat or dog.

Until next week, I'd love to hear your inner voice anecdotes and hints on good folks doing awesome things for our community. I can be reached at [drnews@wvdn.com](mailto:drnews@wvdn.com).

# The Muse Of Doctor News

By scot refsland ph.d. publisher | WVDN MAY 05, 2021



## How To Manipulate Space And Time

Did you know that The Institute of Incomplete Studies (IIS) has recently uncovered that seven out of ten people?

Last week I was musing on how small town old-timers were masters at slowing down time. One of my most favorite old-timers was my Grandfather, Bill Tuckwiller. Now Bill was not only an avid hunter and fly fisherman, he was a Jedi Master of both space and time. He was able to bend, shape and modify space and time to his liking, all without any fancy quantum physics trickery.

One fine masterful display was when we went fly fishing in Yugoslavia (now Slovenia.) I was just a young teenager, hungry for adventure, and Bill's constant sidekick. So in the middle of summer, we flew to Ljubljana, drove into the Julian Alps and arrived at Lake Bled. And that's where Bill revealed to me one of the most valuable lessons of my life: how to stop spinning around space and make time spin around you.

We got up before sunrise the next morning and embedded ourselves into a small nearby crick (stream in Croatian.) Now, being a young teenager, I was armed not only with waders and a good fly rod, but unbeknownst to my grandfather, a new Sony Walkman (iPod for you wipper-snippers.) I had purchased it during the Heathrow layover, along with a cassette tape of an unknown English band called Dire Straits.

After gearing up, Bill decided he was going to try the nearby pool, complete with a large overhanging rock. "Ok I'll try down there." I pointed gleefully. Or in teenage speak, just enough distance that he couldn't see my earbuds.

I stuck the Walkman into my waders, ran the cord up the inside of my shirt and pressed play. "Money for Nuthin! Chicks for Free!" Trout fishing in Yugoslavia was the best!

BOOM! Mother Nature took over. That whale-sized rainbow trout struck my fly and took off downstream like a squealing pig coming to the understanding it was about to become bacon. Lawd, I had a holt' of a C&O train hell-bound, late on the morning run. We toured high-speed through slippery rocks, across both sides of the banks, and directly into every thorny scrub from here to Timbuktu. That is until it all came to an abrupt halt.

The first thing I remember was just how ice-cold the water was whilst lying face down in it. Then the gates of Boreas opened and flooded my waders. Ohhhhkla-homa!

But no-sir, Mother Nature was not done with me. That Rainbow was still on the line with the reel screaming out an "I'm almost empty!" shriek.

Now Bill was the kind of gentleman who didn't accept the "almost caught" part of a big fish story. There was a price to be paid, like getting your shirt tail cut off if you miss your first buck. And I wasn't going to let this little pea-brained varmint steal my shirttail.

The battle raged for another 20 mins until I finally landed him. And as I was catching my breath, a white object, floating down the river caught my eye. It was my Dire Straights cassette.

I fished into my water-filled waders and sure enough, there was my new, now cracked and ruined Walkman. My adventure was doomed.

And just as I was about to break into a bluesy old-oh-woe-is-me tune, the sun shot a ray of light upon me as it peaked over the 12 thousand foot snow capped Julian Alps. Then a herd of wild goats grazing on the other side instructed me to keep the racket down. Mother Nature seeped deeply into my soul and I became calm.

When I finally arrived back at the pool, my grandfather was sitting on that big rock with nothing on but his undershorts. His wet clothes were spread out on the rock and he was reading a soggy book of Keats.

"What happened?" I asked. "We came to an understanding..." he said calmly, slightly pointing to the two very large trout in his creel. Then he drank in the midsummer morning countryside, took a deep breath of mountain fresh air, and returned to his book.

"Got extra room up there for my clothes too?" I said proudly as if I had just joined the masters club. "Sure." He said without missing a beat. Then awashed in his typical dry humored wit, he shot back, "Oh, I picked up a real good book on a 16th Century musician in Heathrow. Sir Thomas Wyatt. It's in the car and I don't think it needs batteries."

Kudos this week for "those who make small town Main Streets a little better" goes to Lance Syner. Lance has helped revive downtown Lewisburg with his ambitious Court and Stratton street renovations. If you see him around town, please thank him for his service. Heck go big and visit his new Briergarten for family oriented

meals and drinks.

Until next week, I'd love hearing your Space-Time anecdotes and hints on good folks doing awesome things for our community. I can be reached at [drnews@wvdm.com](mailto:drnews@wvdm.com).

## Legally Speaking

By fred gibbon attorney at law | WVDN MAY 05, 2021

If you did not attend the Greenbrier Concours d' Elegance this past weekend, you really missed out. This was the fourth year for this event that brings in some of the finest automobiles in the world to White Sulphur Springs. It is free to the public thanks to Hagerty Classic Car Insurance. I attended Saturday and Sunday and I was genuinely impressed by the organization and layout of the whole affair. Traffic was so heavy in White Sulphur, I told Mayor Bruce Bowling we might need to get more stoplights!

Amongst all of these beautiful vehicles were cars from every era of automobile history, with American and European brands well represented. The weather could not have been more perfect as well. I have noticed over the last several years of attending this event, that car enthusiast owners, do not put on "airs" and are very friendly, even the millionaires who fly in by helicopter. There was even a Volkswagen Thing present, owned by a Lewisburg resident. The Volkswagen Thing was previously owned by a now deceased Lewisburg attorney, Bob Jacobson. I remember seeing Bob drive this car around town 10-20 years ago, with the doors off looking like he was having a blast. According to the present owner, at one time three Lewisburg attorneys got together and each bought a Thing to drive around. The Thing has special meaning in my heart because that was the first car I purchased at age 16. I washed dishes for several months at Western Sizzlin' in order to earn the \$600 to buy my VW Thing. The owner of the Thing at the Greenbrier allowed me to sit in it and start it up, which brought tears to my eyes recalling how much I loved my little orange German jeep. Probably the second best time I had at the show was sitting in the original Batmobile and remembering watching the show after school on T.V.

After the car show, I drove toward Anthony to check on the river property. Lo and behold, there was a beautiful blue, 1960s Ford Bronco, in mint condition, broken down alongside Route 219 with two wheels still on the hardtop. An older couple from Renick were inside and the gentleman explained to me that they had run out of gas. I recognized the Bronco from being at the car show. The couple proudly showed me their award from the show. I jokingly told them to "not go anywhere" and I'd be right back with some gas. After two gallons of gas and some starting fluid, we got that classic on the road again. When the owner lifted the hood, the engine looked like it has just rolled off the assembly line, perfection. While going back and forth for the gas, and working on the Bronco, I noticed a few things. The majority of people driving on Route 219 did not slow down for this disabled vehicle, in fact some seemed to speed up. Many people get injured or killed in this situation, including law enforcement officers stopping to help stranded drivers or issuing citations.

In law school, we were taught that "all liability is based upon fault." The question in personal injury cases is always "who was at fault, or what percentages are each party at fault." In order to recover in a civil matter, the plaintiff must prove their case by a preponderance of the evidence, which is "more likely than not" or just a hair over fifty percent. If you were to consider the scales of justice and tip one side ever so slightly, theoretically that is what it takes to win a civil matter. In the criminal world, think of one of the scales almost touching the table to prove "beyond a reasonable doubt." I bring this up because the drivers that did not slow down for our precarious situation with the Bronco, were being negligent. Under the law, in order to not be

negligent, one must act as a reasonably prudent person. What is a “reasonably prudent person?” A reasonably prudent person is basically a person who operates within acceptable societal norms and one who acts with common sense. Had one of the speeding drivers struck us (which nearly happened several times), who would liable and who would be at fault? The Bronco owner had one turn signal on and it was clear there was an operational issue occurring. My guess is that a jury would very likely find the speeding driver to be negligent and at fault. Inasmuch, they would be subject to paying damages (monetary compensation) if their negligence caused personal injuries or death. Therefore, if you see someone broken down alongside of the road, slow down and remember that could be you next time.

Next year bring your kids or grandkids to the car show, you definitely will not regret it.

## **Total Exceeded**

By matthew young | WVDN MAY 05, 2021

Congratulations on a job well done Greenbrier Valley residents and thank you for your generosity. We once again exceeded our goal. Far more than 2,000 items were collected throughout March to benefit sheltered pets at the Greenbrier Humane Society. The community effort is very much appreciated by the GHS staff and The West Virginia Daily News personnel. Check out WVDN for a photo of delivery day.

## **Kayla M McCoy - Local Everyday Hero**

By Rebecca Stalnaker | WVDN MAY 05, 2021





A resident of Greenbrier County Kayla M. McCoy has spent the last five years working diligently to serve her community. In the summer of 2016, on June 23 Southern West Virginia was hit with a severe flooding event that would become infamous. Homes and businesses were destroyed, lives were lost and entire towns were left to completely rebuild. McCoy is a survivor of that flooding event along with others in her community.

On the day it occurred, she had decided to call off work because her young child was sick. After heavy rain had been falling for numerous hours, McCoy stated that she looked out and saw water rushing down the mountainside toward her home. Knowing that she needed to evacuate as quickly as possible, she gathered what she needed and set out, having to carry her then two-year-old child, above the floodwaters rushing around her. Water had already gotten to her vehicle so she made it to the bridge where she waited for her brother who was coming all the way from Point Pleasant. As she waited, she saw the destruction surrounding her. She noted that she listened as people screamed for help and watched as a home, on fire, floated past. She could only look on as rescuers pulled both survivors and those lost to the storm from the water.

After the floodwaters receded and damage could be assessed, it quickly became clear that help was needed. Before working with the Greater Greenbrier Long-Term Recovery Committee, McCoy was a chef at The Greenbrier Sports Club. This was one of the places that sustained flood damage and as a result, was closed for three weeks. During those three weeks, McCoy said she threw herself into relief efforts.

While participating in relief efforts, McCoy met a community volunteer named Susan Adkins. Believing Adkins to be in charge, McCoy began asking what they were going to do for the families that had lost their entire homes. Adkins then told her about a non-governmental organization meeting that was taking place and suggested McCoy attend stating she may be able to find answers to some of her questions.

It was at this meeting suggested by Adkins that McCoy met Sen. John Unger, Dave Lumsden, Matt Ford and others who would be integral to forming the Greater Greenbrier Long-Term Recovery Committee. Many that she met that day, with the exception of Sen. Unger would go on to form the GGLTR Board. McCoy became the secretary of the newly established board. They began their efforts right away to help the community get back on its feet.

As time went on, it quickly became obvious that they would not be able to continue on a volunteer-only basis as the magnitude of the disaster was too great. They began hiring for a paid position for which McCoy applied and was hired. She has been continuing her efforts. Since that fateful summer, McCoy and the GGLTR have coordinated more than 5,000 volunteers from 46 states and multiple countries.

The world has been facing a pandemic for more than a year and everything that entails. There have been numerous negative impacts on communities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of their disaster relief efforts, McCoy and the GGLTR have been stepping up to help where they can.

Their first effort was to establish a feeding program for families who struggled after schools closed eliminating children's ability to eat at school. In June of 2020, the GGLTR also provided aid when Alderson experienced a flooding event that affected quite a few homes. Later, when COVID-19 vaccines became available, McCoy helped to coordinate volunteers to help with vaccination clinics.

She stated, "the local health department only has 15 full-time staff members." Although this is a small number to deal with extensive clinics, McCoy noted that each of the Health Department staff members held their own and "were killing it" before McCoy began supplying volunteers. McCoy said that now, there is always a minimum of 45 volunteers at every clinic.

It is obvious that McCoy truly loves her community and wants the best for its people. When asked what her favorite thing about the area is, she enthusiastically said, "oh my gosh, it's the people!"

She went on to say, "I love the sense of community here.... I think we have the most incredible people in the world."

She said the biggest problem she has faced in her efforts is that, in the beginning, she was a transplant to the area. There was a learning curve to understanding the local communities that took some time to navigate.

When asked what she wants to accomplish in the future, McCoy said, " we have to build more resilient communities." She noted that because so many local areas are surrounded by mountains and rivers, it creates problem areas for flooding. She wants to do everything possible to mitigate these issues.

She stated, "I want to help our communities, but I also want to help our people help themselves."

In times of crisis, many people begin searching for solutions to the problem. While McCoy said that they do not always have the answers, "people just need to know that there is someone who cares and someone who is working on it."

She went on to say, "sometimes there is no solution" however, there can be a shoulder to lean on and a listening ear.

The Greater Greenbrier Long-Term Recovery Committee, like so many organizations, struggled in 2020 unable to maintain fundraising efforts. Once they were able to get back to work in any capacity, they were not always certain there would be funding to come through. Regardless, they pushed forward trusting that funding would come through.

When asked what she wanted people to know, she said, “if you see value in the work that we are doing, please support us in any way you can.” Support can come in the form of volunteering, financial support anything the community can do to help this organization. She wants residents to know, “we covet the support of the community.”

For more information on Kayla M. McCoy or the Greater Greenbrier Long Term Recovery Committee, go to the organization’s website, [www.ggltrc.org](http://www.ggltrc.org).

## Maxwelton Ruritan April Meeting

By WV Daily News | WVDN MAY 05, 2021



The Maxwelton Ruritan Club welcomed Richie Holliday from Morgan Funeral Home as the guest speaker for the April meeting. Mr. Holliday spoke to the members about the importance of pre-planning and avoiding conflict with family members when the need arises. The members also scheduled Adopt A Highway road clean up for Monday April 26th at 5:15pm. Members will be picking up trash along Route 219 north of Lewisburg.

The Maxwelton Ruritan Club is civic organization that has been serving the local area since 1953. The members operate an ice cream concession stand at the State Fair of WV and all proceeds benefit the local community including donations to local organizations and provide two scholarships to area high school seniors. We strive to make our area a better place to live, work and raise a family. The club meets the fourth

Thursday of each month at the Henning Church of God on Vago Road. If you would like to attend an upcoming meeting, please email [ldbowman84@hotmail.com](mailto:ldbowman84@hotmail.com). We would love to meet you and tell you about Ruritan. You can also follow us on Facebook.

## **Ronceverte Mayoral Candidates To Meet, Discuss Issues Before Election**

By autumn shelton wvdn | WVDN MAY 05, 2021

City of Ronceverte mayoral candidates will join together at the Ronceverte Armory to discuss the issues on Monday, May 10.

The forum will be hosted by the Greater Greenbrier Chamber of Commerce and moderated by Executive Director Ashley Vickers. It will take place from 5-6 p.m. and members of the public are encouraged to attend. Mask wearing and social distancing will be in effect, Vickers said.

For those who cannot attend the event in person, Radio Greenbrier will air the forum at News Talk 97.3 and AM 1310 WSLW White Sulphur Springs/Lewisburg.

Additionally, the chamber plans to air the forum on their YouTube channel Greater Greenbrier Chamber of Commerce, according to Vickers.

Questions for the candidates can be submitted to Vickers at [director@greenbrierwvchamber.org](mailto:director@greenbrierwvchamber.org).

The armory is located on Edgar Avenue in Ronceverte. Current mayoral candidates include Mark Mengel, Eric Mercer, Barbara Morgan and Deena Pack.

"We do this to educate the public about current events," Vickers said. "We want citizens to be aware of what the issues are."

The city of Ronceverte election is set for Tuesday, June 1.

## **Charlotte Ann Hall Moody**

By WV Daily News | WVDN MAY 05, 2021



## **MOODY**

Charlotte Ann Hall Moody, 77, of Lewisburg, WV passed away Monday, May 3, 2021 at her home surrounded by her family.

Born February 29, 1944 in Ronceverte, WV, she was the daughter of the late John Henry and Ruby Alice Vealey Hall. Charlotte was a homemaker and was a huge George Jones fan.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two daughters, Jacqueline "Joyce" Striffler and Constance Wilson; two sisters, Roxie Hall and Nettie Hall Morris; brother, Fairley Hall; and her Granny who raised her, Samantha Caroline Hall.

Survivors include her son, Sam Wilson (Rose) of Salt Sulphur Springs, WV; daughters, Sharon Wilson of Lewisburg, WV, Carol Hall (Rodney White) of White Sulphur Springs, WV, and Sheila Kirby (Donnie) of Hancock, MD; two brothers, Tom Hall of Union, WV and Freddy Hall of Lewisburg, WV; sisters, Gloria Boggs and Elizabeth Davis, both of Lewisburg, WV; sister-in-law, Audrey Hall of Ronceverte, WV; ten grandchildren; two grandpups, Autumn and Beau; eleven great-grandchildren; special friends, Carol McCartney, Lisa Reed, Dave Wade, and Maryann Pence; her former spouse and father of her children, Howard Wilson; several nieces and nephews.

Funeral service will be 11 a.m., Friday, May 7, 2021 at the Morgan Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow in the Riverview Cemetery, Ronceverte, WV. Visitation will be 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Thursday, May 6, 2021 at the Morgan Funeral Home.

We will be following COVID-19 regulations. All guests will be asked to wear a mask.

Online guestbook can be signed at [www.morganfh.net](http://www.morganfh.net).

Arrangements by Morgan Funeral Home, Lewisburg, WV.

# **Renick Man Facing Charges Of Cocaine Possession**

By Matthew Young | WVDN MAY 05, 2021



A Greenbrier County man was arrested on the afternoon of Tuesday, April 20 on charges relating to an earlier incident where he allegedly attempted to elude police during a traffic stop. Jeremy Wade Morgan, 30, of Renick has been charged with a third-offense of driving while suspended for DUI, and cocaine possession.

On the afternoon of Wednesday, February 3, while on routine patrol in the Frankford area, officers reportedly observed Jeremy Wade Morgan operating a Chevy Malibu west of Williamsburg Road.

According to the criminal complaint, officers had previous knowledge of Morgan's DUI-related license revocation, and therefore attempted to initiate a traffic stop. However, Morgan reportedly continued to drive, ignoring officers.

Officers further stated, "I turned on my siren and the driver still would not stop."

Morgan allegedly travelled for nearly a mile before pulling into the driveway of his residence. Upon hearing the officer's request that he provide his operator's license, Morgan reportedly replied, "you know I don't have a license."

Morgan was placed under arrest at that time. A subsequent search of the vehicle allegedly "revealed a glass pipe, digital scales, straw syringes, and \$2,200 in U.S. currency and a piece of aluminum foil with a white powder inside. That white powder field tested for cocaine or a cocaine-based substance."

Jeremy Wade Morgan is currently being held at Southern Regional Jail. Wade is not eligible for bond at this time.

# Alderson Woman Facing Charges In Summers County

By Matthew Young | WVDN MAY 05, 2021

A Greenbrier County woman is facing charges in Summers County after allegedly sharing pornographic material with a minor. Jordan Cales, 31, of Alderson has been charged with distributing/displaying obscene material to a minor.

On Monday, March 22, the Summers County Sheriff's Department was advised that Jordan Cales was the subject of a Child Protective Services (CPS) investigation into child neglect. Representatives from CPS reported that Cales provided a 10-year-old victim with a cellphone containing nude photographs of her.

According to the criminal complaint, while being interviewed at the Summers County Child Advocacy Center, the victim described an incident in which, after urinating, Cales allegedly grabbed and squeezed the victim's penis before striking him in the head with a rock.

Deputies made contact with and conducted an interview with Cales on Monday, April 19. While Cales reportedly admitted to giving the victim the cell phone containing the nude photographs, she denied having any sexual contact with the minor.

When asked if she had, in fact, struck the victim in the head with a rock, Cales reportedly stated "she didn't remember doing it."

Jordan Cales has been arraigned by the Summers County Magistrate and is awaiting court proceedings.

## WSS Man Charged With Domestic Battery

By Matthew Young | WVDN MAY 05, 2021



A Greenbrier County man was arrested on the evening of Sunday, May 2 after allegedly assaulting his mother in her home. Baxter Alexander Leech, 35, of White Sulphur Springs has been charged with domestic battery, and one-count of obstructing an officer.

According to the victim's statement, Leech arrived at the victim's home in possession of a bottle of alcohol. When the victim advised Leech that she did not permit alcohol in her home, Leech allegedly became violent, and headbutted the victim in the mouth. The victim then instructed a minor who was present at the time to contact law enforcement. The victim further stated that Leech head butted her a second time, causing damage to her mouth, before leaving the house and walking away up Big Draft Road.

Shortly before 10:30 p.m., officers with the White Sulphur Springs Police Department were dispatched to the scene. According to the criminal complaint, officers successfully located Leech shirtless on Big Draft Road.

The complaint further states that Leech was uncooperative with officers, and needed to be struck twice with a taser before he would comply with instructions, and allow officers to place him under arrest.

Baxter Alexander Leech is currently being held at Southern Regional Jail on a \$5,000 cash-bond or surety.